



Joseph Harris Melton, Jr.

October 25, 2017

Joseph Harris Melton, Jr., 86, told his last inappropriate joke in his hometown of Louisville on October 25, 2017 and the Jack Daniels stock prices plummeted. The Mayor of Valley Station has been called to serve a higher office, men wanted to be him and women wanted to be with him. Joe was born into the loving arms of Joseph Melton, Sr. and Violet Melton on May 6, 1931. He graduated from Valley High School in 1949 where he was a STANDOUT basketball and track star. Joe graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1954 and somehow in 1954 he convinced the beautiful Jan Cartuyvelles to marry him. Jan said she fell for "the leader of the pack". The two were wed at St. James UCC on Taylor Blvd. Upon his graduation from WKU, he was given the rank of Second Lieutenant, and was stationed in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Upon leaving the Military, Joe and Jan lived for a short time in Cincinnati working for the Lilly Tulip Cup Corporation, until moving to Louisville to chase his dream of opening a chain of Family run Grocery Stores we all know as Melton Food Mart. At Melton's peak there were 9 stores in total, 5 of which belonged to Joe and Jan, the others belonged to his siblings, Don, Paul, and Leon. Joe loved the Kentucky Wildcats, deep fried southern food, fishing (usually not catching much but a little BS), gambling on the horses and sports, his golf game, and Jack Daniels, but not necessarily in that order. He was a 65 year member of the Valley Masonic Lodge #511, was a Shriner, and a veteran of the U. S. Army. Preceding him in death was his father and mother, Joe, Sr. and Violet; his father and mother-in-law, Mr. & Mrs.

Cartuyvelles; brother, Ralph; sister-in-law, Eva; and his dog, Taffy. Survivors include his beloved wife of 63 years, Jan; his children, Kathy Cheatham (Wayne), Joe Melton III (Cathy), Robin Vincent (Doug) and Brad Melton; grandchildren, Keena (Emily), Kam, Kolin, Joe IV and Sara; great grandson, Duke; brothers, Don, Leon and Paul (Betsy); and numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be 12 p.m. Monday at Owen Funeral Home with burial in Bethany Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 – 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Joe, I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your Father. I Just recently had the privilege of meeting him. On the day you and him ran out of gas on Old Shep., he was laughing about it. He said to me “Can you believe that?”. He said that you looked down and said “We are on empty and I don't have any cash on me, Do you?”. He began laughing again and said “You will have to help me keep him in line!”. I talked with him briefly that day, about ten minutes I suppose, but within that ten minutes I could feel the wonderful bond that you and your Dad shared. He told me that you had been there for him through it all and how you were right by his side every step of the way. He told me how grateful he felt for having you and what a wonderful son you have been. He also told me that he had lived an amazing life. Joe, don't think for one second that your daddy has left you. Although you may not be able too see or hear him, you will defiantly feel his presence. He will be there with you every step of the way, the same as he told me that you were always there for him. You know your father and the love he has for you. Please take comfort in knowing that his Mother and Father are there, and they were waiting for his arrival to wrap their arms around him and welcome him home.

I hope he's dancing in the sky.

I hope he's singing in the angels' choir.

I hope the angels' know what they have.

I bet it's so nice up in Heaven since he's arrived.

With my deepest symphony,

Donna Hutchins

Donna Hutchins - June 28, 2018 at 04:23 PM