



Emory Dalton Sparks

January 3, 2016

Emory Dalton Sparks, 88, went home to be with his Lord January 3, 2016. Left to cherish his memory are his two daughters, Marsha Drake West and husband Michael of Elizabeth City, NC, and Patricia Sparks Young of Portsmouth; a daughter-in-law, Patricia Byrd Sparks, of Portsmouth; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is predeceased by his parents James Lewis and Montie C. Sparks, his wife of 62 years, Jacquelin Wheeler Sparks, and their son, Randy Carl Sparks, Sr.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Emory was a long time member of Port Norfolk Baptist Church, teacher of the Working Pilots Class, and Deacon Emeritus.

Emory was a positive influence on the lives of many young people through his church work and Little League coaching.

The family will receive friends at Loving Funeral Home, 3225 Academy Ave., Portsmouth, VA 23703 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, January 7. A service to celebrate his life will be held Friday, January 8, at 11 a.m. at Port Norfolk Baptist Church, 401 Broad St., Portsmouth VA 23707. Interment will follow at Olive Branch Cemetery, Portsmouth, VA.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Port Norfolk Baptist Church
401 Broad Street
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall

RS

“ I was always pleased when I happened upon a job where Mr. Sparks and Randy were doing the cabinets. Such craftsmen! And so enjoyable to catch up with. But as skilled an artisan as Mr. Sparks was, he was a greater man. As a skilled tradesman myself, I like to think I measure up to Mr. Sparks and Randy, but as a man, I know I have a ways to go.

Mr. Sparks was one of those gents that I've learned that I was indeed lucky to have as a role model. He was so integral in the goings-on at PNBC, but he by no means left his Christian character at the church door; he lived it as much as anyone I've ever known. I'm so happy that he's reunited with the Lord, Mrs. Sparks and Randy, while also so sad I didn't get to chat with him one more time. He was a great man and I loved him.

Most sincere condolences, Robbie Steen

Robbie Steen - January 07, 2016 at 01:58 PM

BS

“ I don't think I ever met any of the children of Mr. Sparks. I am the son of WALTER C. SYKES, known as Cleve Sykes. My father and Mr. Sparks were friends while they were both in MARYVIEW Nursing home on Bridge Road. My father was there for about 3 weeks in Feb 2015. He finally left there, came back to his home in Portsmouth and passed away on Nov. 23rd, just a few weeks ago. It was while he was there that I met Mr. Sparks. I called him "Cookie Man" because he always would give one a cookie. Very sweet gentle person. We, my mother, father and myself all liked him and I had many conversations with him. I am sad to hear of his passing. He was a wonderful person. I am in NYC right now at my apt here but my brother had seen the obit in the paper. I just wanted you to know that I have such a vision of him still and his kind demeanor. I hope he didn't suffer in his passing. Now he and my father are upstairs, hopefully out of their wheel chairs, having a conversation. They were both good gentle souls.

Bruce Sykes

Bruce Sykes - January 07, 2016 at 09:02 AM

GB

“ Marsha and Patricia, I'm so sorry to hear of your fathers passing. He was a very kind person, and a Christian man. I will always remember the days when we sang(Tell It Like It Is). Your father always seem to have plenty of mints in his pocket, when you passed him at church. I'm sure your father and Randy will find something to build in heaven for your mother now. May God Bless your family.

Grace W. Barnes - January 05, 2016 at 03:00 PM

GB

“ *Grace W. Barnes lit a candle in memory of Emory Dalton Sparks*



Grace W. Barnes - January 05, 2016 at 02:17 PM