



Joseph Howard Tate

May 25, 1937 - February 2, 2021

Joseph Howard Tate, age 83, passed away suddenly on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at Dickenson Community Hospital.

Joe was born in Clinchco, Virginia, the son of the late Jennings and Gertrude (Harrison) Tate. Joe graduated from Clinchco High School class of 1955. Being born and raised in Clinchco, he always looked forward to the annual Clinchco Homecoming.

He attended Peuther Chapel Baptist Church. He retired from Clinchfield Coal Co in 1992 after 36 ½ years. He also retired from the State of Virginia in 2007 after serving two terms as the Circuit Court Clerk of Dickenson County. He was a member of Clintwood Masonic Lodge #66, having received his 50 year Masonic pin. He was a member of the UMWA District #17 and had held several other elected and appointed positions in the county including the Dickenson County Board of Supervisors.

In addition to his parents, Joe was preceded in death by his brother Jerry and wife, Betty; his sister, Jenneth (Sykes) and husband, Fred.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Mary L. (Sawyers) Tate; his son Barry and wife, Elizabeth of Big Stone Gap, VA; two grandchildren, Rebecca Tate of Chapel Hill, NC and Zachary Tate of Gray, TN and several nieces and

nephews.

There will be a private service for the immediate family only in the Chapel of Love Mausoleum at Temple Hill Cemetery, Castlewood, VA with a public memorial to be held at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in Joe's honor to one of his favorite charities:

ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
501 St. Jude Place
Memphis, TN 38105

Shriners Hospital for Children
Processing Center
P O Box 863765
Orlando, FL 32886

Dickenson County Food Bank

Mullins Funeral Home and Staff are serving the Tate family. Condolences may be made online at www.mullinsfuneralhome.net.

Cemetery Details

Temple Hill Memorial Park

2529 Memorial Drive
Castlewood, VA 24224

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Was just looking at a obituary for a friend of mine and ran upon the obituary of Joe. Never knew that Joe had passed away in February of this year until today. Needless to say I am heartbroken over the bad news. Joe had been neighbors of my parents Stuart and Sada Sutherland (deceased) for many years. Joe had helped us out many times with advice, etc. over the years. We all just loved Joe and he always had a big smile and a wonderful sense of humor. He will certainly be missed by all of us. My deepest sympathy to Mary Lou and the entire family.

Janet Sutherland Horton

Janet Horton - June 13, 2021 at 09:27 AM

BW

“ So Sorry for your Loss Mary and Son I always thought the world of your husband me and my friend Sharon Silcox had a flat and many Men passed us beside the road with two small children no man stopped to help us but your husband did in his suit did on his knee I never forgot that We really did appreciate that. your husband was a good man I met you one time and you were a sweet person

Betty Willis - February 14, 2021 at 05:51 PM

FL

“ To the family. So sorry for your loss. He will be missed.

Freddie Lilly - February 12, 2021 at 10:07 PM

RR

“ I met Joe at various Circuit Court functions. What a wonder person . And no one could top that sense of humor! Prayers and Blessings to all Joe's the family; he will be missed.

Rhonda Rogers
Roanoke County Circuit Court

Rhonda Rogers - February 09, 2021 at 12:54 PM



“ Anna McCowan lit a candle in memory of Joseph Howard Tate



Anna McCowan - February 09, 2021 at 12:53 AM

BR

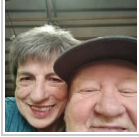
“ Joe was a great Administrator, a caring Legislator, an accomplished Orator, and a wonderful friend. While we are no longer neighbors, we moved away, we will always remember his willingness to get involved with a just cause and help anyone who asked for assistance. Moses and the lawgivers, here comes a great Deputy!
Barney & Vina Reilly

Bernard Reilly - February 06, 2021 at 01:16 PM

LL

“ So sorry to hear about Joe passing
I can only say once a friend, a friend for life
Sincerely
Linda

Linda Lane - February 06, 2021 at 08:25 AM



“ *Sally Cantrell lit a candle in memory of Joseph Howard Tate*



Sally Cantrell - February 04, 2021 at 11:10 PM



“ *Joe was an awesome man. Loved by all in the community. He will surely be missed by all. Mary you and your son and grandchildren are in our prayers. We love you sweet lady.* 🙏🏻🤔❤️💔

