



## Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland

December 15, 1932 - December 28, 2016

Jack Westmoreland, son of the late Melvin & Inez Westmoreland, was born December 15, 1932. He grew up in Toccoa, GA, where he attended the Toccoa public schools, and graduated in 1950. In 1953, Jack joined the U. S. Army and served for 20 months in Germany. While in Germany, he was able to visit many countries. In 1955, after an honorable discharge, he became store manager with United 5&10. While working, he attended Piedmont College at night in Demorest GA. Having graduated in 1959 with a degree in Business Administration (cum laude) he had a desire to move to Florida in 1960, where he worked with Pratt-Whitney Research Center and later with RCA Computer Co. While at RCA he attended Florida Atlantic University, where he graduated in 1971 with a MBA (magna cum laude). At FAU he co-authored a manual on Systems & Procedures which was published by Prentice-Hall Publishers.

In 1972, he joined Sonoco Products in the Systems and Procedures department and later became Director of Personnel. Jack was involved in the Hartsville community. One big achievement was the Chamber of Commerce and hiring Dianne Chinnes to be the executive director. Hartsville became well known in the state as one of the best places to live and work. He was on many committees, having served on 48 task forces and groups, including the Educational Foundation. He was very active in the schools of Darlington County (Hartsville), planning summer camps and trips to Washington, DC for a number of children. On one occasion he even drove a child who missed bus

to Washington, so she could experience the trip. Jack was a member of the Rotary Club for many years, past president of club, and Paul Harris Fellow. He had a perfect attendance record for over 25 years. In 1985, he received the Hartsville Citizen of the Year.

Jack worked with Governor Carroll Campbell on the Economic Development committee. He also worked on the Keep South Carolina Beautiful program, at one time having the state to sow wild flowers along the interstates. Jack started the Christmas in April program in Hartsville in 1989.

In 1995, he received the Order of Palmetto award by Governor David Beasley. After he retired from Sonoco, Jack wrote a book (God He Don't Live In No Box). The book was about life experiences. He sold many copies and spoke to many church groups about his book.

Jack and Helen loved to travel, having visited all the states, Canada, and Mexico. Prior to moving to the Methodist Manor, their last trip was 31 days. Jack married Helen Farmer on July 12, 1953. Jack was married to his beloved Helen for 64 years, who was dedicated to his care for the last five years. They enjoyed many trips together and supported each other all of the 64 years. So many people admired Jack. One quote was "He was told by some by executives at Sonoco that Jack was the man you must know". "Jack was dedicated to the South Carolina and ranks as a giant in our 20th century advances in community relations, business, labor relations and in keeping our state on the straight path to do good for all our citizens". He received a letter from Rev. Bill Bouknight with a message stating "My grace will be sufficient for you "(2Cor.12-9). Jack you have run this earthly portion of the race with faith, joy and love, but the best is yet to come."

One employee sent a message describing Jack as. "THE BOSS, THE MENTOR, THE LEADER, THE CHEERLEADER, THE PROTECTOR, THE PROMOTER, THE ENCOURAGER, THE CONSOLER, THE SOUNDING BOARD, THE SUPPORTER, THE COMRADE IN ARMS, FELLOW ROTARIAN, FELLOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUPPORTER, THE DISCIPLINARIAN, THE SHOULDER TO LEAN ON WHEN THE GOING WAS

TOUGH, DO YOU GET THE MESSAGE, BUT MOST OF ALL MY FRIEND." Another one of Jack's talents was finding lost people and families. One was a Vietnam couple where a father and two small boys got on the boat leaving Vietnam coming to U.S. The father had to leave his wife and two month old child in Vietnam. He came to the U.S., resided in Conway, SC, where he worked as a dishwasher, later went to college and raised his two sons. The sons graduated from and entered medical school . Their mother and brother (now 10 years old) were later re-united in through Jack's efforts working with an Ambassador.

He is survived by sisters, Doris Hallford of Tucker GA and Helen (Bob) Blowers Macon, GA; and many nephews, nieces and cousins.

The family would like to thank the employees of the Methodist Manor for their professional care, Mary and Ashley from Embrace Hospice for their care, and Helen and Bob for the many trips from Georgia to assist in Jack's care.

Jack was very active at St. Luke United Methodist Church, having taught Sunday School classes and also bible study groups in his home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Luke United Methodist, 302 Dunlap Dr., Hartsville, SC 29550 or Paul Anderson Youth Home, Box 525, Vidalia, GA. 30475-0525.

Serving as pallbearers are nieces and nephews.

Jack died Wednesday, December 28, 2016. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2016 at the Acree-Davis Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Ray Hewitt will officiate with burial in Stephens Memorial Gardens, Toccoa, GA. The family will receive friends from 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. at Acree-Davis Funeral Home, Toccoa, GA.

# Cemetery Details

## Stephens Memorial Gardens

3650 Hwy 17  
Toccoa, GA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **31**. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Acree-Davis Funeral Home  
90 S. Pond St.  
Toccoa, GA 30577

## Service

DEC **31**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Acree-Davis Funeral Home  
90 S. Pond St.  
Toccoa, GA 30577

# Tribute Wall

RH

“ I just now heard of Mr. Westmoreland's passing. He was a fine and caring man. I didn't know him personally, I don't ever remember even meeting him or having said anything to him. I do remember that after having been employed at Sonoco for a few years, my very young son at that time was sick at Byerly Hospital. One day when I got off work and went to the hospital to relieve my mom from sitting with him, my son looked wide eyed at a magazine that I held in my hand. I asked him what was wrong and he replied that the man on the front of the magazine had just visited him that very day. It was Mr. Westmorland who was featured on the front page of the monthly Sonoco employees magazine for one or more of his many community services.

Mr. Westmoreland would visit Sonoco employees as well as family members of employees that were in the hospital and that meant a lot to me. I'll never forget that and will always remember and appreciate him for that kind act.

*Rozina Hunter*

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**Rozina Hunter** - March 07, 2017 at 09:15 AM

RS

“ A great neighbor, fellow church member and friend! Helen, I am so sorry for your loss and will keep you in my prayers in the days ahead.



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**Rebecca Skinner** - January 02, 2017 at 10:03 PM

JH

“ Jerry & Gene Hall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland



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**Jerry & Gene Hall** - January 02, 2017 at 04:20 PM

DB

“ I was employed at Pratt & Whitney with Jack(and Pam Browning) many years ago. Jack was our favorite instructor and was a great encourager and truly nice gentleman. Heaven has a stellar angel! You are in my prayers.

*Diane Herbert Brownell*

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**Diane Herbert Brownell** - January 02, 2017 at 10:33 AM

RF

“ Helen, Linda and I were very sorry to hear of Jack's passing. Our prayers are with you and the family during your time of sorrow.

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**Rick Fountain** - December 31, 2016 at 06:11 PM

VB

“ Helen, so sorry to hear of Jack's death. Please know that you are in my prayers.

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**vernon Boyd** - December 31, 2016 at 05:15 PM

DJ

“Helen, we are sorry to hear of Jack's passing. He was such an inspiration to David and I during our careers at Sonoco. It was Jack who encouraged David to make the move into the recycling industry and moving our family to Pensacola, FL in 1980. We have always felt a closeness to you both. Jack also offered encouragement and guidance to a young teenager in Hartsville offering him odd jobs and helping him mold his future. I could go on and on regarding his unselfish acts toward his fellow man. He was truly a great humanitarian. David is in McKinney, Texas, on a recycling consultant job and we are not able to be at the service, but we both have you in our prayers and thoughts during this time. David and Sharon Jones

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**David & Sharon Jones** - December 31, 2016 at 12:34 PM

PB

“When I was a young bride working hard at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft to put my husband through college on a salary that barely covered essentials, Jack added me to his non-smoking carpool and we became friends. After he learned that I wanted to be a writer but didn't have the tools, he arranged for a group subscription to *Writer's Digest* so that I only had to pay a third of the actual cost. Then he insisted on selling me his old manual typewriter for a dollar down and a dollar a week. I began my freelance writing career on that typewriter, and years later, after I moved to Hartsville and earned enough money to buy an electric model, he bought the manual typewriter back. I tried to give him a discount, considering that the typewriter had depreciated a bit, but he insisted on paying the full \$10 I'd paid him. No one took more pride in my amazing writing career than Jack, and no one was ever a better friend to me and my family. Jack Westmoreland - one of a kind, and forever special to us. We were privileged to have him in our lives.

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**Pamela Browning** - December 31, 2016 at 11:12 AM

MO

“ On my 1st year anniversary at Sonoco I walked in my office to find a note from Jack with balloons drawn all over it congratulating me on my one year. That note meant the world to me! I didn't know he even knew me and it was such encouragement. I worked at Sonoco 33 yrs and still have that note and was fortunate enough to work with Jack and get to experience first hand what a wonderful caring man he was. What an example of how to live life to it's fullest making others feel good about themselves!

