



Roy Vernon "Buddy" Graham, Jr.

November 13, 1937 - December 16, 2015

Roy Vernon "Buddy" Graham, Jr., 78 of Parkersburg, W.Va. formerly of Huntington, W.VA., passed away, Wednesday, December 16, 2015 in Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown, W.Va. He was born November 13, 1937 in Pikeville, KY. the son of the late, Roy V. Graham, Sr. and Iola Leitze Graham Martin. He was a 1955 graduate of Huntington East High School and Marshall University where he was a member of the Golf team, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and the Robe Leadership Honorary. Buddy's career in volunteerism spanned many directions with many accomplishments. He was a golf coach at Marshall University, administrative assistant at Marshall, Insurance agent, a banker, volunteer basketball coach at the YMCA, AAU Volunteer coach with two national championships earned with his teams. His experience in the business world was extensive. He ran the Memorial Field House, was an assistant at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena, Huntington area Chamber of Commerce, Huntington Area Development Council, director of Gallia County Ohio Chamber Of Commerce and Community Improvement Corporation, Executive Director of the Polymer Alliance Zone and his last positions was as Sr. Vice President, COO of Professional Services of America, Inc. in Parkersburg, W.Va. One of his greatest joys in life was participating in (whether playing or observing) Marshall University sports. He was elated when he was inducted into the Marshall University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. He was also a member of Fifth Avenue Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Jane Gessel Graham of Parkersburg W.Va; his sister, Verona

Cumberledge of Lexington, KY; several nieces and nephews; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Mary and John Hilbert of Point Pleasant, W.Va; sister-in-law, Frances Gessel of St. Albans, W.Va. In lieu of flowers, a Golf Scholarship will be established in Buddy's Memory at the Marshall University Foundation c/o R.V. "Buddy" Graham Scholarship, P.O. Box 1360 Huntington, W.Va. 25715-1360. Graveside services will be private. A Celebration of Life will be conducted at 2:30 PM on Sunday, December 20, 2015 at Henson & Kitchen Mortuary; Barboursville, W.Va. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family by visiting www.hensonandkitchen.com .

Tribute Wall



“ Roy Vernon "Buddy" Graham, Jr.

October 23, 2023 at 01:49 AM



“ I am sorry for your loss, please accept my sincere condolences. I hope you will find some comfort and strength in Jesus promise of the earthly resurrection(Acts 24:15)and the renewed Paradise earth, where death will be no more and no family will mourn the death of a loved one.-Revelation 21:3,4;John 5:28,29;Luke 23:43. May GOD(Psalms 83:18)grant you peace and comfort now, during this grievous time.Matthew 5:4.

Marcella - December 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ RIP Buddy. Thanks for your example.

Matt Callaway of Charlotte NC - December 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Jane, I am sorry to hear about about my friend,Buddy. I have many great memories of days gone by, when we were young. It was so good to see you both and to spend time together at the 55th reunion. God Bless You. Don

Donald Shelton of Leesburg, Fl.34748 - December 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jane ~ We were so sorry to hear of Buddy's passing. Please accept our most sincere condolences and know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Ruth and Ben Borda

Ruth and Ben Borda of Huntington, WV - December 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ Jane, My deepest sympathy to you and your family. I respected and admired Buddy so very much, and remember fondly our "evening talks" about the state of the city. He was a progressive thinker and wanted to improve all aspects of our community. Such wonderful memories of a truly exciting time, meetings on Friday mornings with Bob Evans at the Chamber, always sharing his vision for Gallipolis and Gallia County. His friendship meant alot to me, and his support was immeasurable as was your's. Peace/love, Dow

Dow Saunders of Gallipolis Ohio - December 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ I was very saddened to hear of Buddy's passing. He was a friend to so many, and I feel honored to call him my friend as well. Jane, thinking of you with sympathy and love.

