



Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson

June 19, 1929 - June 3, 2019

Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson, of Pine Bluff, Ark., passed away peacefully on June 3, 2019 in Fayetteville, Ark., at the age of 89, 16 days short of his 90th birthday. He was born on June 19, 1929, in Georgetown, Miss., the first of six children to Robert Lemuel Hudson and Irene Beasley Hudson. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Marie Hudson Walters, and his brother, Billy Hudson. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Jean Read Hudson of Pine Bluff, Ark.; his son Robert Read Hudson and wife, Tammy Stafford Hudson of Fayetteville, Ark.; his daughter, Helen Marie Holtzen and husband, George Darren Holtzen of Fayetteville, Ark.; his five grandchildren, Robert Read Hudson, Jr. of Dallas, Tex, Samuel Stafford Hudson of Dallas, Tex., Sarah Marie Holtzen of Fayetteville, Ark., George Andrew Holtzen of Tacoma, Wash., and Jenny Holtzen Hines and husband Tyler of Milwaukee, Wis., and sisters Joyce McDaniel of Tucson, Ariz., Anna Spengler of Boise, Idaho and Pat Hudson of Carlsbad, Calif.

Gene grew up in Phillips County, Ark. on a farm. He played a number of sports and became an Eagle Scout in 1945. He graduated from Elaine High School in 1947 as his class valedictorian.

After spending a year at Memphis State University, he joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in Kobe, Japan during the Korean War. There he was in charge of a military commissary which was the start of a 30-year career in the grocery business. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army as a 1st Lieutenant.

Upon returning to Arkansas, after a short farming stint, he began working for Safeway Stores in Helena, Ark. It was in Helena that he met Jean Read. They married on January 1, 1955. They then moved to Little Rock, Ark. where he worked in the Safeway division office, followed by store manager appointments in Poplar Bluff, Mo. and Fayetteville, Ark., and finally as district manager in Columbus, Neb. In 1965, he and John Askew began acquiring and managing grocery stores in Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. This first took him to Springfield, Mo. then to Fayetteville, Ark. where he lived from 1967 to 1976. In 1976, the final chapter of his life in the grocery business took him to Pine Bluff, Ark. where

he was in charge of the Mad Butcher grocery stores until 1980. From 1980 to 1981 he worked for Sperry & Hutchinson Company in New York City. In the fall of 1981 he moved back to Pine Bluff, Ark. where he became an owner of C. H. Clowers Supply Co., which he sold in 2008.

Gene was an active leader in the communities in which he lived, especially Pine Bluff. He was an active member of First United Methodist Church where he served on and chaired numerous committees. He also became a Stephens Minister. He served on the boards of the Razorback Foundation, Pine Bluff Country Club (past President), The Arts & Science Center of Southeast Arkansas, and Habitat for Humanity in Pine Bluff.

A public burial service will be held June 8, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at Fairview Memorial Gardens in Fayetteville. A public memorial service will be held June 11, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Pine Bluff.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to the Razorback Foundation, Habitat for Humanity in Pine Bluff, or First United Methodist Church of Pine Bluff.

To sign the online guest book please visit www.nelsonberna.com

Events

JUN **Graveside Service** 09:00AM

8

Fairview Memorial Gardens

1728 East Mission, Fayetteville, AR, US, 72703

JUN **Celebration of Life** 02:00PM

11

First United Methodist Church

200 West 6th Ave, Pine Bluff, AR, US

Comments



“ Don and Debbie Johnson purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson.



Don and Debbie Johnson - June 06 at 07:25 PM



“ Mr. H was a treasure. I had the honor of working for this wonderful man at C.H. Clowers for many years. My fondest memories are of our sales meetings, where Mr. H would be moving through the airport or convention floor, followed by his entourage of Mrs. H, Donna Barnett and myself! He loved and took great care of his customers, who became personal friends. He taught me so much about going above and beyond the job. And, being a good human being. He was a hero and mentor and I will miss him dearly. Mrs. H, you know that the Clowers' Gang will always be here for you. Love you.

Carol Moore

Carol Moore - June 06 at 10:57 AM



“ Onika Williams purchased the Healing Tears - Lavender and White for the family of Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson.



Onika Williams - June 06 at 10:56 AM



“ I always loved "He Gene" and "She Jean" for their loving kindnesses through the years! Prayers and big hugs to your family.

Ann Ternes Rosso - June 05 at 07:08 PM



“ White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson.



June 05 at 03:50 PM



“ So saddened by the loss of Mr. Gene. We hope all the memories from the last 89 years of Mr. Gene's life bring y'all some comfort and some laughs during this tough time. Love, Bob and Jenny Srygley

Jennifer Srygley - June 05 at 03:38 PM



“ Gene will be greatly missed! A wonderful neighbor who was always happy to share his backyard swimming pool with our kids and grandkids. A kind and generous man, who loved the community and did so much for Pine Bluff. Thank you Gene for your years of leadership in our community.
Lou Ann Nisbett

Lou Ann Nisbett - June 05 at 11:43 AM



“ Thoughts and prayers to the Hudson family during this time of loss. Mr Hudson was a wonderful man and employer to many including my husband and myself. He will always be fondly remembered. Much love to Ms. Jean and family.

Clay & Carla Rice - June 05 at 11:24 AM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson.



June 05 at 11:08 AM



“ Helen,

I am so sorry for your loss. Unfortunately, as you know, I know exactly how you are feeling as you go through all the steps of planning these next few days. I know that you are as much a Daddy's girl as I am and it will hurt for many weeks to come. I pray that God wraps his loving arms of comfort, peace and love around you and your family so that you have the strength to endure this time of grief.

God placed us each and every one in our Daddies care for a season and I know from experience that it seems impossible to go on when God calls them home. I have been able to go day to day with the support of all my family, friends and coworkers and I know you have all those people too.

Prayers for you all!!
God Bless
Gayla

Gayla Riggins - June 05 at 11:02 AM



“ I'm so glad the Lord put Mr H in my life, He will be missed and my prayers will be with his family. He will always have a special place in my heart. You will not meet a better person.
Ida

Ida Hutson - June 05 at 10:00 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of Mr. Gene's passing. Praying for Mrs. Jean and family.



Michael Harris - June 05 at 09:21 AM



“ Ethics and Compliance Department (Tyson Foods) purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Lemuel Eugene (Gene) Hudson.



Ethics and Compliance Department (Tyson Foods) - June 05 at 09:09 AM



“ The Hudson family has always held a special place in my heart. Good people. Gods best
Nell Lance

nell lance - June 04 at 09:44 PM