



## John Douglas Mayo

February 4, 1943 - August 31, 2022

John Douglas Mayo, 79, of Bluefield, WV, died Wednesday August 31, 2022 at Raleigh General Hospital in Beckley, WV.

John was born in Yards, VA, son of the late John and Ella Dillon Mayo. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Sybil Duncan Mayo; his step-mother, Betty Mayo; brothers, Garnet, Samuel, and James; sisters, Jean Mayo Parker and Carol Sue Mayo; and half-sister, Ann Coffey.

Survivors include his sons, Mark of Bluefield, WV and Shaun of Beckley, WV; sisters, Shirley Shrader of Bluefield, VA and Judy Gardner of Staunton, VA; half-brothers, Mike of Randleman, NC, Steve of Falls Mills, VA, Charles of Georgia, MD; half-sister, Brenda Mayo of Bluewell; several grandchildren, and many nephews and nieces.

After graduating from Pocahontas High School in 1960, he went to work for the legendary Virgil (Stubby) Currence at the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, going to work at 4 p.m. and getting off at 1 a.m. with no car. He walked from Bluefield to Pocahontas one morning to his sister's house...a little over eleven miles.

John was named Sports Editor at the Telegraph in 1964 and was presented the Virginia High School League Award for promoting athletics in 1970. He was also elected President of the West Virginia Sports Writers Association in 1971.

He left the Telegraph shortly thereafter, going to work for the legendary H. Edward Steele and Frazier Miller in the advertising department of Bluefield

Supply Company. John spent three years there before going into sign sales in 1974, where he remained until he quit at the age of 74 in 2017.

His first love was sports. He covered the 2-1 Pocahontas win over Montcalm but his biggest “news” break came when he broke the story of Jim Carlen leaving as football coach at West Virginia University and taking the Texas Tech position immediately following the Peach Bowl.

The Associated Press and United Press International would not print the story until Carlen resigned after the game...making the Telegraph as the only paper in the country to have the story before it happened.

John always listed his favorite two bosses as Stubby Currence at the Telegraph, and Charlie Collier at Dove Signs, often following their patterns in life.

As per his request, Mr. Mayo will be cremated and there will be no services. Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting [www.MercerFuneralHome.com](http://www.MercerFuneralHome.com) Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the family of Mr. John Douglas Mayo.

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Douglas Mayo*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Literally just seen this and didn't even know Mr Mayo passed.. Prayers sent to Shaun, Mark, and their families.. Mr Mayo will never be forgotten.. Definitely gonna miss seeing and,hearing his jokes. And always having a smile on his face regardless if he was having a good or bad day... RIH Mr Mayo... u will definitely be missed my friend... 🙏🙏🙏*  
*Scotty P.*

Scotty P - July 04, 2023 at 04:15 AM



“ *We just learned of Johnny's passing. We go back a long time with him. Jody and I always enjoyed seeing him at Walmart and visiting. Johnny always had something funny to tell. He will be missed by all that knew him as he was a great guy.*

Charlene Meade - September 29, 2022 at 06:56 PM



“ *Such a nice man. I worked with Johnny during his time at Bluefield Supply and me at Rish Equipment Company. He was a pleasure to know and work with.*

Mollie Comer - September 09, 2022 at 09:57 AM

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“ *Mark & Shaun, I worked with your dad for several years at the Blfd Daily Telegraph. He was a fine man & knew his sports!!! I know you will miss him greatly but he now spends eternity with Sybil & all family that has gone before! Thinking of you.*

*Sharon Hoback Massaroni*

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**Sharon Massaroni** - September 06, 2022 at 10:52 PM