



Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender

March 27, 1939 - October 9, 2020

Graveside funeral services for Joseph "Joe" Maxcy Lavender, 81, will be held at 1:00 pm on Sunday; October 11, 2020 at Magnolia Cemetery in Hartsville, directed by Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home.

Mr. Lavender died Friday, October 9, 2020. He was born March 27, 1939, in New Zion, South Carolina, the son of Velma Faye Floyd and William Maxcy Lavender.

He came to Hartsville in November 1968 as a tax preparer with H&R Block. His first job with H&R Block was more than half a century ago in Sumter. Over the years, he worked his way up from tax preparer to district manager to a successful franchise owner. At one time he owned as many as 20 franchises. In recent years, Mr. Lavender started cutting back, but retained five franchises, including the H&R Block franchise in Hartsville, Darlington, Bishopville, Lake City, and Hemingway.

He was in the mini-storage business and at one time owned more than 700 mini-storage units. He also was a licensed real estate broker and appraiser, both commercial and residential.

In 1963, he started racing cars. During his career, mostly on dirt tracks, he dominated many of the tracks he ran on, winning more than 400 races. He also enjoyed watching his sons on the racetrack. He was also owner and promoter of Hartsville-Darlington Speedway, Sumter Speedway, and Florence I95 Speedway.

His greatest love was his family.

He is survived by his five children, Joey (Vickie) Lavender of Florence, Linda (Mike) Harrington of New Zion, Katherine (Tommy Nolan) Grainger of Hartsville, Jody (Tara) Lavender of Murrells Inlet and Jo Ann (Ryan) Richardson of Columbia; seven grandchildren, Michael (Lauren) Harrington of Anderson, Daniel (Becky) Harrington of Florence, Heather (Matt) Arvidson of Florence, Emily Lavender of Florence, Taylor Lavender and Chase Lavender of Murrells Inlet, and Walker Richardson of Columbia; and two great-grandchildren, Katie Arvidson and Lexi Arvidson of Florence; a brother, Dr. Abraham Lavender of Miami Beach, Florida; a sister, Marge McFaddin of Eatonton, Georgia.

Pallbearers are Michael Harrington, Daniel Harrington, Matt Arvidson, Jamey Jordan, Greg McElveen, and Scott Grainger.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Hartsville, 104 E. Home Ave., Hartsville, S.C. 29550 or Darlington County Humane Society, 1705 Adoption Way, Darlington, SC 29532.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. T. James "Jimmy" Bell and Jamey Jordan for all their assistance throughout the years.

Joe Lavender loved his family. He gave generously of his love to his five children and was known affectionately as "Papa Joe" to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. To the community, he was "Mr. H & R Block".

He started racing cars in 1963. It would become a great part of his life. He also supported his two sons who followed in his footsteps.

When he applied for a job at H&R Block more than half a century ago, he had very little and knew nothing about the tax business. Over the years, he worked his way up from tax preparer to district manager to a successful franchise owner. At one time he owned as many as 20 franchises.

Joe never let challenges hinder him in what he wanted to do. He was determined to achieve many goals in his lifetime – business owner, race car driver, and father. He said success is all about timing. He was successful in

many endeavors throughout his life.

He came to Hartsville in November of 1968 in a 1960 Volkswagen convertible and stayed in a one-bedroom apartment on the corner of Sixth Street and College Avenue.

“I’m a participant not a spectator,” Joe said in an interview in 2017 with the Hartsville Messenger.

He gave this advice for others starting out during the interview with the newspaper. He said “Set realistic goals and know your priorities. Realize that you are going to have to make some sacrifices and work hard. There will be mistakes but profit from them. He said always in the back of his head was the notion “If it is worth doing, it is worth doing right.”

Cemetery Details

Magnolia Cemetery

140 South Cedar Lane
Hartsville, SC 29550
(843) 383-3004

Previous Events

Graveside

OCT 11. 1:00 PM (ET)

Magnolia Cemetery
140 South Cedar Lane
Hartsville, SC 29550
(843) 383-3004

Tribute Wall



“ Jay Benson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Jay Benson - October 28, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ Lori And Randy Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Lori and Randy Lowe - October 21, 2020 at 11:34 PM



“ Sorry for your loss but he is in a better place



Linda Edwards - October 19, 2020 at 03:31 PM

LF

“ Joey, Linda, Katherine, Jody and Jo Ann. I just found out about about your Dad's passing today in fact, I didn't even know that he had been ill. Joe hired me back in the late 70's to help him start up a new Real Estate Company called Security Realty. We worked together for approximately 5 years and I had to leave because interest rates had soared to over 15%. I ended up having a 25year career with Sonoco but I will never forget the opportunity your Dad gave me. I thought the world of Joe and wanted each of you to know that they didn't come any better. I will keep back of you in my thoughts and prayers. Larry Ferguson

Larry C. Ferguson - October 14, 2020 at 03:44 PM

LE

May God bless you and your family Jody. Mrs Linda Edwards

Linda Edwards - October 19, 2020 at 02:05 PM

MB

“ Marilyn B Blackwell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Marilyn B Blackwell - October 14, 2020 at 10:12 AM

JG

“ Jeff Galloway lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Jeff Galloway - October 13, 2020 at 11:05 PM

GO

“ Joe has been a great friend..my thoughts and prayers go out to the family. I have enjoyed visiting him through the years at H and R Block

Grady O'Neal - October 12, 2020 at 11:27 PM

BB

“ he will defiantly be missed. he has always been a strong leader, I will never forget when he drove the old pinto racecar at Hartville Darlington dirt track. Rest in Peace Joe .Brantley & Sonja Gainey

Brantley Baineey - October 12, 2020 at 06:41 PM

PA

“ Paul And Angela lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Paul and Angela - October 12, 2020 at 04:33 PM

RC

“ Robbie Coker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



robbie coker - October 12, 2020 at 02:40 PM

BH

“ Bobby And Anita Hall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Bobby and Anita Hall - October 11, 2020 at 11:36 PM

EC

“ Lenny and I have known Joe for many years since he began racing. Traveling to Sumter with him and Joey to the dirt track. Sorry for all of your loss
Lenny and Elaine Carpenter



Elaine Carpenter - October 11, 2020 at 12:04 PM

SM

“ Sandy Morrison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Sandy Morrison - October 11, 2020 at 08:00 AM

CB

“ Carol Elmore Bryant lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



carol elmore bryant - October 11, 2020 at 07:12 AM

CB

Joe was a kind and gentle soul and friend to everyone. Love and Prayers for his family. Blessings, Carol

carol elmore bryant - October 11, 2020 at 07:13 AM

RB

“ *Randy Byrd lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Randy Byrd - October 11, 2020 at 12:12 AM

CG

“ *Praying that God will provide comfort and strength to all the people who loved Mr. Joe Lavender; especially his family. I've known Joe for many years; and, one thing that was always apparent in conversations we shared throughout the years, was the pure love he held in his heart for his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also loved his H&R Block Family; things will certainly be different at the office without his smiling face and kindhearted jokes. Joe Lavender was truly one of the best men I have ever had the pleasure to know; and, he will be missed by so many people who I hope will carry on his charismatic nature and treating all people as equal.*



James and I send our love; and, prayers for clarity and any comfort his family may be able to accept during this emotionally heart breaking time. Knowing you're not alone, I hope, will make the days and weeks to come a little less painful. For us, the sunshine will warm out hearts and goodness will replenish our souls once more.

James and Crystal Hoffman

crystal gardner - October 10, 2020 at 10:45 PM

RL

“ RICKy&JUDY LOCKLAIR lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



RICKy&JUDY LOCKLAIR - October 10, 2020 at 09:50 PM

FS

“ Freddie & Kathy Stanley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Freddie & Kathy Stanley - October 10, 2020 at 07:49 PM

LW

“ Leroy & Donna Watts lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Leroy & Donna Watts - October 10, 2020 at 06:49 PM

MH

“ Martha Mixon Hall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Martha Mixon Hall - October 10, 2020 at 06:12 PM

GB

“ Gloria Mack Bell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Gloria Mack Bell - October 10, 2020 at 06:08 PM

DJ

“ Dennis And Robin Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Dennis and Robin Johnson - October 10, 2020 at 05:41 PM

GT

“ Gale L And Darrell Teal sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Gale L and Darrell Teal - October 10, 2020 at 04:49 PM

RG

“ Rev. & Mrs. Marvin Griggs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Rev. & Mrs. Marvin Griggs - October 10, 2020 at 03:58 PM

FL

“ *Praying for your family*

Fran Langley - October 10, 2020 at 03:49 PM

MB

“ *Matt Bramlett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Matt Bramlett - October 10, 2020 at 02:36 PM



“ *David Jordan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



David Jordan - October 10, 2020 at 01:37 PM

ET

“ Joe was a great Business man ,I worked for Joe 40+years with the race-tracks and H&R Block ,My heart is so broken for his family and H&R Block's employee's he was a great Boss and I will really miss him ,he was always ready to help you ,If it was a Tax Question his answer was always have you Researched it because that is the way you learn in doing taxes .I will miss his Memo's but I know Linda will take care of that .I for one could tell you how much he loved his Children, Grandchildren and Great Grans they were his heart if you asked him about them it would bring a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eyes. He will be missed by so many. Love all of you .



