



John Cleveland "JC" Robinson III

September 16, 1953 - September 16, 2020

John Cleveland (JC) Robinson, III

John Cleveland (JC) Robinson, III passed away peacefully on his 67th birthday, Wednesday, September 16, 2020 after a short battle with Covid-19.

JC was born to John Cleveland and Shirley Norma (Smith) Robinson in Richlands, VA. JC was a native of Bluefield, WV, a city he loved.

JC is survived by his wife of nearly 42 years, Teresa, two children, their spouses, and his two grandsons (one from each of his children). He was affectionately known simply as Papa to his grandsons Shea James Malkin (3 years), son of Keli Ann and Henry Malkin, and John Cleveland Robinson (11 weeks), son of Jeremi and Melanie (Jose) Robinson. He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Peggy Bailey, and Aunt, Pauline Miller. As an only child, he was blessed to have close relationships with a host of loving cousins.

He graduated from Bluefield High School in 1971. He was a notable football player despite his rather unassuming size.

Throughout the years, many have commented on his tenacity and speed on the field. JC studied business at the University of Alabama.

While a student there, he served as chapter president of the Sigma Phi

Epsilon (SPE) fraternity.

He was proud to have attended Bama during the Bear Bryant era, and was very much a part of the Tide from the sidelines throughout his life.

JC spent his career in the construction industry, finding his way to become president of Frye Roofing, Inc. for nearly 20 years. He was proud to give back to his industry by serving as president of the Virginia Association of Roofing Contractors.

He also served two four-year terms on the board of the National Roofing Contractors Association.

He was active politically to support legislation to improve the industry in fields of safety and fair competition. Also in this pursuit, he focused on creating a training and education program to provide skills necessary for success in the professional roofing industry.

JC spent as much of his free time as possible fishing or golfing. He especially enjoyed fishing the same areas of the New River where he had learned to fish with his father. He was blessed with several dear friends.

He was a member of Mid-Way Christian Church.

Throughout his life, he was a caring and dedicated leader always willing to help others. He was a pillar of the community, always standing up for what he believed was right. This theme carried through his life as he provided a strong example to his family and others of how to act with dignity, grace, and respect for all.

His presence will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

A family service will be held at a later date and shared online.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be sent to the J. C. Robinson Entrepreneurial Fund, c/ o Bluefield West Virginia Economic Development Authority (BEDA), 200 Rogers Street, Bluefield, WV 24701.

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the family of J. C. Robinson.

A video recording of the memorial service will be available after 4:00 p.m. on Friday October 23, 2020.

Tribute Wall



“ *JC will always be my fraternity president...always.*

Mark Ellis - November 20, 2023 at 07:07 PM



“ *John Cleveland "JC" Robinson III*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Dear Robinson Family,
I am the current Sigma Phi Epsilon president at the University of Alabama. Though I never had the pleasure of meeting JC, I wanted to share that we submitted his name to be honored at this year's national conclave Necrology ceremony. Reading the comments and obituary, it appears he embodied a life of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love. I hope this is appropriate as it simply felt like the right thing to do.*

Jack Callahan - July 09, 2021 at 01:24 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Memories Album*



Mercer Funeral Home - October 24, 2020 at 04:20 PM



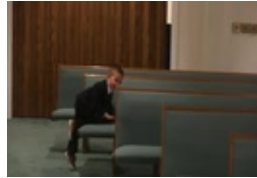
“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Mercer Funeral Home - October 24, 2020 at 01:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Funral Service*



Mercer Funeral Home - October 24, 2020 at 09:35 AM



“ *JC and I go all the way back to the good old days at Fairview Jr. High, and then, Bluefield H.S. After that, we never really saw each other much except at Class of '71 reunions. Then Debbie and I retired and moved back to Bluefield, and it seemed like we were running into JC and Teresa every time we turned around. It was such a blessing to renew that friendship! JC and I really hit it off this summer with some fishing trips to old New River - special times in a special place - there is something spiritual that you experience in that wild beauty of God's creation. JC absolutely loved it, and was totally in his element. He impressed me as a kind, generous, intelligent, and capable person - as well as a very competent fisherman and riverman! JC will be missed by this fishing buddy, as well as the entire community. Condolences and prayers to all of the family.*

Jim Pritchett

Jim Pritchett - October 04, 2020 at 07:30 AM

TM

“ *Condolences to the JC Robinson Family, he will be missed. The Miller's*



terry miller - September 25, 2020 at 03:22 PM

JB

“ *Our hearts are heavy with grief for the passing of J.C. He was a rare individual that I felt I could have complete trust in. He was a great family man and one of the true "Gentlemen" of Bluefield. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Robinson family in this truly difficult time.*

Joe Burner - September 25, 2020 at 09:23 AM

JS

“ *The last time I remember seeing JC was at my mom's funeral in Bristol, she was his aunt Georgia Davis, and I and my brother appreciated his and Teresa being there so much. Before that was at a family reunion in bluefield where he was very busy with all the cooking and making sure everything was good. Very good people, the Robinsons. Praying for you and yours, Teresa, thanks for having preacher Robert call me.*

Joyce davis statzer - September 25, 2020 at 09:18 AM

EM

The Marchant family Alvin & Emory send our deepest sympathy. JC was a true blessing to our communities. Praying for the family.

Emory Marchant - September 28, 2020 at 08:25 AM

JN

“ As his wonderful family knows I spent more close time with him as my friend than I did with anyone. Our friendship was not business although we shared much about business over the many years we were out and about together. Our golf outing was special for me ! It took patience of course but I learned quickly. Imagine he and I at TPC Sawgrass playing The Players Course ? Walking with Caddies !Uh yea ! The lake house visits and dinner he cooked I will never forget.

JC was a great people person to say the least. He saw things in others that many of us squinted our eyes to see. He saw opportunity in people to be something at any level and for them to be more.

That was a big deal.

His days at Wake Medical were especially hard because of his need for His people to be with him. He was a real individualist. Knowing that, the last conversations with him were special but hard for me. I loved the guy ! I love the family and know they will be strong, move forward and keep him close forever

Jim

Jim Naples - September 24, 2020 at 05:47 PM

JS

“ Teresa and Family,
We were very sad to hear of JC's passing, he was an inspiration to all. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Joe and Karen Simon - September 23, 2020 at 09:59 AM

SL

“ Sammi Lambert lit a candle in memory of
John Cleveland "JC" Robinson III



Sammi Lambert - September 23, 2020 at 09:41 AM

SL

“ *Teresa and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that you are in my prayers. Love and hugs to you.*

Sammi

Sammi Lambert - September 23, 2020 at 09:41 AM

MP

“Late January, I returned to Bluefield to conduct the funeral for mom’s oldest brother, Bill Woodward. Bill’s wife, Doris, had asked JC to deliver a eulogy.

The sight of my old teenage friend JC sent my mind racing. I remembered a Fellowship of Christian Athletes camp we and our friends attended in 1970. JC had recently gotten his driver license. His dad, "Mr. Robinson," graciously permitted JC to pack their '60s straight shift Chevy sedan with tobacco-chewing, teenage boys and drive to Black Mountain, NC. That amazing week played an unforgettable role in my spiritual journey.

I also remembered the time JC and I were drift-fishing down the New River in a flat bottom boat. He cast a treble-hooked artificial minnow toward the river’s edge where it promptly hung in a bush. Since the boat was swept along with the current, the predicament needed immediate action. JC gave his fishing rod a quick jerk which sent the lure reeling straight for my upper arm where it buried in flesh. The situation was resolved with delicate nose-plier surgery. In those flashback moments, five decades seemed like yesterday in my mind.

