



Joseph Conrad Merchant Jr.

July 13, 1918 - September 8, 2014

Joseph Conrad Merchant, Jr. 96 formerly of Mary Miles Drive, Danville, VA died on Monday, September 8, 2014 at Geneis Triad Center in High Point, NC after a two year decline in health.

Mr. Merchant was born in Pittsylvania County on July 13, 1918 a son of the late Joseph Conrad Merchant, Sr. and Evelyn Shumate Merchant. He had lived most of his life in Danville and Pittsylvania County. He had retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 30 years of service having worked as a Postal Clerk. Mr. Merchant was a member of Rivermont Baptist Church where he had served as Deacon for a number of years. Mr. Merchant had served with the U.S. Army during W.W. II and he was part of the invasion on Omaha Beach. He was a life time member of the V.F.W. & a member of American Legion, Post 325.

On April 8, 1939 he was married to the late Elaine Rice Merchant who died on October 6, 1997.

Mr. Merchant is survived by one son William J. (Joe) Merchant (Shelia) of Tampa, FL, one daughter JoLane M. Pruitt of High Point, NC, five grandchildren Heather Hicks (Tim), Kristie Paradis (Cecil), Joe Pruitt, Jr, Kelly High (Hilary) Cindy Sutton (Kevin) and 11 great grandchildren.

He was predeceased by three brothers and three sisters.

Funeral Services will be conducted on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. from the Graveside in Danville Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Dr. Gary Tucker officiating. Flag presentation will be conducted by the United States Army.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Mausoleum in Danville Memorial Gardens.

Wrenn-Yeatts North Main Chapel is respectfully serving the Merchant family.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 10. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Danville Memorial Gardens
510 Church Avenue
Danville, VA

Graveside

SEP 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

Danville Memorial Gardens
510 Church Avenue
Danville, VA

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Martha - September 10, 2014 at 03:46 PM



“ *JoLane and Family,*
My thoughts are with you during this time of your father's passing.
My memories of your dad, from our youth, are of a kind and gentle
man with a warm smile. I will not be available for the family visitation
but wanted you to know I am supporting you in spirit.
Your Friend,
Judy Motley Hiltwine

Judy Motley Hiltwine - September 10, 2014 at 07:37 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for*
the family of Joseph Conrad Merchant Jr..



September 10, 2014 at 07:22 AM

TJ

“ I grew up in Rivermont Baptist Church back in the late 50's and 60's and was the son of Mary E. Jones who attended there 50 to 60 years till her on passing last year. There was not a whole lot of people I remember well back then, but Mr. Merchant and his son, who was close my age stood out. I remember Mr. Merchant being a deacon who often took up the offering, was well spoken, well dressed and had dark hair that was never out of place. It's been probably 45 years since I've seen the Merchant family and its amazing how certain people with character stand out in your life.
Tom Jones

Tom Jones - September 09, 2014 at 10:30 PM

CB

“ Papa Joe was one of the sweetest people I ever met. He always treated me as one of his own whenever I was around even though I was just a friend to one of his granddaughters. I will always remember his smiling face. I'm blessed I had the opportunity to know him. He loved his family so much, it was evident in the twinkle of his eyes when he looked at you. I love you all and wish I could take the pain away for you. I am praying for all of you during this extremely difficult time.

Christy Berry - September 09, 2014 at 08:15 PM

HH

Thank you Christy for those kind words! Papa loved you as much as he loved us and I am so glad that you were part of his life!!! I hope to see you soon! I love you!!!

Heather Hicks - September 09, 2014 at 11:23 PM

MP

“ Marie Prillaman purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joseph Conrad Merchant Jr..



Marie Prillaman - September 09, 2014 at 07:31 PM

TP

“ JoLane & Joey:
Joe was a dear friend to me and our family for many years, both on Mary Miles Drive when we were neighbors and after our family moved a short distance away. He and Elaine were always there to provide support, love and kindness over the years to so many people. Our families were very close when you children were small, and those years will be ones I will always treasure. I miss Joe and Elaine every day, and you have my deepest sympathy. I am in Richmond with Clay and Terri, or I would be there with you tomorrow.

Love to you both, Marie Prillaman

Terri Pearson - September 09, 2014 at 07:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Conrad Merchant Jr..



September 09, 2014 at 12:10 PM

MI

“ I met Joe when I was hired in 1967 as the first black woman to carry mail in Danville. Later I became a clerk and worked beside Joe. He was such a wonderful guy and treated me with no prejudice whatsoever. You have my deepest sympathy.

Mary Ingram

Mary Ingram - September 09, 2014 at 11:32 AM

MA

“ JoLane & Joey,

Our family was deeply saddened today when we heard that you had lost your father. We are all thinking of you and send our heartfelt sympathy to you and your families.

In the years we lived next door, Joe was the most wonderful neighbor! He was always warm, kind, and ready to lend a hand. We feel fortunate to have known him!

I know he will always remain in the memories of all who loved, respected and treasured him.

With affection and deepest condolences,

Curtis & Nancy Doss

Martha, Charles, & Charles II

Mary, Mark & Katie



Martha - September 09, 2014 at 11:07 AM