



Allen Jefferson Fuller

December 4, 2009

Allen Jefferson Fuller, 75, of Portsmouth died unexpectedly in Norfolk, Virginia on December 4, 2009. Allen was born on January 27, 1934 in Liberty, North Carolina to the late Edwin Wood and Mary Blue Fuller. Allen is survived by his wife of 51 years, Frances Stalvey Fuller; his son and daughter-in-law, Allen Jefferson Fuller, Jr. and Miriam of Chester, VA; his daughter and son-in-law Susan and Darren Naumann of Nicholls, ACT Australia; and grandchildren Allen Jefferson Fuller III of Christiansburg, VA, Matthew Scott Fuller and Michael Alexander Fuller of Chester, VA, Jonathan Scott Naumann and Emily Nichole Naumann of Nicholls, ACT Australia; his sister, Betty Fuller Maxwell of Chapel Hill, NC; and his brother Edwin Wood Fuller, Jr. of Charlotte, NC. Allen was a veteran of the Korean War where he served in the US Army Signal Corps with an honorable discharge. He graduated with honors from North Carolina State University in 1960 with a Bachelors degree in electrical engineering. He received a Masters degree in Physics from Lynchburg College in 1971. He began his career at the General Electric Company, first in Lynchburg, and finally at the Portsmouth TV facility where he completed his career with GE after 25 years. He then moved to Naperville, IL and started a new career at Life Fitness. He retired from Life Fitness as Executive Vice President of manufacturing and engineering in 2002, though he continued to act as a consultant for two more years. In 2006 he joined the board of directors for Octane Fitness of Minnesota.

Allen was actively involved in the community and in his church, Monumental

United Methodist. He was a volunteer with habitat for Humanity, as well as a member of the Kiwanis, American Legion Post 310 in Churchland, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3873 of Naperville and the GE Elfun Society. Well known for his generosity and his mischievous sense of humor, Allen was an avid stargazer, oenophile, fisherman and gardener.

Services will be held at Monumental United Methodist Church in Portsmouth, VA at 11 AM on Saturday, December 12. Visitation will be from 6-8 PM on Friday, December 11 at Loving Funeral Home, Portsmouth, VA. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to ALS research at www.AugiesQuest.org or the American Heart Association.

Tribute Wall



“ I remember the blue Ford Allen drove and the white Pontiac convertible after that they both drove. He worked very hard and accomplished very much in his life. Allen married my sister when I was 6 years old, so he was my brother to me. He was always there as far back as I can remember. I have fond memories of him offering me quarters to be good, taking me to Memorial Pool with our sister, France, in Asheboro to try to teach me how to swim. He gave my sister a Fairy Tale life. Goodbye brother. We all miss you and love you for being so good to our sister and to us. We will do our best to take care of your bride, but no one will ever be able to top the caring she received from you for over 52 years of being by her side.##imported-begin##Linda Stalvey##imported-end##

December 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Fran,
Many years have passed since our G.E. days and we all went our separate ways to provide for our families. We are so sorry for your loss, and hope the coming days will be a little brighter for you and your family. Joyce and I will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Ray & Joyce Soblotne##imported-end##

December 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ ALLEN AND I HAD A GOOD TIME AT NCSU. WE SAT BESIDE EACH OTHER IN MOST CLASSES DUE TO OUR LAST NAMES. ALLEN WAS A TRUE FRIEND AND I WILL MISS TALKING TO HIM. FRANCIS,JEFF,SUZAN I AM PRAYING FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN DURING THESE VERY DIFFICULT TIMES. WE WILL ALL MISS ALLEN BUT IT IS GOOD TO KNOW ALLEN IS IN HEAVEN AND WE WILL ALL GET TO SEE HIM SOMEDAY. MAY GOD GIVE YOU HIS PEACE.

BILLY FUNDERBURK

##imported-begin##BILLY FUNDERBURK##imported-end##

December 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so saddend to hear of your loss. May God give you His peach-that-passes-understanding during this most difficult time. Cling to the promise that God gives to believers; one is that we will be with our loved ones that go before us again. I know you are comforted by the legacy of loved that is left by Allen always Mr. Fuller to me. Respectfully, with love and found memories.