Winnie Flanagan of Vienna, WV - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Jane, I was shocked and saddened to hear of Buddy's passing...we go back a long way and we had talked of getting together to play golf (of course) in Huntington some time. Unfortunately it didn't happen. The last time I saw Buddy was at the SAE reunion in Huntington in 2003. I will surely miss him. One of the few people I could talk with about Marshall and Huntington golf in the 50s and early 60s. He was one of the good guys and accomplished many things that I did not know about until reading his obit. May God bless and comfort you and your family. JED

John "Jed"Dial of Mexico, MO - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Sending love and prayers for peace and comfort

Kim Eggleston of Ravenswood, WV - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Jane, I'm so sorry for your loss. May God Bless and keep you during this difficult time. Sincerely, Mary Russell

Mary of Russell - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Sorry to hear of Mr Graham's passing. Had the pleasure of being one of his nurses for several years. Will miss seeing him. Prayers for the family🙏

Cathy Harlow RN - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ We are sad to learn of Buddy's passing, but know he is at rest in the arms of the Angels.

John and Ann Krieger - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ I am very sorry to hear of the passing of Buddy. He was a great community leader and businessman. He had the respect of many. He will certainly be missed in our community. God bless his family and friends during this difficult time. Rick Modesitt Parkersburg, WV

Rick Modesitt of Parkersburg, WV - December 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ We have lost another good friend. Buddy was a supporter and promoter of Huntington, Marshall and the state of WV. He touched many people along his journey through life. He had a well deserved induction into Marshall's Athletic Hall of Fame. God bless you Buddy. Parker

Parker Ward Jr. of Huntington, WV - December 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ WE ARE SADDENED TO LEARN OF THE DEATH OF OUR DEAR FRIEND AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, BUDDY GRAHAM. OUR RELATIONSHIP GOES BACK A LONG WAY AND WE OFTEN TRAVELED INTERNATIONALLY TOGETHER TO BUSINESS MEETINGS . IT WAS OUR PLEASURE TO HAVE GOTTEN TO KNOW BUDDY AND JANE SO WELL OVER THE YEARS..

J.RAY AND MARTHA CARTER KIRBY of DURHAM, NC - December 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *Jane, Im so sorry to hear of Buddy's passing. It quickly triggered a flood of memories of living across the street from you on Marquis Drive in Huntington. You were wonderful, kind, gracious neighbors who never complained about kids running through their yard or hitting wiffle balls off yourhouse. Buddy and Joe Mueller often played 2 on 2 basketball game against Al Lynch and me - which we seldom won. You often reviewed my school writing assignments. I even received a few golf tips from both of you. Marquis Drive was a great neighborhood to grow up in. You and Buddy contributed significantly to those fond memories.*

Philip Holmes of 1034 Nashmont Drive, Ona, WV - December 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GN

“ *Jane and Family: We are so sad to learn of the loss of Buddy. He was a fine man and true gentleman. Gary recounted many stories to me of situations where Buddy went above and beyond to recognize others. We will keep you and your family in our prayers.*

Gary and Cheri Gray of Cary, NC - December 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PV

“ Jane, I am so sorry to hear about Buddy. You were both such great neighbors and had such a positive influence on our children. Much love to you.

Pat Seegmiller of Fairfax, Va - December 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Dear Jane, My sincere condolences goes out to you. Buddy will be truly missed. He was a legend in my eyes. Buddy was more than a coach to me, he was a mentor, teacher, preacher, friend, and a role model. He taught me a lot about life through the game of basketball. Besides he use to pick me up off the streets to take me to practice, bought me my first basketball He was very instrumental to me, he was like a father I never had. He will be greatly missed.

Keith Clemons of Huntington Wv - December 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Jane, so sorry to hear of your loss and prayers will continue for you. I will forever be grateful for your friendship and fondly remember Buddy being my best man many years ago. Rest in peace, Buddy.
Phi Alpha, Joe Kessler

Joe Kessler of Ashland, Ohio - December 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ I'm saddened by the news of your passing but I was blessed to have you as my COACH! The BEST coach I've ever had.

Bryan Courts - December 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ TO THE FAMILY OF ROY VERNON "BUDDY" GRAHAM MY DEEP AND SINCERE SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. I WENT ALL THROUGH SCHOOL WITH BUDDY, ELEMENTARY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL; AND HE WAS ALWAYS A WONDERFUL PERSON, KIND AND FRIENDLY TO EVERY ONE. I USUALLY SAW HIM AT THE HEHS REUNIONS, BUT HAVE NOT ATTENDED THE LAST THREE. MY CONDOLENCES TO EACH OF YOU AND I WILL KEEP YOU IN PRAYER. SHIRLEY SAUNDERS LA FON

Shirley Saunders La Fon of Palm Bay, Florida - December 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM