



Frazier McConnell Miller Sr.

December 27, 1937 - February 14, 2015

Bluefield, VA- Frazier Miller, Sr., 77, passed away peacefully in his sleep on the morning of February 14, 2015, at the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville, Va., after a short illness. He was surrounded by family at the time of his passing.

Frazier was born on December 27, 1937, to Bernice Frazier Miller and Harold Lee Miller, Sr., of Bluefield, W.Va. He was the second son to Bernice and Harold, and he remained close with his three brothers—Harold Lee, Marshall Stuart, and Randolph Manning (“Randy”) —throughout his life.

Frazier attended West Virginia University and was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. After attending WVU, where he worked as a student reporter for the Daily Athenaeum, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., as a corporal and military police officer.

After serving in the military, he went to work as a reporter for the Bluefield Daily Telegraph covering feature and breaking news, including John F. Kennedy’s presidential campaign in W.Va. and the president’s assassination. He married his wife of 54 years, Phyllis Webb Miller, also of Bluefield, W.Va., on December 31, 1960. Frazier and Phyllis had two children, Frazier McConnell (“Buddy”), Jr. and Barbara Manning Miller.

The couple moved to Roanoke, Va., where Frazier was a reporter for the Roanoke Times. Frazier and Phyllis returned to Bluefield shortly thereafter, and Frazier joined Bluefield Supply Company where he became director of corporate marketing and advertising. Frazier frequently recounted his years

with Bluefield Supply with great fondness from the friendships forged on the job and the travels it afforded, including trips to Tangier, Morocco; Madrid, Spain; Edinburgh, Scotland; and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

In 1977, Frazier incorporated Professional Advertising, Inc. (PAI). PAI specialized in advertising for and to the coal industry as well as economic development and tourism. From 1977 to 2001, the company achieved numerous successes, including several awards from the American Advertising Federation.

PAI also bi-annually published the Bluefield Coal Show Directory, which spotlighted events and visitors surrounding the Bluefield Coal Show, and was a recipient of a first place publication award by the West Virginia Economic Development Council. PAI later merged with Marshall Miller and Associates, Inc., in 2001, to serve as the communications division of MM&A.

Frazier was an active member of the community, serving as president of the Bluefield Chamber of Commerce in 1988. Along with his brothers, Harold Lee and Marshall, he initiated a fundraising campaign to reopen the YMCA, which became the Greater Bluefield Community Center. He remained a board member of the GBCC until recent years.

He was a member of Bland Street United Methodist Church his entire life and served in many different capacities within the church.

Frazier was an avid WVU football fan who attended almost all games. He was a Gold Coat member of the Mountaineer Athletic Club, and organized and served as dinner chairman of the MAC Coaches Caravan dinners for southern W.Va. for more than 40 years.

Frazier is survived by his wife Phyllis, son Buddy, daughter Barbara and her husband Kenn Gaither, as well as his grandchildren, who were the light of his life in his later years. Grandchildren include Frazier McConnell ("Trey") Miller, III; Lauren Grace ("Gracie") Miller; Tyler Miller; Emmeline Hope ("Ellie") Gaither; and soon-to-be twin Gaither granddaughters.

He is also survived by his brothers and sisters-in-law Harold Lee and Ellen Miller and Marshall and Sharon Miller, nephews Lee Miller and Greg Miller,

and niece Tracy Miller, as well as their families. In addition to his family, he is also survived by extended family and friends, including dear friends Richard and Jay Ammar.

Frazier was preceded in death by his mother, father, and brother, Randy. Viewing and funeral services will be held at Bland Street United Methodist Church in Bluefield, W.Va., on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 11 a.m. Open visitation will occur between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., also at Bland Street United Methodist Church.

Burial will follow at Monte Vista Park Cemetery in Green Valley where Trey Miller, Lee Miller, Greg Miller, Trent Miller, John Hash, and Richard Ammar will serve as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be sent to General Fund, Bland Street United Methodist Church, 2620 Bland Road, Bluefield, W.Va., 24701.

Condolences may be sent to Mercer Funeral Home, 1231 West Cumberland Road, Bluefield, W.Va. or by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com

The family would like to extend a special thank you to all the doctors and nurses who cared for Frazier in recent years.

Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the family of Mr. Frazier McConnell Miller, Sr.

Cemetery Details

Monte Vista Park Cemetery

Bluefield, WV 24701

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 21. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bland Street United Methodist Church
Bland Road
Bluefield, WV

Funeral Service

FEB 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bland Street United Methodist Church
Bland Road
Bluefield, WV

Tribute Wall



“ *Frazier McConnell Miller Sr.*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *We are very sorry to hear of the passing of Frazier. Our hearts go out to his family.*

Jack and Pam McCormick



Pam & Jack McCormick - February 27, 2015 at 08:06 AM



“ *Phyllis, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I am so sorry I was not able to be with you, Buddy and your family during this time. Frazier was a long time friend, co-worker and all around great guy. He will be greatly missed. Cherish your memories. He is enjoying his heavenly home and waiting for you to join him there. May God comfort you and keep you in his care. With Sympathy.... Marie Blackwell*



Marie Blackwell - February 24, 2015 at 07:51 AM



“ We had hoped to be there for you today, but unfortunately we found ourselves in the emergency room this morning at 3:30 AM. Bud has the flu and will be staying in for the next five days. Our love, prayers, and deepest sympathy is with all the family. Bud's sister, Rose Ann, is in Arizona visiting her daughter, Tammy, and her family. She asked us to confer to you her deepest sympathy also. May God bless and comfort all of you. Bud and Judy Raines

Judith Raines - February 21, 2015 at 06:33 PM

JR

“ Dear Phyllis, Our thoughts and prayers go out to you. Frazier was very dear and I really enjoyed every time that I was around him. That smile that he had could just make you happy if you were having a bad day. Phyllis, we have heard other people say just how wonderful you were about taking care of Frazier. We wouldn't have expected anything but perfection. He was a go getter and it was inspiring watching his career blossom. We were very proud to be able to say, "We are a friend of Frazier and will see him when we get our call.

Sincerely,
Tonia and Jim Russell

Blessings

Jim & Tonia Russell - February 21, 2015 at 03:01 PM

BR

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Phyllis, Barbara and Buddy and other members of the family.

Frazier worked closely with me, when I was at EIMCO, doing our advertising and public relations and I recall his ever present smile. He contributed much to the many companies serving our great American coal industry and he will be missed!

So sorry I couldn't make it to the funeral. I tried this morning a few minutes ago but only made it to the bottom of my drive before my car got stuck in the snow!

Frazier will always be remembered!

Bill Reid

BILL REID - February 21, 2015 at 08:53 AM

DP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in this time of sorrow.....Frazier was a dear friend we shared many great times together too many to recount here and 25 years of weekend golf I do remember one birdie Frazier got while we were playing golf in the Bahamas knocked that bird down in mid-flight . Frazier also came up with the idea for a trophy to the winner and loser of the annual VT/WVU presented at the annual dinners with the winner receiving a horses head and the loser the other end this was forerunner of The Black Diamond Throphy which funded scholarships to both schools
Frazier was a great friend and will be sorely missed
Dan & Nancye Pochick

daniel pochick - February 20, 2015 at 04:59 PM

MS

“ Sending prayers for peace and comfort to be in abundance for the Miller family!

Mike

Mike Snow - February 20, 2015 at 12:14 PM

DW

“ Phyllis, Buddy, Barbara and other family members:
So very sorry for your loss. I have so many good memories of Frazier from when I was a kid. He was a very special person and an amazing man. I have thought of him and your family many times over the years since I moved from Bluefield and those memories were always special to me. I wish I had some words that could ease your pain or some way to make you feel better. I know in my heart that he is in a better place now and lovingly watching over his family. May God bless you all and bring you through this trying time. With deepest sympathy.
David & Lora Woolwine

David Woolwine - February 20, 2015 at 11:40 AM

JH

“ I got to know Frazier when we were both reporters for the old Sunset News-Observer, and have fond memories of our after-deadline breaks and rare payday lunches. He was both serious and fun-loving, and lived life as he believed it. If crowns are awarded in Heaven, Frazier's will have stars in it.

Joe Hall - February 20, 2015 at 08:11 AM

JG

“ *Phyllis, Buddy, Barbara, and other family members:
Marsha and I send our love and concern. We always thought the
world of Frazier and all your family. He was such a special person
and great supporter. Sorry we cannot be with you during this time.
We are in Florida, and just received word of his death. God's peace
be with you.*
Joe Geiger

Joseph Geiger - February 19, 2015 at 08:36 PM

AM

“ *In sympathy and with prayers for the family...*

Anita Moody - February 19, 2015 at 08:35 PM

JA

“ *Phyllis Miller & Family:
Sorry for your loss. Remember him from Bluefield Supply Days.
With our deepest sympathy.*
Jim & Gaynelle Ayers

James Ayers - February 19, 2015 at 06:32 PM

TF

“ *Our condolences. It's been years since I last saw Frazier, but what a
smile, or was it a you-know-what grin?
Frazier was special to my Grandfather, my Dad, Mom and me.*
*Taylor and Melanie Frazier
Richmond, VA*

Taylor Frazier - February 19, 2015 at 06:00 PM

KA

“ *Phyllis, saddened to hear about Frazier, enjoyed working for him back in the good 'ol days never a dull moment with him great boss! I know he will be missed*

*Prayers to all
Kim Akers*

kim akers - February 19, 2015 at 06:42 AM

RY

“ *I always enjoyed my and Frazier's Mountaineer and Hokie battles. He was a class guy and will be missed. God Bless.*

Ron Yost - February 18, 2015 at 08:31 PM

HC

“ *Sincere Condolences to Phillis and the Miller family. Fraz was a great Friend and we will miss Him. Herman & Norma St. Clair*

Herman St. Clair - February 18, 2015 at 08:27 PM

 Fran
Alba

“ *Pip and I send our love and prayers to Phillis, Barbara, Buddy, Harold Lee and all the family. We will remember Frazier as a kind loving man with a beautiful smile and a mountaineers heart.*

Fran Alba - February 18, 2015 at 07:32 PM

KC

“ *Sending my sincerest condolences to the Miller family.*

Karen Rusyniak Conner - February 18, 2015 at 07:30 PM

AG

“ *Amy Angles Gibson lit a candle in memory of Frazier McConnell Miller Sr.*



Amy Angles Gibson - February 18, 2015 at 06:30 PM

BP

“ *Sincerest condolences on the loss of a great man. The world is a better place because he was here.*

Brian Poff - February 18, 2015 at 04:33 PM

SS

“ *Semester at Sea Staff purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Frazier McConnell Miller Sr..*



Semester at Sea Staff - February 17, 2015 at 12:20 PM