*Marsha S. Odom*

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**Marsha Odom** - December 31, 2016 at 08:25 AM

CH

“ Jack knew how to get things done, quickly and behind the scenes because he was never concerned about receiving credit. He was a master of change and the first to offer a solution to any problem he encountered. His love of family, community and the workplace were second-to-none. He has probably already commandeered an army of volunteers in heaven to start working on a project. Rest in peace, Jack.

*Dave and Catherine Henderson*

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**Catherine Romaine Henderson** - December 31, 2016 at 06:21 AM

CS

“ Tommy and I feel honored to have known Mr. Westmoreland. Please accept our sincere condolences.

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**Cheryl Spencer** - December 31, 2016 at 06:16 AM

BM

“ *Wonderful man, Hartsville citizen, and Sonoco employee. I life well lived.*

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**Becky and Bob McWatty** - December 31, 2016 at 05:50 AM

TS

“ *Terry Boseman Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**terry boseman smith** - December 31, 2016 at 12:28 AM



“ *Judy Lane lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Judy Lane** - December 30, 2016 at 11:28 PM

TG

“ *Helen, I am so sorry to hear of Jack's passing. What fond memories I have of the time we spent together when we were in Toccoa. Praying for God to comfort you during this time.*

*Alene Davis Osborne and family*

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**teresa godwin** - December 30, 2016 at 04:16 PM

PW

“ *Patsy Wase. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Patsy Wase.** - December 30, 2016 at 02:56 PM

MP

“ *Helen,*

*We are deeply saddened to hear of Jack's passing. When we moved to Hartsville in 1981, I looked forward to reading Jack's weekly column in the Hartsville Messenger for the Chamber of Commerce. Jack had a heart that was bigger than anyone I knew. I remember when he visited my office at work and a young lady there needed braces and her family couldn't afford them. Jack paid in full what her braces would cost and asked that it be kept quiet. I witnessed many more kind gestures from this man. Jack was what God intended for all of us to do here on this earth, have brotherly love and what an ambassador he was for our Lord. May God comfort you with his loving arms.*

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**Mari Parrotta-Sunderland** - December 30, 2016 at 01:51 PM

GO

“ *I have been honored to know such a wonderful gentleman. I worked with Miss Dianne Chinness at the Chamber and he came into the Office numerous times. He was outgoing and he enjoyed what he has done for the Hartsville Community he will be missed.*

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**Grady L O'Neal** - December 30, 2016 at 12:58 PM

CW

“ *Carl And Susan Watkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Carl and Susan Watkins - December 30, 2016 at 12:30 PM

BR

“ *Betty Sue Millsaps Ralley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Betty Sue Millsaps Ralley - December 30, 2016 at 09:38 AM

JG

“ *Jimmy And Judy Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Jimmy and Judy Gainey - December 30, 2016 at 08:56 AM

 Linda  
Warren  
Coates

“ *Linda Warren Coates lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Linda Warren Coates - December 30, 2016 at 08:46 AM

DP

“ *Daphine Peavy sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Daphine Peavy** - December 30, 2016 at 08:01 AM

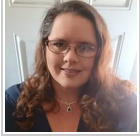
RD

“ *Helen our thoughts and prayers are with you and we take comfort in knowing that Jack is at peace and in a much better place with our heavenly Father.*

*I shared an office with Jack while he was writing his book and he quickly became one of my most treasured friends and mentors. There was only one Jack Westmoreland and I am so thankful that I had the opportunity get to know him and be the recipient of his guidance. And I'm thankful that my daughter and my family also got to know him. He was such a good role model of how a person should live their life. I've read the kind comments from people who were touched by him over the years but I witnessed it day after day. He helped so many people, some who didn't even know he was helping them. Hartsville has lost a wonderful Godly man. Rest in Peace sweet friend. You will always have a special place in my heart.*

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**Renee Douglas** - December 30, 2016 at 07:38 AM



“ I first met Mr. Jack in the Summer of 1992 when I attended TLC 2000. This was the summer when he drove a student to Washington, DC because they had missed the bus. I remember sitting on the lawn in the park up there eating our brown bag food, and all of a sudden here comes Mr. Jack with the student. Ms. Roller was just in awe of what he had done to make sure the student wasn't left out. He had so much compassion for anything he did or was involved in. Hartsville just lost a great, bright light in the community. Rest easy my friend. You made such a lasting impression with me that I will forever cherish.



Rebecca Kelly - December 30, 2016 at 07:00 AM



“ Larry Easterling lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland



Larry Easterling - December 30, 2016 at 06:27 AM



“ My late husband, Rickie Gilbert, had cancer and Mr. Westmoreland came to our home to visit him many times before he lost his battle. Mr. Westmoreland arranged for us to fly on the Sonoco jet to NY for treatment. He was a very caring man. My condolences to his family.

