



Luke Sparrow

April 24, 1910 - September 25, 2006

Graveside services for Lucas "Luke" Lide Sparrow, 96, will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 27, 2006 at Magnolia Cemetery. The Rev. Ryan Goodroe will officiate and Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home is in charge. The family will receive friends Tuesday, September 26, 2006 from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church, 104 East Home Ave., Hartsville, SC 29550 or Hartsville Interfaith Ministries, 210 Swift Creek Road, Hartsville, SC 29550.

Mr. Sparrow died Monday, September 25, 2006. Born in Hartsville, SC, he was a son of the late Jessie Calhoun and Fannie Andrews Sparrow. He attended Furman University during the depression and was employed for 42 years in the Cone Department at Sonoco. He began work there in 1932 when a paper cone machine was being developed and perfected for the growing textile industry in South Carolina and beyond. He loved his work and had a special enthusiasm for training new employees, many of whom became devoted friends.

He served as President of the Red Fox Club in 1956, the year they purchased the first bus for the Red Fox teams to ride to out of town games. He was a charter member of the first Board of Directors of the Sonoco Credit Union, now SPC Credit Union, and the last surviving charter member. He served in the Big Brother Program and taught many young boys to fish on Prestwood Lake. He was a lifelong member of the Sonoco Oldtimers Club. Known fondly as "Mr. Luke" he was a super Red Fox fan, a proud supporter of all the athletic

programs, believing they instilled character in our youth. He was an ambassador for Hartsville and very proud of the All American City award. He never went anywhere without introducing himself as “Luke Sparrow from a little town called Hartsville.”

Surviving are his daughter, Rebecca Grant Sparrow of Pawley's Island, SC; nieces, Betty Jean Fahed of Richmond, VA, Jack King, Kaye MacDonald, Betty Ann McAlpine, Carole Sparrow, all of Hartsville, SC, Frances Newman of Hamlet, NC, Dorothy Mugele of Rock Hill, SC; nephews, John McNeil of Red Springs, NC, Raymond Sparrow of Hartsville, SC; special great niece, Jean Grant Salley, husband Henry and daughter, Chandler of Lexington, SC; special great nephew, Charles Matthew Grant, wife Terri, and daughter, Kelsey of Anderson, SC. He was preceded in death by his wife of 51 years, Martha Grant Sparrow; sisters, Mamie Sparrow Flowers, Eula Sparrow McKinnon, and Irene Sparrow McNeil; brothers, Boyd Sparrow, Ellie Sparrow, and Raymond Sparrow.

Tribute Wall



“ *Uncle Luke will never be forgotten. He was a good Christian gentleman. He outlived all of his siblings and was aware that God kept him here on earth for a purpose. He was a blessing and an inspiration to us all. It was an honor to serve as his physician.*
Susan###imported-begin###Susan Reynolds###imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 09:05 PM



“ *Becky,*
Your father lived a long wonderful life and touched many lives. He was a special man. I've heard lots of stories from Matt and can tell how dear he was to the family. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers and your Dad is in the loving arms of Jesus! What a day that will be - when we all meet again!

May God Bless and Keep You,

In His Precious Love,

Lisa Applewhite###imported-begin###Lisa Applewhite###imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 12:29 PM



“ Dear Becky,

I want to express my deepest sympathy to you in the death of your daddy. I know that losing a parent is hard at any age, so please know you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Love, Vicki Eaddy##imported-begin##Vicki Eaddy##imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 11:40 AM



“ Becky,

I am so sorry for your loss. I have such fond memories of both your dad and mom. They were so patient with us rowdy kids on College Avenue. You have been such a good daughter and I know Mr. Luke is proud of you. Take solace in the knowledge that he's back home in his beloved Hartsville now.

Love,

Becky##imported-begin##Becky Askins-Weaver##imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 09:39 AM



“ Becky,

I was so sorry I was not able to come to the visitation or service for your dad. I know you will cherish every memory of his long, rich life.

My dad was very sad when he read your dad's obituary in the paper yesterday. He said, "Another good friend has gone on."

You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Judy##imported-begin##Judy Shillinglaw##imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 07:38 AM



“ *Becky- Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers at this time*

Love you

Anne##imported-begin##Anne Garrett##imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 12:43 AM



“ *Becky: I have some very warm, loving memories of your wonderful father. Back in high school days, when I visited you, your Dad adopted me as a good friend. When he found out that I love football, I became his regular "TV partner" in watching college games on weekends. Once he invited me to go to the HHS-Camden football game in Camden. We left VERY early as he said he did not like to be in heavy traffic trying to get to a game. We stopped at a drug store's fountain in Camden to eat first. He grilled the young man serving us about Camden's team and told him all about how the Red Foxes were doing that year. The man behind the counter seemed real fascinated by Luke's knowledge of the sport and the CHS Bulldogs, our opponent that night. I really enjoyed that trip, will never forget it. When I went to Furman, I stopped by occasionally on weekends home. He was always happy to see me and asked me how the Furman football team was doing. My Dad was a good friend of Luke's brother JB Jr. so my family saw both brothers pretty often. I am glad to see the mention of the new bus in the obit; in fact, just a few months ago, while doing my "A Look Back" column, I saw him in the picture of the new bus being presented to principal Doyle Boggs in the Messenger in '56 -- just 50 years ago!*

Your Dad was a good Christian, well loved by everyone in the "small town of Hartsville." I was so happy for him when Rev. Tom Rutan recognized him on his 96th birthday during a service at FBC. We know now where he is and your parents both will be welcoming you with open arms when it is your time to "cross over." God bless you and all of Luke's nephews and nieces during this time of sorrow; May He give all of you strength, comfort, and peace in recalling the good memories during this time.##imported-begin##Jimmy Ballard##imported-end##

September 27, 2006 at 12:16 AM



“ My father, Harry Sansbury, worked in the Cone Department with Mr. Sparrow for more than 40 years. According to him, "There was not a finer man than Luke Sparrow". I think that says it all! MY father is now 85 and so enjoys telling stories of his time at Sonoco and all of his old friends of which your father was one of his favorites. God bless you all.##imported-begin##Kathie S. Blackwell##imported-end##

September 26, 2006 at 11:20 PM



“ Dear Becky,

I enjoyed reading about your father. He sounds like he was a great man! How blessed you were to have him so long. I pray the void left in your life with his passing will be filled with God's peace.

Lets get together soon,

Happy##imported-begin##Happy McLeod##imported-end##

September 26, 2006 at 08:18 PM



“ Wish I could have known Luke yrs. ago and he could have taught me to fish/drive a boat like you! What a guy who loved living life and everyone in it; especially YOU. My thoughts/prayers are with you--LIZ##imported-begin##Liz Moore##imported-end##

September 26, 2006 at 05:16 PM



“ *My prayers are with you. He was always so pleasant when I saw him. May God bless you. Becky Walker###imported-begin##Becky Wadsworth Walker###imported-end##*

September 26, 2006 at 05:06 PM



“ *Becky, How blessed you were to have had your dad for so many years! I know your heart is broken. You will be in my thoughts and prayers for sure. I will plan to see you at the graveside service tomorrow. With love, Joan###imported-begin##Joan S. Nance###imported-end##*

September 26, 2006 at 04:46 PM



“ *Becky & Family*

*My heart goes out to you and your family. Remember that our prayers are with all of you. We love you.
Sally###imported-begin##Sally N Grable###imported-end##*

September 26, 2006 at 10:27 AM



“ *Dear Becky -*

Your dad's obit paints the picture of a great guy who really loved life. That he served as big brother and mentor does not surprise - it's my belief that his spirit expresses thru you...you are such a natural teacher...Your family and you are in my thoughts.

warmly, amy###imported-begin##amy elder###imported-end##

September 26, 2006 at 09:58 AM



“ *Becky, I just read of Luke's passing. He lived al long and frutfull He was a wonderful man and he will be missed by all of his friends in Hartsville and across the state. He loved Hartsville, Sonoco, and the Red Foxes. You are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Archie Biggs##imported-end##*

September 26, 2006 at 07:53 AM