Rhonda Hight Knight##imported-begin##Rhonda Hight Knight##imported-end##

December 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Francis,
What an incredibly sad tragedy. I worked for AI at Lifefitness throughout the 90's. I always considered him my favorite boss because he was an excellent mentor and was always looking out for his employees. Because of that he also quickly became a friend. My thoughts and condolences go out to you and the entire family.##imported-begin##AI Miotke##imported-end##

December 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Francis, I will miss Allen so much. You had a very special guy. I will miss his advice and friendship but will always have him in my heart. Allen was special from the start, but you know that, All my heart goes out to you, Jeff and Susan plus all the grandchildren. Mickey Natanson and

##imported-begin##Michael Stalvey##imported-end##

December 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I miss looking across the creek and seeing your boat. I watched for you to return Friday but tragically it wasn't to be. May you rest in eternity.

Curt Hagwood, Portsmouth##imported-begin##Curt Hagwood##imported-end##

December 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We are all so saddened to hear of Mr. Fuller's passing and hope the happy memories his family shares of their times together will bring comfort to them.##imported-begin##Judy Harris##imported-end##

December 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Francis and family,

Allen was a kind, honorable man who will be missed in ways we do not yet know. What I do know, is that he loved his family dearly. Allen adored his wife and was so very proud of his children and grandchildren. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Tami##imported-begin##Tami Gaskins##imported-end##

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am shocked and sadden by the death of Allen Fuller. He was my neighbor and a fine gentleman whom I admired and liked very much.*

I wish to extend my sincere sympathy to Frances and to other family members of the late Allen Jefferson Fuller.##imported-begin##Angela Blayton##imported-end##

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ The first time I ever met my brother in law Frances brought home to meet everyone. I was 10 years old and was already a north carolina car nut you can just imagine how thrilled I was as Allen pulled up in a brand new blue 1956 ford I knew I was going to like him right them. We shared our passion for exercise. After I returned from Vietnam I lived with them on Rainbow forrest the next weekend I was planning to marry in Allen and Frances living room. As he drove my new Camaro I can hear his words of wisdom like he was saying them right now, he said, "Tommy, you know its not to late", and that was my first marriage! I am a better person for knowing Allen and over the years he would go on to give me more good advise that I actually took. He was not a brother in law to me he was my brother and where he is I can only hope to follow. Good bye for now Allen I will always cherish my memories with you. I know of only a hand full of people in my life I respect as much as you and I miss you!###imported-begin###tom stalvey###imported-end##

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the entire Fuller family. I used to work with Al at Life Fitness and respected him greatly! He was a true gentleman...to me and everyone with whom he came in contact. He was also a very gentle man, and his kindness and professionalism were ALWAYS evident. I remember when he first announced his retirement, and I met with Augie to help plan a surprise for he and my supervisor, Andy Maduza. The naming of the building after Al was so inspiring and touching, and he certainly deserved the honor! I will keep all of you in my thoughts and prayers and will cherish my fond memories of Allen Fuller.###imported-begin###Jackie Clark formerly Jackie Costello###imported-end##

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *What can I say in such a few words for such a wonderful man? Although I have not seen Allen since I departed Life Fitness, there were so many wonderful memories. Frances, I'm sure that you knew that you were the love of his life. I remember him telling the story about your honeymoon - walking on the beach and not being able to afford anything but tomato sandwiches to eat! Another good story was about shooting the squirrel in tree located in your backyard - and having it drop near his daughter sitting in a lawn chair! I can only imagine!*

Frances, do you remember your first Indianapolis 500 Race? It was my pleasure to have you and Allen stay at my folks and take you to the race - I know that it was quite the "event" for such a gentile lady - but everyone should do it at least once and I'm glad that I was able to provide this experience for both you and Allen.