Wilma and Steve McCoy - February 04, 2021 at 05:02 PM



Sorry for your loss Mary Lou and Family.Love and Prayers. Shelia Fuller Ping

Shelia Fuller Ping - February 09, 2021 at 08:08 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Tate. He was some smart, energetic and loved guy. Actually, my son Mitchell knew Mr. Tate better than I and he was always good to Mitch. Our prayers go out to my friends, Barry and Elizabeth, Rebecca, and Zac during this difficult time. We love you all. God Bless. Dan, Deb and Mitch.*

Daniel Minahan - February 04, 2021 at 01:08 PM

DB

“ *Mary, Barry and grandchildren,*

Please accept our deepest condolences. May our precious Lord provide healing, comfort and love. I have been thinking of those days at the apartments in McClure. Those days were not as complicated and were full of joy and fun. Having Jess Lockhart as a neighbor was pretty much the only worry present. Joe was the same then as always. He served the persons in Dickenson as well as anyone I have ever known. He always had a story to tell and those memories will live forever. It seemed he was always doing something to help someone else. I believe everyone who had the privilege's of knowing him, will remember him forever. Me and my family will treasure the precious memories of our interactions with the Tate family for as long as we live. Knowing you all has been a precious gift in our lives.

Damon, Bobbi, John, Heather, Elin, Millie and Aria

Damon & Bobbi - February 04, 2021 at 12:19 PM

DY

“ *My condolences to Tate Family, he was always eager to help when you walked in to his office and very personable. I went to school with his son and he was as nice as his father, my deepest sympathy*
Dianne Damron Yates

Dianne Yates - February 04, 2021 at 11:35 AM

JN

“ *Mary and Barry, I'm so sorry for your loss. Know that I'm sending prayers for you and the family.*

John Norris



John Norris - February 04, 2021 at 09:55 AM

SW

“ *May loving memories of Joe bring you comfort during this difficult time. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. My heart and prayers go out to you and your family.*



Sue Wiley - February 04, 2021 at 09:18 AM

Roma Blankenship

“ *May our Lord comfort you and your family in your time of need. Roma Mullins Blankenship and Pastor Joe*



Roma Blankenship - February 04, 2021 at 09:13 AM

DE

“ *Mary, so sorry for your loss. So many kind things I wanted to say about Joe but simply not enough time or space. I'll just say he was my friend for many years and when I asked for his advice, especially political, he gave me sincere and straight forward answers. He'll be missed. Condolences, Danny L Edwards*

Danny L Edwards - February 03, 2021 at 10:46 PM

RH

“ *Rick Hall lit a candle in memory of Joseph Howard Tate*



Rick Hall - February 03, 2021 at 08:33 PM

AA

“ I knew Joe most of my life as we attended Clinchco School until we graduated in 1955. He was a very smart and generous man. He held many positions in Dickenson County, but none that meant more to him than our Clinchco Reunion. He and Mary kept it going through the years. We shared many wonderful times together. Joe was a true leader in everything he undertook. His smile and that wonderful outgoing personality was "one in a million!" He was a true joy to each of his classmates and had a box full of handkerchiefs of each of the girls in our class. I asked him once to give them back to each one, but he refused! That's how much he cared for each one--His love for Mary was evident to everyone who knew him. His son and family meant the world to Joe and Mary. What a wonderful legacy Joe left to each one of us. He knew he was going to Heaven. We didn't suffer a loss, but Heaven gained a wonderful man. We will look forward to meeting him there someday. Our love and prayers will be with Mary and their family for peace in the coming days and enjoy the wonderful memories he left to them and those he loved. Thank you Joe for being such a dear friend and we loved you so much and will miss you with all our hearts.
Sincerely,
Anita Artrip



Anita F. Artrip - February 03, 2021 at 07:23 PM

JC

“ *Mary and family we are so sorry for your loss. I worked with Joe when he was with Clinchfield. He was a fine man.*

Johnny and Donna Childress - February 03, 2021 at 07:00 PM

NM

“ *So sorry Mary, Joe and you have been an inspiration and your friendship will be forever remembered. I love you both. I rode an airplane for the first time with Joe after my husband, Luther J. McCoy, was killed in the McClure explosion. He gave me hope that I could raise my children and live with the memories he left behind. Joe was always a cut up and a friend to so many. He will be missed. My prayer is that the Lord will give you someone like Joe, was to me, to help you through this. Big Hugs Nola Mullins*

Nola L. Mullins - February 03, 2021 at 05:37 PM

MA

Joe will be missed by all the Clinchco people who are still living. I remember all the Tate family as I grew up in Clinchco. Mary and children praying God will be with you all in the coming days. May you find comfort in knowing how well Joe was regarded and loved.

mary(kiser)Shaw - February 03, 2021 at 07:04 PM

TS

Thank God for allowing me to meet this kind soul.

Tim Salyers

tim salyers - February 03, 2021 at 10:02 PM

JG

“ So sorry for your loss. You al are in our prayers.

James and Liz Gibbs



James Gibbs - February 03, 2021 at 04:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Howard Tate.



February 03, 2021 at 04:15 PM

MK

“ Mike Kennedy lit a candle in memory of Joseph Howard Tate



Mike Kennedy - February 03, 2021 at 03:53 PM

DW

“ Don Wallace lit a candle in memory of Joseph Howard Tate



Don Wallace - February 03, 2021 at 03:45 PM

JW

Joe was one of a kind. Loved to laugh and Joke around. But when it was time to be serious about something he was point on. He'll be missed!

Jerry willis - February 03, 2021 at 07:47 PM

CH

“ I am so heart-broken of the passing of my sweet friend! I am going to sit at the piano and play for Joe! He was the sweetest person and so good to me and so enjoyed piano music! No "canned" music for him! I love you Joe, my prayers for you Mary wish I could give you a big hug, but I am sending you one virtually! God bless you!



Cheryl - February 03, 2021 at 02:03 PM

RR

We are so sorry for your loss. We send our love and prayers to the family!! Joe was a great man!! Michael and Cappi

Rhonda Rose - February 03, 2021 at 05:26 PM

SM

On behalf of my Mom & our family we send love & prayers during this sad time, I think Joe was a friend to everyone who knew him, Mom thought highly of him and loves you dearly Mary Lou.

Sandy McCowan - February 03, 2021 at 06:12 PM

GB

Mary we are so sorry for your loss ,I have known Joe for a life time since Clinchco High School He has allways been a solid Person . I will miss his jokes at our High School reunions. Prayers be with you and the family. we love you Gary and Phyllis Bartley

Gary & Phyllis Bartley - February 03, 2021 at 09:21 PM

BC

Mary& family so sorry to hear about How he was such a kind man. May God give you peace &comfort during this time& days to come.

Barbara Carlton - February 04, 2021 at 08:55 AM

JS

*For Mary Lou ,Barry and the family ,relatives and friends
Joe Tate and myself grew up together in N.9 camp Clinchco Va.
we llived side by side most or out lives and enjoyed playing with
ea. other, jumping the wood fences between our houses,He was
my best friend ,we started school together and I fell behind one year
along the way ,but still stayed close friends' when i called him or he
called me on ph. I would say Mr. Tate and he said heavy on the Mr.
makes me feel important.
May the LORD b less and keep ea. of you safe,and healthy for a vary
long time. Ralph*

James R. Sutherland - February 04, 2021 at 11:09 AM

KP

*Joe will sure be missed I enjoyed him at the annual Clinchco Home
coming with all his jokes . he was our great friend . the home coming
when it does start back wont be the same without him there over it.
kerry and pun yon phipps*

kerry and pun yon phipps - February 04, 2021 at 11:19 AM

KA

Prayers of comfort for family & friends. God Bless. ❤️🙏

Ken & Janis Anderson - February 04, 2021 at 11:20 AM

GC

great friend to me sorry for your loss always good to the UPS MAN

gene carswell - February 09, 2021 at 04:24 PM