I learned Sunday that JC died. I was deeply saddened. During our brief reunion last January, it was obvious that JC's faith in Jesus was alive and well. And, it's equally obvious in this sad moment that someone so filled with life and love will be greatly missed. Teresa and family, you are in our prayers. I wish I had followed up on our brief reunion with another fishing boat-ride down the New River. I wish I had hugged him tighter, affirmed him better. Nevertheless, we will all see him again in the age of the ages. Mike Poole – high school friend

Mike Poole - September 23, 2020 at 09:39 AM

PA

“ Teresa and family, I can't begin to tell you how sad I am to hear about J.C. and the difficult journey you are making your way through. I pray that your family members recover from this horrible virus. Know that I am keeping you close in heart at this difficult time. Pam Adam's, Roanoke, VA



Pam Adams - September 23, 2020 at 12:10 AM

KM

“ What a wonderful friend JC was to my father Rick Anderson. Daddy would always be so excited to be going fishing with him. I don't think there is anyone that could fish New River like those two. When my daddy got sick JC was there every step of the way. From taking him to drs appointments to being there for all of us during that difficult time. It was always so comforting having him there. He was even kind enough to take me fishing on the river right after my dad had passed. I am so thankful for that and will carry that memory with me always. I'd like to think JC and my dad have reunited and are planning their next fishing trip. My heart aches for his family and I pray God brings them comfort.
Keri Medlar

Keri Medlar - September 22, 2020 at 10:49 PM

RW

“ So sorry to hear of JC's death. Worked with him at American Mine Research. He was always happy. Condolences to Teresa and the family.

Rita Woodring - September 22, 2020 at 09:29 PM

PB

“ Take comfort in knowing JC is in a place with no more pain, sickness, and all the other atrocities of this world. A peace that passeth all understanding. Love and continued prayers are with you and your loved ones.

Fellow BHS 71 CLassmate, Pamela Hylton Bladel

Pamela Bladel - September 22, 2020 at 06:47 PM

MB

“ There just are not words to express what a loss this is! JC was one of a kind. I can never forget him. No doubt JC, Jim Bryant, and Rick Anderson are entertaining the angels in heaven. Prayers for Teresa and all of the families suffering this tragic loss. May God comfort you all 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️

Margaret Bryant - September 22, 2020 at 06:41 PM

RM

“ Teresa, so sorry to hear about JC. He was the nicest guy. Always smiling and always stopping to talk. He will surely be missed.
Ronnie and Maggie Millsap



Ron and Maggie Millsap - September 22, 2020 at 04:42 PM

JG

“ So sorry to hear about the loss of JC. What a kind hearted man that walked this earth. Claude and I both send our condolences to you and the whole family. May his spirit live on through the memories that you all share so dear to your hearts.

Jessica Glibbery - September 22, 2020 at 11:55 AM

HS

“ Dear Teresa and family,

We were so sorry to hear of JC's passing. These past few days we have been flooded with memories centered around Henry / Keli's engagement and wedding, our visits to Bluefield, yours to NYC around the holidays and the birth of Shea. They fill us with happiness and a sense of peace having the opportunity to share them with your family. JC will be greatly missed.

*Our heartfelt condolences
Beatrice and Henry Malkin*

Henry Malkin Sr. - September 22, 2020 at 11:16 AM

DS

“ *I don't have enough words to appropriately reflect on the many great memories I have of JC over the years and the impact he had on my life. From the years when he was our Cub Scouts leader; his visits to Morgantown while Jeremi and I attended WVU; my time working under the leadership of JC and Teresa at Frye Roofing; a trip to Las Vegas to celebrate a huge accomplishment at the NRCA convention; fishing on the New River and eating at Palisades; and many visits and memories with the Robinson family - there are certainly more laughs and smiles than I can recall here. JC will be greatly missed by many, and I know he has left the entire Robinson family with many fond, loving memories. There is no question that he loved his family with every thread of his being. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

-Doug S.

Doug Sarver - September 22, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Cleveland "JC" Robinson III.*



September 22, 2020 at 10:39 AM



“ *To the family of JC Robinson. We lived next door to family on Monterey Hill. They were dear friends of ours (Grady & Kay). So saddened to hear of JC's passing. Sending prayers of comfort to the family. May God forever grant each of u peace & serenity. R.i.p. JC. Teresa, I wanted to call u but didn't have your tel.#. Again, u have our sympathy. Love u, Grady & Kay Price*

Grady & Kay Price - September 22, 2020 at 09:34 AM