



Joseph Hunnicutt,

August 13, 1935 - July 2, 2012

Joseph Walter Hunnicutt, III, died Monday, July 2, 2012 in Bluefield, VA, following a lengthy battle with Parkinson's disease. He was 76. He is survived by Sue Hunnicutt, daughters Jane and Ashley Hunnicutt, brother Bill Hunnicutt, and nephew John Potter. Heber Stafford, Gregory King, Tom Newman, Peggy Peery and Frank Pyott are specially remembered, as Joe's devoted extended family and friends are too numerous to list. Born on Aug. 13, 1935, in Norton, VA, the son of Kathryn Teague Six and Joseph Walter Hunnicutt, Jr., Joe played football, basketball, and baseball for Princeton High School. He attended Marshall University on scholarship for his prowess as both a baseball and basketball player. An entrepreneur and businessman, he was a 1957 graduate of Marshall, with a degree in Business Management. After graduation, he married Sue Thacker on Nov. 10, 1957, in Huntington, then served for two years as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He began his career in business as a salesman for IBM and retired as the Economic Development Director for the County of Tazewell, VA. His greatest achievement was the 1985 founding of the prestigious Society of Yeager Scholars at Marshall University. In collaboration with West Virginia native Brig. Gen. Charles (Chuck) Yeager (USAF Ret'd.), the first man to break the sound barrier, and Dr. Dale Nitzschke, then president of Marshall, Joe designed a unique program for academic scholars that today is recognized as one of the premiere scholarship programs in the country. "Hooks," as he was known in his playing days, was honored by Marshall's M Club in 2009 with a Blanket

Award given to athletes who “have enhanced the reputation of the Marshall student-athlete.” A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on August 25 at Christ Episcopal Church, in Bluefield, WV. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to either Marshall’s “Joseph Hunnicutt Yeager Endowment Fund,” at The Marshall Univ. Foundation, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755, or the Christ Episcopal Church’s “Operating Endowment Fund,” at 200 Duhring 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 Joseph W. Hunnicutt.

Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Hunnicutt,*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Sue, Jane and Ashley and Bill Hunnicutt I was sorry to hear of the loss of Joe Hunnicutt. We have become good friends at Westwood Resthomes the last few years. Poem God looked around His garden and He found an empty place. He then looked down upon this earth, and saw your tired face. He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest. God's garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best. He knew that you were suffering, He knew you were in pain. He knew that you would never get well on earth again. He saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb So He closed your eyelids, and whispered "Peace be thine." It broke our hearts to lose you but you didn't go alone, For part of us went with you the day God called you home. So Long till we meet again.*

Marshall Lytton - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

ML

“ Sue Hunnicutt, Jane & Ashley, & Bill Hunnicutt I was sorry to hear of the loss of my good friend Joe. Joe & I have been very close friends thru the last few years. Poem God looked around His garden and he found an empty place. He then looked down upon this earth, and saw your tired face. He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest. God's garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best. He knew that you were suffering, He knew you were in pain. He knew that you would never get well on earth again. He saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb So He closed your weary eyelids, and whispered, " Peace be thine." It broke our hearts to lose you but you didn't go alone, For part of us went with you the day God called you home.

Marshall Lytton - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

TW

“ Dear Girls: I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I know what losing a Dad is about. But he'll always be with us. From my experience his voice will ever be in our ear and his love for us we will carry in our hearts. My prayers go out for you three and I often think fondly of you all! Much love. OXOXO T.

Ted Williams WV - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

BW

“ My Dear Sue, Ashley and Jane. We met Joe freshman year at Marshall. and grew to enjoy his energy and spirit over the next 69 short years. He insisted that Al join him on the Yeager Scholars Board and it has turned out to be the most enjoyable and fulfilling of his work. We are deeply saddened by his loss and send our condolences and prayers to each of you. Being with Joe always brought me good feelings and a lighter heart.

Bea & Al Wheeler - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

PP

“ Sue, Jane & Ashley:
Our Princeton High School Class of 1953 are saddened indeed to learn of Joe's passing. He faithfully attended and participated in our class reunions and will be remembered fondly running up and down PHS' basketball court and the football field too. He will be sorely missed by all.
God's Blessing to you from . . .
Phyllis (Conner) Posey & PHS Class of 1953

Phyllis Posey - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

DH

“ Ashley, My thoughts and prayers to you and your family. I am so sorry for your loss. I think about you often. I am still at Smith Barney, give me a call.

Debbie Hall - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

JB

“ Dear Sue, Jane and Ashley, I was just so sorry to hear about Joe. My thoughts and prayers are with you. If you are in Charleston and need anything, you know where I am. Love, Jan

Jan Barton - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

EH

“ Dear Sue & Family, I was saddened by the news of Joe's death, which I learned about in the Charleston and Huntington newspapers. I knew Joe at Marshall, where I was in a few classes with him. Although we were not close friends, I considered him a friend. I remember him as a very pleasant person. nevertheless. His work in creating tthe Yeager Scholarship Program at Marshall was a major accomplishment which will be a lasting tribute to his memory. My heart goes out to you on your loss. Ed Hagan (MU '58) Jacksonville, Fla.

Edward D Hagan - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

KG

“ Dearest Jane, Ashley and Sue, I was so sorry to learn about Mr. Hunnicutt today. I send my thoughts and prayers to you sincerely as you're going through this difficult time. Love to you all. ~Kate

Kate Barton Guy - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

MH

“ I am so sorry for your loss! You two "girls" were the apple of his eye! He loved you so much! I am grateful to have known him! My thoughts and prayers are for you!

Margaret Lyle Holroyd - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

BK

“ Sue: Shirley and Ire are truly sorry for your great loss. Ed Hagan, who keeps up on West Virginians, sent me Joe's obituary. Even though many years have passed since our brief stay in Roanoke, we have thought often of you both. It appears you have had a great life, family and numerous accomplishments during the decades since. Joe certainly is to be commended for his interest in Marshall and the scholarship that he helped establish. When time permits, please let us hear from you and all about your life together. Until then our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Peace!

Bill/Shirley Keesee - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

SM

“ Dear Family, Joe was so kind to my husband Shot last summer at Westwood. It made his stay there less stressful. Shot really enjoyed his company and Joe was very patient with Shot and his needs. I, too, enjoyed his company while visiting with Shot. My son, Hud, and I made a trip over to see him in Dec. and I hated seeing him bed fast with his sore feet. I am so sorry that I did not make it back over since that time. Shot passed away Nov. 30 in his sleep at home. May God be with each of you and give you strength. Shelby McClanahan

Shelby McClanahan - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

MA

“ Ashley, You are in my thoughts and prayers. Words can't express how sorry I am for your loss. love, Marianne

Marianne - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

AH

“ *Many thanks to everyone for all of the calls, cards and help in the past week, and the past couple of years. Dad was fortunate to have so many dear friends. He was a truly generous man who never met a stranger. I am the person I am today because of him and I will continue to emulate his seemingly never ceasing optimistic spirit.*

Ashley Hunnicutt - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM