



Paul "Wes" Swisher Sr.

January 12, 2021

Paul Wesley "Wes" Swisher, Sr. went to be with his Lord and Savior on January 12, 2021 peacefully in his home in Chesapeake, Virginia. Wes was a native of West Virginia. He was drafted into World War II at the young age of 18 where he served in the Pacific on the USS Columbus.

His life changed when he met the love of his life Nancy, the two were married in 1954. They were married for 38 years until Nancy was called home by the Lord in 1992. He is survived by his three children Leigh Ann Bell ("Bear" deceased), Nancy Lou Stone (Ken), Paul W. Swisher Jr. (Laura); 6 grandchildren Carl Lippert (Rikki), Holly Rode (Eric), PJ Neumann (Ashley), Tiffany Hallett (Zach), Jake Swisher and Abby Swisher; 3 great grandchildren Brandon Lippert, Elli Neumann, and Connor Hallett. He loved his children but the true light in his eyes were his grandchildren. He found his calling as Granddad. They will miss his love and generosity.

Wes was a teacher and a coach at Deep Creek High School in Chesapeake from 1955 until he retired in 1989. He was affectionately known by the students and athletes as Bud. He coached all sports at one point or another, but Baseball was his love.

Wes was loved by students and was very well respected by his fellow teachers. He affected the lives of many young men and women with his ability

to communicate and listen. He taught P.E. and Drivers Ed.

Wes was a member of the inaugural class for the Chesapeake Sports Hall of Fame. He was known to love a good joke, Yankees Baseball, WVU sports and old western movies. He attended many Tides baseball with his nephew David. He loved to fish and hunt in his younger years.

He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers please donate to your favorite high school's athletic fund in his name.

Family requests privacy at this time

Tribute Wall

PS

“ Coach Swisher was a man of many talents. He was the best baseball coach who taught young men the joy of baseball. He not only taught them how to play the game but he taught them about how important it was to be a man of principle. Dedication, hard work, and a commitment to themselves, the team, and how important it was to conduct yourself off the playing field in a positive way. A coach and a friend to his students whose doors were always open. Thank you Coach for always giving your all to the sport of baseball and for giving all the students someone to admire and respect. I know that you are now in heaven and enjoying you baseball heros. Hope you find those "board stretchers!" Love you Coach!!❤️⚾️❤️⚾️❤️⚾️

Peggy Scott - January 23, 2021 at 10:31 PM

ND

“ What a great guy to have as a next door neighbor for 28 years in Raleigh Place. He was always in a good mood and seemed to really enjoy his life. His legacy will live forever with the lives he touched in such a positive way.....Norman Davenport

Norman Davenport - January 20, 2021 at 11:31 AM

MO

Coach Swisher was an icon for many years at Deep Creek High School.

I played against his teams in basketball and baseball when I was a student / player at Great Bridge High School in the late 50's. He was a very good coach in both baseball and basketball at Deep Creek High School.

Wes had some great baseball teams that went to the Eastern Regional Baseball Tournaments in the 70's. Our friendship grew over the years as we competing against each other with our baseball teams.

Wes was an outstanding athlete in high school and college in West Virginia.

He was a champion in throwing horse shoes; never could win when we played!

He will be missed by all of us, but never forgotten!

My condolences to the family.

RIP Coach Swisher



Martin Oliver

Martin Oliver - January 20, 2021 at 02:03 PM

JK

“ *I worked with Wes at Deep Creek High School for almost 30 years. He was always a gentleman, kind and friendly to everyone. He touched many young lives as their coach and friend. I remember his wife Nancy stopping by DCHS after she would leave her teaching job next door. She was always so sweet. I have known all the Swisher children and they inherited their parents great attributes. Goodbye Coach. Thanks for being my friend and co-worker for many years.*

Jean Kerley - January 17, 2021 at 04:49 PM

EW

“ *Thanks Coach Swisher for your many years of service to the youth of our community and for your many years of teaching and coaching. But even more than that providing a moral direction for your players*

Eddie Woods - January 17, 2021 at 11:36 AM

LS

“Our deepest sympathy to Nancy, Leigh Ann, Paul (Dubba) and their families. Coach Swisher will certainly be missed, but knowing he has been reunited with Nancy again, the love of his life, makes you smile. Rest in peace.”

Bob and Linda Smith

Linda Smith - January 16, 2021 at 12:02 AM

GD

“Coach Swisher was a man among men. He cared for the students that he taught and coached and loved being there for them. I can remember being taught to drive by Coach Swisher and also helping him do things at his house on Apache Rd. Anyone taught by you was taught to lead. You set the example. Rest in peace. Jerry DeVault, class of '68.

Gerald DeVault - January 15, 2021 at 08:18 PM

SA

“Rest in peace Coach Swisher. Good man! Thought of him often over the years. S Adams class of 69.

Steve Adams - January 15, 2021 at 07:31 PM

WK

“Our deepest sympathies to Nancy, Leigh Ann & Paul (Dubba) on the passing of your Dad. We often talked & thought of all of you. Those were the good old days on Apache Rd. God bless you as you morn his passing .He is certainly in a better place.

