



Merton Cronkite

JAN 31, 2012



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Merton Cronkite

JAN 31, 2012

Merton Earl Cronkite, 85, of Mooresville, died January 30, 2012 at the Levine Dickson Hospice House. He was born in Oswego, NY on January 23, 1927 to the late Earl and Anna Cronkite.

Mert will be remembered as a gentle soul by all who knew him. Many knew him through dairy farming, the Southwest Oswego Methodist Church, his storage business or the Oswego Hospital where he worked as a biotechnician.

At the age of 83, Mert realized his long-held dream of moving to North Carolina. For the last year and a half he enjoyed the beauty of living on Mills Pond in the Lake Norman area.

He is preceded in death by his wife Margaret Cronkite.

He is survived by his daughters, Sue Cronkite of Mooresville, NC and Nancy Townsend of Loveland, CO, a grandson, Jonathan Ames, and two great-grandchildren also of Loveland, CO, and his beloved dog, Vita.

Burial will take place beside his wife Margaret.

Memorials may be made to Levine Dickson Hospice House, 11900 Vanstory Dr., Huntersville, NC 28078.

Samuel S. James, Funeral Service Lic. of Huntersville is serving the family.

www.samuelsjamesfsl.com



Tribute Wall

Merton Cronkite

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Sandi, What a gift you were to dad -- listening to his plans to move to North Carolina and even driving him to the airport! I will be forever grateful for everything you did to ensure his safe (and timely!) travel. I agree with you. His willingness to make changes -- whether to improve his health or to move to a new area after living in one place for 83 years -- will continue to inspire me! Sue

February 6 at 12:15 PM

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Caroline, I will always be grateful for the friendship, support and healing you provided dad. As I told Jodi, I knew we would have "big shoes to fill" when looking for a healing community here in North Carolina. I know dad was looking forward to a time he could move (and maybe even dance!) without hurting. What freedom that must be after so many years of chronic pain. Sue

February 6 at 12:07 PM

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Jodi, Dad so often talked about you... I know you were his friend as well as healing partner. When he moved to North Carolina, I knew we had a huge challenge to find such loving healers in this area. Thanks for being such "big shoes to fill." Sue

February 6 at 11:50 AM

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Melvin and Gail, Melvin, I remember when you were like a family member. I know both mom and dad really appreciated your help. I sure wish I could have been part of the philosophical discussions you had with dad. When I was younger I knew dad was wise... it wasn't until we spent the last year and a half together that I realized just how wise. As Nancy and I sorted through old photographs, we found many of the county and state fairs -- it's hard to believe that it was 50 years ago! Thanks so much for sharing your memories... it warms my heart and helps with the healing process. Sue

February 6 at 11:44 AM



Tribute Wall

Merton Cronkite

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Jeannie and Cody, Jeannie, you have been in my thoughts so often. As I cared for my dad, I started to better understand all that you did for my mom and the intimate relationship and bond that is created between the caregiver and the patient. Both you and Cody brought love and light into mom and dad's life every day you helped care for mom. I so appreciate everything you both did to support mom and dad. I have a Cinderella story to tell about Vita. As you remember, Vita was a very protective (and not very social) dog. I was concerned about finding her a loving home. One of my friend's parents (Nancy and Ron) adopted Vita. Vita is now sleeping with them in their king-sized bed, and cuddling with them while watching TV. Nancy and Ron are also talking about taking her boating and swimming on Lake Norman (if Vita's willing!). I think dad may have had a hand in this! Sue

February 6 at 11:32 AM

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Carol, Your note touched my heart. I always admired my dad for being mom's caregiver. However, I didn't understand what that really meant until I became dad's caregiver. I will never know how he did it for several years...his strength and love will always live in my heart. I currently work in the training department for several supermarket chains. I know how difficult it can be to work in such a fast-paced, low margin industry. Thanks for taking the time to connect with my dad during such a challenging time. Sue

February 6 at 11:17 AM

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Jack and Faye, I had forgotten you had the Allis Chalmers tractor...I still remember driving a tractor at the age of five as dad picked stone before planting the field. Faye, I will always be so grateful for all you did (above and beyond the duties of a realtor!) to help dad move from the home where he grew up to his new home here in North Carolina. Thank you again for helping him realize his long-held dream! Sue

February 6 at 11:07 AM



Tribute Wall

Merton Cronkite

SC

Sue Cronkite posted:

