



Donice Virgil Knight

November 3, 1934 - January 17, 2015

Donice Virgil Knight, 80, of Laurel died Saturday, January 17, 2015.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at Memory Chapel Funeral Home from 5-8pm. and Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at Centerville Baptist Church at 10am with the Service at 11am. Burial will follow at Big Creek Cemetery. Brother Jimmy Hood and Brother Robert Hilbun will officiate.

Donice was born on November 2, 1934, in Jones County and grew up in the Centerville Community where he was a member of Centerville Baptist Church. He graduated from Laurel High School then attended Jones County Junior College on a basketball scholarship. He earned a B.S. Degree in Chemistry from William Carey College and completed his graduate work at University of Southern Mississippi. Donice earned his Law Degree from Mississippi College School of Law.

During his teaching career, Donice taught math and science at Calhoun, St. Martin, West Jones, Sharon, and Powers schools. Along with teaching, he was a dedicated girls and boys basketball coach. He also served in the United States Army as an Army Surveyor. He proudly served the people of Jones County as Circuit Clerk and Chancery Clerk for 16 years. After his terms in office, he was Assistant Director to the Mississippi Highway Department Commissioner. He later practiced Law at Abernathy, Strickland & Knight Attorney at Law.

Donice was a Master Mason of the Masonic Lodge No. 414 in Laurel and a member of the Hamasa Shrine of Meridian. Donice was a Life-Time Member

of the American Legion Post No. 11 where he served as an Executive Officer. He was President of the Mississippi Circuit Clerks Association, and co-author of the Mississippi Handbook for both Circuit and Chancery Clerks. He was a member of The Kiwanis Club of Laurel, the United States Civil Defense Council, and a founder of Dixie Golf Club. Donice was known for his contribution in the industrial and civic development of Jones County. Among other numerous honors and associations, Donice enjoyed golfing, fishing, hunting, playing cards, dominos and spending time with friends. Donice was preceded in death by his parents, Virgil Oree Knight and Linnie Mae Knight.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Gayle Carter Knight, their three children and 3 grandchildren. His children are Kim Knight of Laurel, Donna Knight Polson (David) of Haymarket, VA, and Shelly Knight Bryant of Laurel. His grandchildren are Katie Lee Parker, Lyndsey Danielle Bryant and Matt Knight Parker, all of Laurel. He is also survived by his sister, Hilna Knight Welch and two nephews, Mike Welch and Tommy Welch, all of Ellisville.

Pallbearers will be David Polson, John Parker, Dwight Collins, Lavelle Walters, Mike Gibbes, and Pete Knight. Honorary pallbearers will be friends, former colleagues, and members of the American Legion.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Donice V. Knight Scholarship Fund at Jones County Junior College.

Memory Chapel is in charge of arrangements. To view and sign the family guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Tribute Wall

JF

“ Remember fondly by so many and so accomplished! You will be missed!!

Jodee Flynt-Davies - February 07, 2015 at 01:23 PM

BM

“ With Our Deepest Sympathy Betty and Sonny Morad

Betty Morad - January 28, 2015 at 08:38 PM

KT

“ Donice Virgil Knight

Karen Ainsworth Watts and David Taylor - January 21, 2015 at 10:27 PM

SW

“ Our thoughts and prayers to the Knight family. You have our deepest sympathy. Fred, Barbara and Shawn Wansley

Shawn Wansley - January 21, 2015 at 09:15 PM

DG

“ My sympathies to the family, Donice was a very special person and i will miss his funny stories and playing dominoes. He will be missed.

Donna Graham - January 20, 2015 at 05:18 PM

LC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. Donice was a great friend. Lila and Bill Chancellor

Lila and Bill Chancellor - January 20, 2015 at 04:44 PM

LW

“ *Mr. Knight was a super mentor through education and political endeavors. Christia thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Knight, family and friends. Linda G. Walton*

Linda G. Walton - January 20, 2015 at 01:28 PM

GW

“ *So sorry for your loss. 8A*

Ginger Ford Walker - January 20, 2015 at 08:42 AM

JM

“ *This is SAD... I haven't seen him in over 45 years... I remember him at Sharon and West Jones...*

Jeffery Moss - January 19, 2015 at 09:06 PM

BE

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Donice's passing. We are related through Wyatt Davis(Squire) Knight. He is my Grandfather. I grew up in the Centerville Community. Maiden name is Roney. I know my brother Dale would love to attend the service, but, he is in a nursing home in Laurel . Please accept my condolences . My prayers are with the family.*

BettyAndersonSaye - January 19, 2015 at 09:05 PM

TP

“ *So sorry to hear about Donice. He was such a good friend and cousin. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.*

Tommy & Brenda Powell - January 19, 2015 at 08:53 PM

PO

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Coach Knight. Many fond memories of Calhoun & Northwest Jones with Coach & Gayle. Also many memories of Donice eating at our table when he was single. He loved Mama's biscuits & gravy & he & Daddy would tell jokes & have a great time & many laughs. He was a part of my childhood & even a friend at an early age. Sympathy to you all & I know you will miss him & his humor.

Peggy Owens-Mansfield - January 19, 2015 at 08:39 PM

ML

“ I am so sorry for your loss, he was a very nice man. I am Jena's daughter and David Polson's cousin. You are all in my prayers.

Marian Latimer - January 19, 2015 at 08:36 PM

SB

“ To the Knight ladies: My prayers are with you this week of grief and the days ahead. Gayle, I am hoping your health is improving. Love and support, Sharon Barham

Sharon Barham - January 19, 2015 at 08:19 PM

CM

“ Remembering you with special thoughts and prayers during this time. Our deepest sympathies go out to you and your family. May God give you comfort and peace.
Sincerely, Charles and Janet McMillan

Charles and Janet McMillan - January 19, 2015 at 08:03 PM

DH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of the family. May your sweet memories sustain you during this time of grief and loss.

Denson Hilbun - January 19, 2015 at 02:45 PM

AB

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying for God to bless you with His comfort and peace,

Amy Busby - January 19, 2015 at 02:33 PM