Brenda Gilbert Allen - December 30, 2016 at 05:50 AM

EB

“ *Eric Bradshaw lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Eric Bradshaw - December 30, 2016 at 03:47 AM

OB

“ *There was no greater human being on the planet than Mr. Westmoreland. He truly loved and cared about people and would go above and beyond to help them. I feel honored to have known him. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to all his family and loved ones.*

Olivia Baird - December 30, 2016 at 03:19 AM

LA

“ *Laverne lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Laverne - December 29, 2016 at 09:43 PM

LA

*I remember calling him Mr. Jack when he would come into Pee Dee Eye Associates. He would say "call me Jack." Mr. Jack always had a book in his hand and a smile on his face. He would leave me with an encouraging word. One day he came in the office and brought me an autograph book he has written. Today I still have this book put in a safe place. He will be missed but now he is home with his Heavenly Father!*

Laverne - December 29, 2016 at 09:51 PM

WH

“Helen, we are so so sorry to hear about Jack. What a wonderful man he was. I will never forget the many wonderful notes he left in the mountain house. We would walk in and he would have the lazy susan lined with sticky notes of the funniest sayings. Such a beautiful Godly man. We will forever hold the memories of him in our hearts. May God hold you close in the following days. Our love to you. Wayne and Wanda Helms

Wanda Helms - December 29, 2016 at 09:22 PM

GG

“Helen we are saddened to hear of Jack's passing. He will always be remembered as a kind dedicated true gentlemen! Praying for your peace and comfort during your time of grief!



Gene and Teresa Gibson - December 29, 2016 at 08:18 PM

DG

“Doris Griggs sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland



Doris Griggs - December 29, 2016 at 07:27 PM

DG

So many fond Memories! Helen, forever in my thought & prayers!!!  
Love you!

Doris Griggs - December 29, 2016 at 07:32 PM

AH

“ *Ann H. Hudson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Ann H. Hudson - December 29, 2016 at 06:37 PM

AH

*Helen, thinking of you and saying a prayer. Love you.*

Ann Hudson - December 29, 2016 at 07:46 PM

AB

“ *Amy Blackburn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Amy Blackburn - December 29, 2016 at 06:16 PM

JB

“ *Johnny And Suzanne (Skinner) Beasley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



Johnny and Suzanne (Skinner) Beasley - December 29, 2016 at 04:01 PM



“ *Crystal Minnehan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Crystal Minnehan** - December 29, 2016 at 03:58 PM

WH

“ *Wade & Laura Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Wade & Laura Harris** - December 29, 2016 at 03:02 PM

PC

“ *Paul Callicutt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Paul Callicutt** - December 29, 2016 at 02:15 PM

CB

“ *Carla Benton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jack E. Westmoreland*



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**Carla Benton** - December 29, 2016 at 01:23 PM

DD

“ *Helen, may God comfort and give you peace at this time. Jack will be missed greatly! We love you, Dale and Loraine.*



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**Dale Davis** - December 29, 2016 at 09:28 AM

BG

“ I offer my deepest sympathy to the Jack's family. I remember as a sophomore at Hartsville High I was participating in Darlington County 4-H. We were seeking funds to run a Space Camp at Carolina Elementary and Jack made things happen. I met a man as a young teenager that offered a friendship that followed me throughout the formative years of my professional life. I remember after college, while serving in Spindale, NC, my Secretary stopping by my office and telling me that I had a visitor from SC. It was none other than Jack. He was in the area and just stopped in to check on his young friend.



Jack understood something profound. That the best measured of a man is not the sum of his wealth and possession, but rather by the marks of influence he imprints on the people around him. Jack had the ability to look at the possibilities in a mans future and point him in that direction.

Today, as County Historian, I attribute a part of my success to the influence Jack Westmoreland had on me. He recognized my potential and was able to gimps the possibilities in my future, before I had not even dreamed of them. With a gentle kindness and tender instruction, he pointed me towards a bright future.

He was as fine a friend as any man could ask for. THANK YOU JACK!

-Brian E. Gandy, Darlington County Historian

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Brian E. Gandy - December 29, 2016 at 08:55 AM

WK

“ Writing this for Elsie Byrd, Jack was one of the finest men I have known while I was at Sonoco. His integrity and professional character was quite impressive. As we grow older our minds might grow weaker, but for me I will always remember Jack for the man I knew. My sincere sympathy and prayers for all of you and your families.  
Elsie A. Byrd, retired Sonoco and SPC Credit Union.



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**Winnie King** - December 29, 2016 at 08:55 AM