Hi Tim, Just wanted to let you know that dad used his self-hypnosis tapes every night. Even as he required more care as the melanoma spread, I would set up the tape and place the ear buds in his ears. When the covers and tape were "just right," he would say, "That's delicious." I, too, used my tape to help me sleep during this difficult time. Thanks for being such a healing influence in our lives. Sue

February 6 at 10:50 AM

SP

Sandi Powell, Lmt posted:

Knowing Mert has enriched my life. What a joy it was to be around him and hear his stories. His positive attitude and willingness to make changes to improve his health, were inspirational. He was loved by many. Such a special man. Blessings to all of his family...his light shines on.

February 5 at 6:40 PM

CD

Carol Desantis posted:

I am a cashier at Price Chopper in Oswego. I had the great privilege to wait on Mr. Conkrite on several occasions. He always had his list and was always so pleasant. Talking to him at the time I realized that he was a caregiver for his wife. It was obvious that to him this was an honor not a burden. I am pleased to know that he spent the last few years of his life where he had hoped to. I just wanted his family to know that he made a lasting impression on me just by checking out in my line. He must have been much loved by those who knew him. I pray the family never lets go of the love that this man shared when he was alive. God bless.

February 4 at 7:45 PM



Tribute Wall

Merton Cronkite

JB

Jeannie & Cody Battista posted:

Our hearts go out to the Cronkite Family. Merton & Miss Margaret were very special people to us. Its hard to believe he is gone but we are happy that he is reunited with his love. We appreciate the friendship that we had. I took care of Miss Margaret when her health was failing. Durning that time my son and I had some wonderful visits with Merton. (And of course that little dog that he loved so very much.. Vita!!!) We learned so much from the Cronkite's in a short time. We are so deeply grateful for that. It was sad when Merton was getting ready to leave Oswego, but in the same sense so very happy for him. We admire that man so much for being able to relocate and fulfill the dream of moving down South. He was so excited about the move. Its hard enough to make such a big move at any age. Merton you truly were an amazing man. We are so blessed to have know you. Thank You! Our thoughts & prayers are with both his daughters & families. God Bless you Merton

February 3 at 11:36 PM

MW

Melvin And Gail Wiltse posted:

Our deepest Sympathy to the Cronkite family. Mel has many happy memories of working for Mert on his farm during summers and weekends in the 50's til he graduated from high school. Mel was happy that he took the time to stop at the farm not so long ago and was able to chat with both Margaret and Mert. They had a wonderful time sharing old memories. Mel wore out his pants on the metal seat of the old WD Allis Chalmers! He enjoyed the "philosophical" discussions with Mert as they worked in the chicken house or in the barn. Mert was a kind and generous man. The money Mel made on the farm helped him through college. For that Mel will always be indebted to the Cronkites. Mel did his college thesis on Mert's hay dryer for the barn! Mel believes the last time he saw Sue was at the New York State Fair doing a cake demonstration, maybe 50 years ago? Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time.

February 2 at 9:33 PM

CM

Caroline Robertson M. Ac. posted:

My thoughts go out to Mert's family during this sorrowful time. He was a special man. I will always remember his kind soul and gentle nature. I sure Margaret was there to meet him. May they both be dancing in the Light.

February 2 at 2:23 PM

JM

Jodi Mayer posted:

Condolences to all of you. Mert was a very, very special man. Jodi Mayer, LBMT

February 2 at 1:20 PM



Tribute Wall

Merton Cronkite

JB

Jack & Faye Beckwith posted:

Merton was indeed a dear man. For years Jack cut his hair and benefitted from the wisdom he shared in the barber shop. Jack still works the Allis Chalmers D15 he bought from Merton when we started in the Christmas tree business in the 1980's. More recently, I was pleased to work for Merton as his real estate agent in selling his long-time Oswego home. We expected him to live to be 100 - at least. His work here on earth is done. We will always remember his kind demeanor. He was always a perfect gentleman! Our sympathy is extended to his lovely and talented daughters, Sue and Nancy and their families. ... Jack and Faye

February 2 at 8:51 AM

TM

Tim And Deborah Mather posted:

Our condolences go out to the Cronkite family. We were blessed to have known Mert, he was a very kind, gentle and wise man. Our hearts go out to all of the Cronkite family Tim and Deborah Mather

February 1 at 8:34 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Merton by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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