Eugene & Linda Tolson - October 10, 2020 at 01:18 PM

JO

“ Joan Odom lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Joan Odom - October 10, 2020 at 11:35 AM



“ Phyllis Driggers Braddock sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Phyllis Driggers Braddock - October 10, 2020 at 10:10 AM

LB

“ SORRY FOR the LOST OF YALL love ONE..
MY CONDOLENCES FROM THE BROWN
FAMILY.
JOANN/SPEECH IM SENDING YOU A HUG
SWEETY



Larista Brown - October 10, 2020 at 09:59 AM

TL

“ Theresa Lynn sent a virtual gift in memory of
Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Theresa Lynn - October 10, 2020 at 09:07 AM

JC

“ Joe’s family,
Susan and I are very sorry for your loss.

James and Susan Clemons

james clemons - October 10, 2020 at 09:04 AM

RJ

“ Rhonda Jones-Norton sent a virtual gift in
memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Rhonda Jones-Norton - October 10, 2020 at 09:03 AM

MG

“ *Mitchell And Jackie Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Mitchell and Jackie Gainey - October 10, 2020 at 08:42 AM

MG

Sorry to hear about Joe he was all the time smiling .enjoyed watching his race at the old track . Forty years ago we bought our house from him

Mitchell and Jackie Gainey - October 10, 2020 at 08:45 AM

DH

“ *Prayers for you all. Michael and Delores Hickey*



Delores Hickey - October 10, 2020 at 06:42 AM

RS

“ *Rebecca Skinner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Rebecca Skinner - October 10, 2020 at 01:28 AM

JB

“ To the family. Joe was such an inspiration to me. I enjoyed working for him, both at H&R Block and at the speedway. He taught me so much about business. My heart breaks as he was an awesome mentor to me. Sincerely, Jean Braswell

Jean Braswell - October 10, 2020 at 12:57 AM

RO

“ I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Joe. Praying for peace and comfort to each of you now and the days to come.



Rosie Osborne - October 10, 2020 at 12:07 AM

BH

“ Thoughts and Prayers to Family during your time of grief !



Billy & Barb Haire - October 09, 2020 at 11:19 PM

DL

“ Mr joe was a very respectable man and always looked out for others and took care of his block family. I am truly grateful to have got to be a part of that family. He will be missed by many. Thoughts and prayers to the family.



Donna Loflin - October 09, 2020 at 11:15 PM

MH

*Our prayers and thoughts for your family at this time of loss.
---Michael & Susan Hewell*

Michael Hewell - October 10, 2020 at 07:16 AM

CG

“ *Connee Grantham lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Connee Grantham - October 09, 2020 at 10:23 PM

DA

“ *So sorry to hear about the passing of Joe. He was a good friend. He would talk forever when we had phone conversations. He will be missed. Prayers for the family.*



Derry Atkinson - October 09, 2020 at 10:23 PM

HR

“ *Henry And Dianne Richardson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Henry and Dianne Richardson - October 09, 2020 at 10:04 PM

KW

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you all as you navigate through this time! Joe was loved and admired by many! He will be missed!

Love- Kristie, Darryl and Emaleigh Walters

kristie walters - October 09, 2020 at 09:58 PM

DS

“ Dana Stone lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Dana Stone - October 09, 2020 at 09:44 PM

LL

“ So sorry to hear about Mr Joe
Always such a nice man
Our thoughts and prayers are with you
May God wrap his loving arms around all of you
Lawrence & Cindy Lowe



Lawrence & Cindy Lowe - October 09, 2020 at 08:58 PM

DS

“ David & Gloria Shoemake sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



David & Gloria Shoemake - October 09, 2020 at 08:52 PM

JB

“ Johnny And Suzanne Beasley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Johnny and Suzanne Beasley - October 09, 2020 at 08:36 PM

SR

“ Linda and Family, so sorry to hear of Joes passing I will be forever grateful to him for believing in me when even I didn't and for giving me a chance at working for the Block family that was about 24 years ago and I am still there.He was one of the most thoughtful men I have ever met keep all of those memories close to your heart.



Sherry Roberts - October 09, 2020 at 07:53 PM



Prayers for the Lavender family. So sorry to learn of Joe's passing. May the Heavenly Father show you peace and comfort in this time of grief.

Shari Hinson - October 10, 2020 at 09:33 PM

DB

“ Debbie Bullard lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Debbie Bullard - October 09, 2020 at 07:30 PM

DC

“ *Della Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Della Clark - October 09, 2020 at 07:02 PM

PB

One of the best men I've ever known and learned from. Praying for you guys.

Phil Boatwright - October 09, 2020 at 07:07 PM

CT

“ *So sad to learn of Joe's passing. He was a kind and generous man. He was very willing to help so many people in many different ways. He will be missed. I am blessed to have had him as a friend and mentor. Our short meetings usually became long meetings!!*



I know he adored his family. I also know you are heartbroken. Each of you is in my thoughts and prayers.

Curtis Tyner - October 09, 2020 at 06:33 PM

WS

Joe helped me when I was at one of my lowest places in my life. All he ask is be honest. Truly respected this man! With a prayer!!

William Simons - October 09, 2020 at 07:07 PM

LB

“ *Linda Boseman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Linda Boseman - October 09, 2020 at 06:22 PM

LB

I'm so sorry to hear of Mr. Lavenders passing. He was such nice thoughtful person. Praying for his family.

Linda Boseman - October 09, 2020 at 06:25 PM

PW

“ *Phyllis Mims Watson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Phyllis Mims Watson - October 09, 2020 at 06:09 PM

PW

“ *Jody, JoAnne, Katherine, Linda, and Joey- Your father was such a wonderful, compassionate friend and respected by all who knew him. Over the past year, he called many times to check up on my family and to offer any help or advice he could give since Mom's passing. We will truly miss him and know we have each of you in our hearts and prayers.*

Phyllis Mims Watson - October 09, 2020 at 06:06 PM

VN

“ Vickie And David Newsome lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



vickie and david newsome - October 09, 2020 at 06:03 PM

GW

“ Gerald&Amanda Winburn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Gerald&Amanda Winburn - October 09, 2020 at 05:58 PM

MH

“ So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.



Margaret Harrington - October 09, 2020 at 05:53 PM

JJ

“ Jamey And Paula Jordan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Jamey and Paula Jordan - October 09, 2020 at 05:31 PM

JJ

Prayers for Papa Joe's family,

Jamey and Paula Jordan - October 09, 2020 at 05:34 PM

JA

“ *JIMMY L ANDREWS lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



JIMMY L ANDREWS - October 09, 2020 at 05:28 PM

CS

“ *Charles And Lavonde Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender*



Charles and Lavonde Smith - October 09, 2020 at 05:04 PM

CS

Mr Joe was such a wonderful friend to many. He had a hand out to any one who needed it. We are better for having known him.

Charles and Lavonde Smith - October 09, 2020 at 07:20 PM

LG

“ *Lavender Family. I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Lavender's passing. I enjoyed working for your Dad. He loved his family, I feel as if I know you all personally. May God comfort you in this time of morning and give you all laughter in the good memories that you share. sincerely*

Lisa Goodale - October 09, 2020 at 04:52 PM



“ I am praying for the family. Joe was a kind and intelligent man that helped many people. His children were his world and he loved each of them dearly. My prayers are with his family.



Marsha Odom - October 09, 2020 at 04:52 PM



“ Kathy Norris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Kathy Norris - October 09, 2020 at 04:49 PM



“ Linda Matthews lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Linda Matthews - October 09, 2020 at 04:36 PM



“ Linda & Bobby Hayden lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Maxcy Lavender



Linda & Bobby Hayden - October 09, 2020 at 04:30 PM

KL

Joey, Vickie and family, I'm so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this time. Much love and hugs to each of you.

Kathy Lawhon - October 10, 2020 at 08:24 AM

HR

Katherine, I never had the pleasure of meeting your dad, it seems I really missed meeting a wonderful human being! You and your family will be in my prayers. May sweet memories fill the big hole in your heart. Fondly, Hilda Grainger Rabon

Hilda Rabon - October 15, 2020 at 10:01 PM