



Joseph R. McCormick

February 13, 2014

JOSEPH R. McCORMICK, 101, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2014 after a short illness. He was a resident of Stuart, Florida. His former home was his birthplace, Bloomfield, Connecticut. He was the son of John and Helen (Francis) McCormick, a Bloomfield family in the tobacco growing business. Over a long time span, "Joe" excelled in every field he entered--truly a Renaissance Man. In sports, he lettered in soccer, basketball and track at Bloomfield High School. He became one of the Iron Men of UConn's football team as offensive halfback and defensive end, and held records in several sprinting events on the UConn track team. On the golf course, at the age of 95, he shot his age. A recipient of the National Football Foundation's Distinguished American Award, he was honored by UConn during a timeout on Rentschler Field in 2003, to the fans' shouts of "Go Joe, Go Joe." He was a lifelong fan of UConn sports.

An ROTC graduate, he began active duty in the U. S. Army in 1941. During World War II he commanded amphibious training for 170,000 troops in the Pacific Theater of Operations, participated in the invasion of the Philippines and served as a member of General Douglas MacArthur's staff. He was called back to active duty during the Korean Conflict between 1950 and 1952, and retired from the active reserve as a Brigadier General in 1967, having earned three Battle Stars and a Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster. In 1934 Joe joined the Hartford Electric Light Company from which he retired in 1977 as President, CEO and Director. He served as a director of ten corporate boards,

including Hartford National Bank, Western Pacific Industries and various trade groups, including the National Association of Electric Companies.

Joe was an active leader of dozens of local, state and national organizations including the Connecticut State Chamber of Commerce, Connecticut Educational Television Corporation, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, The Greater Hartford Arts Council and the Metropolitan District Commission where he acted as Chairman of its Water Bureau and Finance Committees.

In the field of education, he served as a Trustee of UConn and St. Joseph's College and as a Regent of the University of Hartford. Above all, he was devoted to family: a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was married to Ruth Harris for 54 years until her death in 1991. He leaves two children, Paul McCormick of North Stonington, CT and Anne "Myck" Williams and husband Mark Williams of West Granby, eight grandchildren and their spouses (Susan "Perrin" and Jamie Menashi, Michael and Adriana McCormick, Adam and Kristen Williams, Amy and Alex Lunding, Benjamin and Kelley Williams, Taegan, Kaily and Quincy Williams) and five great grandchildren (Caitlin and Ryan Williams, Tristan and Kyla Lunding and Sofia McCormick). He also leaves his beloved companion and good friend of many years, Sally Clemence. Calling hours will be held on Sunday, February 16th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT. A celebration Mass will be said at the Church of Saint Timothy, 1116 North Main Street, West Hartford, CT on Monday, February 17th at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be held at the convenience of the family.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

FEB 16. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 232-1322

Funeral Service

FEB 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Timothy
1116 North Main St
West Hartford, CT 06117
(860) 233-5131

Tribute Wall

HM

“ Dear "Myck",
I am so sorry that you buried your beloved father today. Judging from his obituary and people's tributes, he was an accomplished, interesting and caring individual. May your warm memories of him serve to fill the void that his passing leaves in your family's life.

In sympathy,
Hilary Meyers

Hilary Meyers - February 19, 2014 at 03:00 PM

AC

“ I was sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was the last of my mother's (Evelyn McLaughlin Corrigan) cousins and so the end of an era. May you find peace in the long and distinguished life he led and the love he had for his family.

Ann Corrigan

Ann Corrigan - February 17, 2014 at 07:52 AM

DM

“ There was never a challenge too great for Uncle Joe. In remembering him, one might think that the goals he set for himself were too difficult. Yet that was the way he lived. He climbed every mountain, always pushing himself a little higher. He was truly "a man for all seasons." Uncle Joe, we will miss you. Be happy in the sunshine cast by the Holy Spirit.

Dick & Eileen McCormick
Middletown, MD

Dick & Eileen McCormick - February 16, 2014 at 08:42 PM

GA

“ Joe's Grandson, Ben , played soccer with my son Jesse Smith and all the mom's who stood around the field watching loved to stand by Joe and hear his wonderful stories and share his warm smile. What a lovely, caring gentleman. He always had a good word to say about everyone. Jesse's Grandma Lucy was a special favorite of his and he always made us happy remembering what a beautiful lady she was. Joe was a charmer and so full of life and love as are all of his children and grandchildren. What a blessing the McCormick family has been to Bloomfield and all of us living there.

Gwen Anderson - February 15, 2014 at 08:44 PM

DO

“ We were saddened to hear about Uncle Joe's passing and regret that we will not be able to attend his funeral to wish Uncle Joe a final farewell. However we can all be glad that we knew him. He was a great friend to his nieces and nephews. I can remember well how they all looked forward to his visits on leave from the military during two major wars. He was a sterling representative of the McCormick family. Joe, you did us proud. As General McArthur would have said, "Joe, you did a splendid job, mission accomplished." May his soul rest in peace with the risen Lord.
All our love,
Dick & Patti McCormick O'Connor
Dublin, Ohio

Dick & Patti O'Connor - February 15, 2014 at 05:47 PM

DH

“ Joe was much more than just my Mariner Sands neighbor...he was my friend. The age difference was immaterial. We even shared the same birthdate. The day, not the year (May12th). My father was also born in Bloomfield. I routinely played golf with Joe in the Connecticut Golf Group in Mariner Sands at least 15 years ago. One day he didn't arrive to play and we all assumed the worst. A player went to his house to check on him. We later learned he went to Miami for the weekend! Many people in Stuart, FL are lucky to have known Joe.
Don

Don Hart - February 15, 2014 at 07:48 AM

GF

“ Mary and I are that we experienced Joe and all the life stories were historical , amusing and very colorful. Joe could replace George Bailey because he had such a wonderful life Paul, thanks for sharing him with us..George and Mary Finley

George Finley - February 15, 2014 at 06:08 AM