There were many times at Life Fitness when Allen and I would go "back and forth" with each other playing tricks/jokes. No one seemed to understand our relationship and how the "quite" Allen and I reacted to each other. Allen never seemed to care much about genuine compliments about his nice ties, etc. He reacted more when you said, "I can't believe you are wearing that!" Really, he always looked so professional, but I never let him know that because I preferred his mischief. He loved water guns!!! I remember one day at the office - Allen had just received a new tennis racquet shipped to work to my attention. Unknown to Allen, I was preparing to go on a houseboat trip and had a new water gun to take with me. I had purchased it at lunch so I had it at the office. I called Allen to say, "I NEED TO SEE YOU". There was dead silence on his end, then he responded, "I'LL BE RIGHT THERE". When he appeared at my door, he was "kind of sarcastic" - saying, "WHAT DO YOU WANT". SO --- I told him that his new tennis racquet had arrived AND that I needed to try out my new water gun - and shot him with water. He literally leaped across my desk to grab the gun and started shooting water at everyone he saw. Another one of our colleagues had decided to stop by not knowing what was taking

place, and she received a face full of water. Then, he went across the hall to Augie's secretary - and shot her in the face with water!!! It was great to see a VP being so "human" and having so much fun!

Allen loved to come into my office space when my boss was on the phone - and 'BOTHER ME". For my 40th birthday, I had received some various toys relating to sports, one being a bing-bong shot gun. Did I mention that he seemed to like guns??? Every time Allen had the opportunity, he would take my gun and shoot me when I was on the phone - literally, defenseless! SO, I decided that I needed to retaliate and get him back with the element of surprise. I purchased a Ball Blaster - it shot sponge balls the size of tennis balls through a big plunger-type device. However, I couldn't seem to get the knack of using it, so I brought it to work with me and consulted with my boss, the father of 3 boys. At 8:10 am in the morning, I entered my boss' office and closed the door. The look on his face was priceless because I'm sure he thought there was some type of "big" problem. He asked, "What's up?". I put the unopened paper bag on his desk saying that I needed some help with an issue, and that since he was the father of 3 boys - who better to help me than you. He opened the bag, took one look and said, "Is this for Fuller?" When I said, "yes, it is", he then proceed to show me exactly how to use it. We were bouncing balls off his office walls a VP and laughing the entire time. He said, "You should be able to knock his glasses off with this!". Of course, it didn't take long for me to try this out - in fact, it was that afternoon. As usual, Allen came into my office, started shooting me with the bing-bong gun, laughing the entire time. Then, I pulled out my Ball Blaster from under my desk, and shot him in the stomach - and, literally, knocked off his glasses! Allen laughed and was very surprised and said, "I guess I've

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Fuller Family,

What a sad loss to the entire family. Allen was such a great individual and colleague! I truly enjoyed his sense of humor and "playing tricks" on each other while at Life Fitness.

My deepest sympathy to Frances and the family. May God be with you through this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

##imported-begin##Jeanette White##imported-end##

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ From Jim and Celia at 770 Rainbow Forest Drive in Lynchburg VA...
Our deepest sympathy for your loss. You are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Jim & Celia Trent##imported-end##

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Fuller family. We are members of Colonial Heights Baptist Church and know Jeff & Miriam. It sounds like Mr. Fuller died enjoying what he loved doing. We know what you are going through. Nancy lost her mother Dec. 2006 and her father Oct. 2005. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time!##imported-begin##Nancy & Bryan Small##imported-end##*

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Allen was my boss for many years at Bally & Life Fitness. He was a great mentor and was very willing to share his great wealth of experience. Allen taught me a lot about engineering and business. We at Life Fitness are very saddened to hear about your loss.

Bob Kohan

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Jeff and Miriam....we are praying for you and your family.

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Aunt Frances, Jeff, Susan and family, I am sorry for the loss of Uncle Allen. He was a great man who deeply loved each of you. Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Kris

December 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Frances and Family - Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Alan was always a kind and generous person to our family, and we are grieving his loss.

Love - Bill, Elizabeth, Matt, and Anne Wesley

December 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May the Lord carry you and the Holy Spirit console you during this time of grief.##imported-begin##Kelly Hassick##imported-end##

December 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM