



## Roy Newton

November 30, 2017

Roy Lester Newton, Jr., “Skip”, 79, passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 30, 2017. Born in Staunton, VA., he was the son of the late Rebecca and Roy L. Newton, Sr. Skip grew up in Portsmouth and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School. He attended the Norfolk Division of The College of William and Mary, where he studied Drama and Interior Design, then served briefly in the United States Army.

He moved to Richmond with the Seaboard Railroad, but returned to the Tidewater area to work with Neil Thomas Interiors. Skip was extremely talented. He was a gifted artist and painter, a designer of stained glass and a skilled upholsterer. He had an eclectic love of Theater and all types of music and was a wonderful dancer. Books were a passion to him and his library was the envy of everyone. His knowledge of design and love of nature enabled him to create his beautiful garden.

The majority of his life he worked in the Restaurant business; his longest, most enjoyable and successful was with Omar’s Carriage House in Ghent. His friendship with Omar Boukhriss and the people he met through the business were some of the most treasured in his life. Skip was such an incredible people person with a magnetic personality that suited his profession perfectly. He was an inspirational mentor to many a young person and felt extraordinarily rich in his vast devoted friendships.

Skip was a loving father to his four legged child, Annie. He is survived by two loving sisters: Judith Barrett Goodnough of Portsmouth- her sons, Richard

Griswold, Todd Triplett; daughters Judith Napier/Rich, Diane Lee, Cindy Perkins/Alan, all of Richmond. Sister Mary Alice Gaffos of Portsmouth- daughters, Sabrina Coleman/Spencer, Andrea Osborne/Milan and many adoring nieces and nephews. Skip was a good, kind, and giving man and brother. A man of humor, grace and elegance, he will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

The family would like to thank the 5th floor Nursing Staff at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Sentara Nursing Center, Norfolk, Newtown Rd., and Sentara Hospice for their dedicated care of Skip.

A celebration of Life Memorial will be held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, December 12, at Loving Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of one's choice.

# Tribute Wall

GJ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Gail Juren** - December 10, 2017 at 01:06 PM

GJ

“ Skip was a much-loved manager at Elliot’s restaurant in the early 80’s. He touched so many people’s lives and set a wonderful example for the younger staff members. Now he and Elliot can share their love of “Meet-Greet-and Seat” at the the Gates that are open 24/7.  
Gail Juren



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**Gail Juren** - December 10, 2017 at 11:01 AM

MS

“ Skip was such a wonderful person. I have known him since Prentis Park days and Robert E. Lee School. He was always such a joy to be with. He will be greatly missed. With condolences and sympathy to all your family. I especially remember and think of you, Judy. I wish I could be at the service, but my thoughts and prayers will be with you.  
Mary Lou Morrill Speckheuer

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**Mary Lou Speckheuer** - December 09, 2017 at 03:23 PM

ML

“ I am sadden by the passing of Skip he will be greatly missed and never forgotten. Skip was a huge part of my life being my mom's very best friend he was a substitute dad of sorts and was there for most everything important for me. First driving, sweet 16, first loves, prom, broken hearts , Christmas, Home comings, amazing food and get togethers and lots of laughs and so much more, my mom's confident, best friend and family to us all. He was a lover of life and beauty of all sorts, and so so funny. I am greatly blessed to have had him to love me my entire life and better for it. May you and Annie be happy, healthy and enjoying all the next adventure has for you. Maria and family

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**maria lynch** - December 06, 2017 at 11:06 AM

JG

“ You were such a joy and brought laughter just by being you! I remember so many times you had me in stitches especially when we saw each other in downtown Portsmouth in the gift shop. Prentis Park loved you and I do too! May you entertain those in heaven as you did here on earth.

Love,  
Joan Boush Guard

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**Joan guard** - December 04, 2017 at 09:21 AM

MB

“ Every day of my life you are with me,so how can i say I'll miss you if your never going any where ? A thousand times a day you are next to me. A cup of coffee,a special song,great book,a dance , my garden, my dogs , laughter , someone doing or saying something so funny ! We created so many beautiful memories together . Most of all Love and laughter. Do me a favor , find Y.B. and Shirley and Big Jim. You all find the best dam jazz club up there so when i get there we can have the biggest jam session Heaven ever had. Vikki Arteca Blair.

Milton Blair - December 03, 2017 at 01:30 PM

SC

“ Skip and Annie shared an incredible bond. He and Annie were so in tune with each other. I loved hearing his Annie stories. Skip's Christmas tree and decorations we're like no other. His garden in the backyard was so beautiful . Skip was an amazing gentle loving person. I will miss my visits with Skip and Annie and be forever grateful for the loving care he gave Annie. ( Skip adopted Annie from Animal Resources of Tidewater many years ago).



Susan Corbitt - December 03, 2017 at 09:12 AM

BM

“ My lifelong pal.....my comic relief.....my kind,courageous, talented friend, who would have me laughing when he said "Hello" on the phone....He made life worth living for all walks of life. I miss him. Betty Jean Russell McMurrn

Betty McMurrn - December 02, 2017 at 05:07 PM