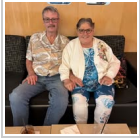
Sue & Bill Knowles

William Knowles - January 15, 2021 at 03:57 PM

JF

“ Coach Swisher had nerves of steel...they were tested when I slid behind the wheel of a Driver's Ed car. He impacted so many young lives! He will be greatly missed!

James Farmer - January 15, 2021 at 02:35 PM



“ Daddy, I will miss you. We were partners in crime. Eating peanut butter and pickle sandwiches at midnight. Running to Dairy Queen for our ice cream fix. Love you daddy.

Leigh Bell - January 15, 2021 at 12:22 PM

PJ

“ I would like to Thank everyone who has reached out. Your thoughts and prayers are so appreciated by our entire family. Bud, Wes, Dad, Granddad will be truly missed, but never forgotten by all who knew and loved him.

This is the seventh inning stretch, Take me out to the Ball Game plays over the stadium speakers and relief has been called in as he takes one last stroll back to the Dugout. His job is done and it's time to rest.

So as you start to enjoy your weekend I ask no matter where you are take a moment and sing Take Me Out To The Ball Game. Sing it loud so you might be heard in Heaven. #budsfinalcalltothepen #takemeouttotheballgame #bangthedrumsslowly

Paul Dubba Swisher Jr - January 15, 2021 at 09:54 AM

BT

Wes Swisher, Frank Webster, and Carl Opauski were great coaches, and wonderful role model of young men and women of my generation. Bill Thorn DCHS '65

Bill Thorn - January 15, 2021 at 12:56 PM

TS

Coach Swisher used to be around the gym corridor when I would be leaving at the end of the school day. Most of the time another coach would be there just talking. He always had a few words or at least a "good bye" for me just about everyday. Will always remember my years at DCHS as being some of the best years of my life. I count it an honor to have known Coach Swisher and extend my heartfelt sympathy and prayers to his family. Tanya Roberts Soady /class of 1961 🇺🇸🙏🌸

Tanya R Soady - January 17, 2021 at 12:58 AM

NS

*“ He was My Bud, My Dad, My best friend
I love ya BUD*

nancy stone - January 15, 2021 at 09:44 AM

DP

“ HE WAS A MAN OF GREAT PASSION FOR HIS STUDENTS AND FRIENDS HE WILL BE MISSED EVEN WITH BEING ABLE TO SEE YOU HE COULD TELL WHO YOU WERE BY YOUR VOICE HE WAS A GOD MAN DAVID PATRICK

DAVID PATRICK - January 15, 2021 at 08:48 AM

JR

“ Rest Easy Coach

Jerry Roberts - January 15, 2021 at 08:44 AM

DM

“ Great person, coach, educator and friend to all.. Cared for students more so in becoming a fine adult than being a great athlete.....He was a tremendous asset to mankind...Condolences to his family and know he touched many, many lives and left lifelong impressions..Glad he taught me..Fortunate to know him.

Donnie Mathias - January 14, 2021 at 01:42 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul "Wes" Swisher Sr..*



January 14, 2021 at 12:22 PM



“ *I remember Wes as being a good coach with drive in his competitive spirit but most as a man most interested in instilling a sense of fair play and good sportsmanship in his charged.*

He was a very good man. May he Rest In Peace,

Bernie Kirsch - January 14, 2021 at 08:42 AM



God Bless you Coach and your family. The years I played ball for you and the Creek were the BEST! You were the man!

John Winn - January 15, 2021 at 12:00 PM



He was an encourager. I thought a lot of him in school and as the old man that I am. He left a legacy his family should be proud of.

Bill Butler - January 15, 2021 at 03:17 PM

SS

Coach Wes Swisher was my coach, a friend, and a man I will always remember and look up to. I was one of about 88 transfer students arriving at Deep Creek High School in September of 1958 after the Virginia Governor locked the three white high schools in Norfolk in an attempt to prevent integration.

We were welcomed and made to feel at home. I will always be grateful to the students and faculty.

The Norfolk schools reopened in early 1959, but I loved my new home, friends at Deep Creek, and Coach.. I played basketball and baseball for Coach Swisher - the best Coach I ever had.

We kept up and got together various times when I came home from college. I scouted the James Blair basketball team for Coach and attended to the game in Williamsburg. I came to Hornets football games and worked the scoreboard in the box with Coach. We attended a college basketball game in Norfolk and a minor league baseball game. I kept touch over the years. Now I feel sorry I did not spend more time being in touch.

Many great memories. His life is a lesson for all to remember.

We were blessed to know Wes Swisher.

PS I remember Leigh Ann, probably about 4 years old then, running to say hello at Hornets basketball games.

Steven Segal Deep Creek High School Class of 1954

Steven Segal - January 25, 2021 at 03:27 PM

RK

My Dad, Norman Kozak, taught and coached with Coach Swisher at DCHS. He always bragged about Coach Swisher's coaching and playing skills. I remember watching faculty-team basketball games in my youth. "Wes could stand there and make foul shots all day without missing," my Dad would say. It was great to see Coach Swisher pictured with a tennis racket since that was also the passion of my Dad and me. I know they talked occasionally in later years. I hope they've reestablished a relationship. May his memory be a blessing. ... Mark

R. Mark Kozak - January 26, 2021 at 09:45 AM