



Mr. John Wright Jr.

August 31, 1926 - June 11, 2015

Mr. John Wright Jr., of Hartsville, SC, died peacefully at McLeod Hospice in Florence, South Carolina on June 11, 2015 at the age of 88, the last of his family's generation. The world is very unfortunate to have lost a patient and compassionate man who was caring to a fault and always thought of everyone else before himself.

John was the youngest child born to John Wright Sr. and Stella Dale (Wright) Greenwood on August 31, 1926 at 514 South Packard Street in Kansas City, Kansas. He overcame his childhood years that consisted of the Great Depression, divorced parents, debilitating rheumatism, and helping to raise a niece. During World War II at age 17, John enlisted in the US Navy. As a gunner's mate assigned to the USS Aulick (DD569), he went on to participate in some of the most brutal battles in the Pacific arena – Leyte Gulf, Guam, Palau, Saipan, Okinawa, and the Philippines. On November 29, 1944, their battle group came under heavy Japanese attack. Three kamikaze planes attacked his ship causing severe damage to the entire forward part of the ship and killing or injuring 96 of his shipmates. This incident taught him life's precious value and to cherish it. His ship was rebuilt and later battled back towards Tokyo for a final assault when the atom bombs were dropped on Japan.

With the WWII over, John returned to the States and while in Charleston, South Carolina, awaiting his eventual discharge and return to Kansas City, he met a young lady, Ruth V. Johnson, whom he courted and later married on

April 25, 1947. After several attempts to find employment in various cities across the US, John and Ruth returned to our quiet corner of the world and started their family. However, Dad was recalled to active combat duty in 1950 during the Korean War serving aboard the USS Rochester (CA-124). Following discharge in 1951, John worked for many years as a textile supervisor, hotel/motel manager, and as the manager for the Yogi Bear restaurant in Hartsville.

Throughout John's life his focus has been outward while serving his family and fellow countrymen - never wanting attention or acclaim. In departing, John would want all of his heirs to follow his guiding words – "Always be honest in everything you do. Most of all believe in yourself. Keep your goals high and tell yourself you can make it. Don't give up on what you would like out of life." Surviving John are his six children John Wright III (Carolyn), Danny L. Wright (Dianne), Ronald A. Wright (Ann), F. Scott Wright (Sherry), R. Candy Phelps, and Andy Wright (Tammy) plus numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

His loving wife, Ruth Virginia (Johnson) Wright, predeceased him in 2007. Additionally, John's father, John Wright Sr., and mother, Stella Dale (Wright) Greenwood of Kansas City, Kansas, as well as his siblings Nadine, Helen, Harry, Dale, and Marcella, all preceded him in death.

John Wright Jr.'s funeral is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Sunday June 14, 2015 at Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home Chapel in Hartsville with entombment at Westview Memorial Park Mausoleum after the service. A visitation will precede the funeral services from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Mr. Johnny Tolson will officiate the ceremony. All are welcome to attend and celebrate John's life and departure. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to McLeod Hospice, 1203 E. Cheves Street, Florence, SC or at <https://foundation.mcleodhealth.org/giving>. Condolences can be sent to <http://www.bpafuneralhome.com>.

The family would like to thank Scott and Sherry Wright, and Mrs. Mary Smith for their dedicated care and support of Dad for the last eight years. The family

also expresses their sincere appreciation to McLeod Hospice and especially to Dorie and Sharon for their exceptional care of Dad during his final days.

Cemetery Details

Westview Memorial Park Cemetery

2223 Kelleytown Road
Hartsville, SC 29550
info@bpafuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 14. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home
306 W. Home Ave.
Hartsville, SC 29550
(843) 332-6531
info@bpafuneralhome.com
<http://www.bpafuneralhome.com>

Service

JUN 14. 5:00 PM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home Chapel
306 W Home Ave
Hartsville, SC

Tribute Wall

ST

“ *To the family,*

We have been privileged and honored to have John Wright as our uncle. He was indeed a very special uncle whom we loved very much. Uncle John was a loving husband, daddy, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and a friend to everyone. To know him was to love him!! He was so easy to love. He was an individual that shared kindness with everyone he met. He was always an easy going, caring, and kind individual at all times. We will always cherish our sweet memories of Uncle John. Our lives have been richly blessed by knowing such a wonderful man and even more blessed that he was our uncle. We will miss our visits with him but we are comforted knowing he has entered his heavenly home and has been reunited with his loving wife (Aunt Ruth) and other loved ones.

It is our prayer that God will give you peace and comfort during the months to follow.

Love and prayers for all the family!

Sheila S. and Johnny Tolson - June 29, 2015 at 04:19 PM

TL

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I just learned of Mr. Wright's passing late last night. I am so sorry that I was unable to be with your family during his memorial service. As you all know, "Ruth and John" were a huge part of our family. Our parents loved spending time together and because of that I had a great honor of spending many hours with them throughout childhood. I can still see your sweet father sitting at our kitchen table enjoy my mom's biscuits. What a reunion it was in Heaven on June 11th. Love to you all!*

Tiletha Lane - June 19, 2015 at 06:09 AM

JL

“ *Judy Lane lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.*



Judy Lane - June 16, 2015 at 10:07 PM

AB

“ *Sherry and Scott, We were so sorry to hear about Mr. Wright's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Angie and James Brigman and Family.*

Angie Brigman - June 15, 2015 at 06:32 PM

MH

“ *Maxine Howle lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.*



Maxine Howle - June 15, 2015 at 03:36 AM

KB

“ *So sorry to hear about the passing of Pop Wright. He was a great Father-in Law and a very kind compassionate man. He always offered help to those who needed it. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.*



Kathy Brock

kathy brock - June 14, 2015 at 05:49 PM

JB

“ *John and family. So sorry to hear about your father. He was a kind good man. Prayers for each of you.* ”

Janelle Teal Britt - June 13, 2015 at 06:52 PM

BG

“ *Betty Bradshaw Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.* ”



Betty Bradshaw Gainey - June 13, 2015 at 05:29 PM

TW

“ *3 files added to the album LifeTributes* ”



Tammy and Andy Wright - June 13, 2015 at 04:59 PM

DC

“ *Danny & Freida Collins lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.* ”



Danny & Freida Collins - June 13, 2015 at 10:26 AM



“ *Crystal Minnehan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.*



Crystal Minnehan - June 13, 2015 at 08:19 AM

TO

“ *Tonda Steen Odom lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.*



Tonda Steen Odom - June 12, 2015 at 09:40 PM

TO

“ *I worked for Mr Wright at Yogi Bear back in the 80'she was so kind and never forgot him. I am so sorry for your family's loss. Thoughts and prayers.*

Tonda Steen Odom - June 12, 2015 at 09:39 PM

TB

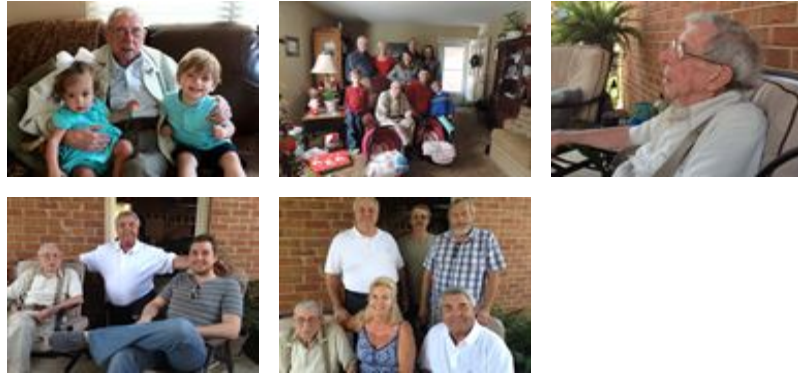
“ *Tony Byrd lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.*



Tony Byrd - June 12, 2015 at 03:37 PM



“ 44 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - June 12, 2015 at 11:46 AM



“ *Brenda and John Horton Sorry For your loss .*



John Horton - June 12, 2015 at 11:32 AM



“ *Kathryn And Gene Roscoe lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.*



Kathryn and Gene Roscoe - June 12, 2015 at 11:11 AM

 Gennie
Wright

“ John was my grandfather but he was also so much more to me and our family. He was everything that I aspire to be in life. He was the kindest most loving man I've ever known. It was such a privilege to share my childhood with him and my Grandmother. Our lives were not always easy but he always seemed to make us smile, even through our tears. Rest in peace now Pa. Your legacy will live on through us all.



Gennie Wright - June 12, 2015 at 10:22 AM

JG

“ Jewel Walters Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.



Jewel Walters Gibson - June 12, 2015 at 09:58 AM

GA

“ Geno And Dawn Armstrong lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wright Jr.



Geno and Dawn Armstrong - June 12, 2015 at 09:38 AM

BH

“ *Scott, Sherry, Andy, Tammy and all of the Wright Family*

What a legacy to leave. May God comfort you all as you celebrate Mr. Wright's life. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Bobbie Huggins

Bobbie Huggins - June 12, 2015 at 09:18 AM