



Frank Spillane

July 17, 2006

Murrells Inlet Frank Morrison "Mickey" Spillane, age 88 of Murrells Inlet died Monday, July 17, 2006 at his home. Born March 9, 1918 in Brooklyn, NY, son of the late John and Ann Spillane. Mickey attended Kansas State College where he played football. He was a World War II veteran, US Army Aircorp veteran serving as a flight instructor. Mickey was the creator of Mike Hammer and starred as Mike Hammer in the film, "The Girl Hunters". He was a bestselling author of 32 novels from which 8 were made into motion pictures, the Mike Hammer television series and Marvel Comics. For 18 years, he appeared in Lite Beer commercials. In 1995 he was awarded the highest award for writing, The Grand Master Award and also was awarded Jr. Literacy Award for "The Day the Sea Rolled Back". Mickey was a deep sea diver, pilot, stock car racer, avid fisherman and traveled with the Clyde Beatty Circus. Mickey was a member of the Jehovah's Witness. Surviving are his wife, Jane Rogers Spillane; children, Kathy Spivey and Michael Spillane both of Myrtle Beach, Ward Spillane of Louisiana and Caroline Hill of Galax, VA; step children, Britt Ellinger of Great Falls, VA, Lisa Roberts of Georgetown and Mabry Simonetti of North Augusta; ten grandchildren and six great grandchildren. The family will receive friends from 10:00-2:00, Saturday, July 22, 2006 at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel. Services will be 2:00 PM, Saturday, July 29, 2006 at Kingdom Hall on Holmestown Rd, in Surfside Beach. Memorials may be made to Tideland's Hospice, 2591 North Fraser St., Georgetown, SC 29440.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Jane and Family: My heart skipped a beat when I read of Mickey's death. My warmest condolences to you Jane, and all of his beloved family. I met Mickey and Jane one sunny Sunday afternoon in 2000 on a dare. A friend and I had gone out for a few errands, and he bet that he could find the home of one of his favorite authors. Being new to the area, I doubted him, so the bet was on. Well, he was right, and we carefully drove down Mickey's driveway, not intending on bothering them. But much to my surprise, Mickey was sitting out on his deck, and waved to us to stop. I was sure he was going to be very upset for bothering him, and got out of my car with intense trepidation. When we introduced ourselves, our apologies were met with great kindness and an invitation to stay and chat for a bit. That afternoon was truly spellbinding! Like Mickey, I had been a pilot for years, and as we shared our love of flying and many other things, I fell in love -- with his wit and charm, his laugh, and especially his stunning blue eyes. Before I knew it, we had talked the afternoon away, and Jane came out to remind him about a dinner engagement. We all chatted for a bit, and she is as lovely and gracious to strangers as Mickey. I regret not visiting again, but I will always treasure that golden afternoon. My heart goes out to Jane and all of Mickey's family for their great loss. He will be remembered and missed by so many, not just for his delightful writing, but for being the splendid and complex man behind the pen. Melissa Oakes formerly of Surfside, SC NY, NY##imported-begin##Melissa Oakes##imported-end##

December 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Kenneth E Rosenbaum##imported-end##

October 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I've yet to find, over the years, the right words to say to someone who has lost someone close to them. What I've now come to understand, is that it's not the words, but the intent to offer comfort in some way that is so important. Mickey and Jane were lucky enough to find something that many people search their whole lives for and never find. A partner that is a combination of your very best friend, an equal partner that is willing to give 80% when you are having a 20% day, loves you when you gain additional wrinkles, more grey hair and in this special relationship, listens to the same stories over and over.....and over again. I am so glad that they had this relationship and got to share so many things together. I know that they loved each other so very much. They opened their hearts and home to this "Yankee" girl and gave me a second family. I am very glad that they had such a rich and wonderful relationship. I was very lucky to have known both of them. I am so saddened by his passing and yet still find myself chuckling when I remember some of those faces he used to make and those "off the cuff" comments. The joy he found in the simplest of gifts, be it a box of those Frosted Flakes or a little bag of orange-slices. What a wonderful and down to earth gentle man.##imported-begin##Vickie Fredericks##imported-end##

August 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ To My Dear Friend Jane, There are no words on this earth that can express how i feel right now. You and Mickey were my Guardian Angels at a time in my life when I desperately needed one. I will miss my intimate talks with Mickey on the porch swing. He was one of a kind, a good man with a caring heart and I was blessed to have had a personal relationship with him. He will always be close to my heart.##imported-begin##Desiree Scott##imported-end##

July 26, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ My condolences to the family. I know that Mickey was loved by his family and all. I am sure that you have many wonderful memories. I was a friend of Ward's when I lived in Georgetown, and attended Coastal Carolina. My prayers are with you, Wayne##imported-begin##Wayne Stanton##imported-end##

July 25, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Howard & LaVerne Crissman##imported-end##

July 25, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. He was a truly remarkable man.##imported-begin##Gail and Ray Merlock##imported-end##

July 23, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Miss Jane & Family...We first met you and Mr. Spillane, by chance, in a Chinese Resturant, much to our delight. You both were very gracious in acknowleging us, every casual encounter thereafter. The latest being 'Legends', 2005. Our deepest regrets on your loss as we feel a deep loss also. You were a beautiful couple and he a great man. Sincerely Catherine McGill & John Wilson##imported-begin##Catherine McGill##imported-end##

July 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ God speed my friend, your wonderful legacy will never end.##imported-begin##francine bradley##imported-end##

July 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathies to the Spillane family. Like so many people, my wife and I knew him through his stories. I keep an old Miller Lite ad with his advice on writing. When I opened the paper last Tuesday, I wrote my reaction in the voice of Mike Hammer. It's a poor imitation, but the best I could do. "I picked up the paper and it hit me, like a slug low in the gut. He was dead. I put down my coffee and opened the drawer where I keep the hard stuff. After a long time, I put on my coat, stuck on my hat, and walked outside. The city was hot, except for a small breeze blowing from the East River. I followed it. My feet walked on their own because there was a haze in my eyes that looked like rain. When I stopped I was somewhere between the Manhattan and Williamsburg Bridge. I took out Old Betsy and jacked a fresh shell into the chamber. Then I threw her in the river and walked away." Your beloved was one of the great storytellers of all time, and gave pleasure to many. Thank you for sharing him. Jim and Theresa Harte Rochester, NY###imported-begin##Jim and Theresa Harte##imported-end##

July 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Jane, I wish to express my sympathy to you and your family. I was privileged to know Mickey when I was Head Teller at Bank of America in Murrell's Inlet before it closed and then reopened. Now I've gotten to know you better with your visits to Bob Evans. I just wanted to let you know that I was thinking of you and remembering how much it meant to me and my family when Mickey signed one of his books for our son and family in California several years ago. I will not be able to attend any of the services because of work, but I did want you to know that I am thinking of you and the family. Mickey was a wonderful person and I feel honored to have known him!###imported-begin##Lynn Zwick##imported-end##

July 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *What a great writer! He will truly be missed.##imported-begin##Kerri Leonard##imported-end##*

July 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heart felt sympathy goes out to the Spillane Family in their time of sorrow. I was a huge fan of the TV Series, Mike Hammer. May God bless you all in your time of bereavement.##imported-begin##James Simmons##imported-end##*

July 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our sincere condolences to the Spillane family. We knew him through his books, but felt we knew him personally. What a great writer! His memories will be with us forever.##imported-begin##The Edmondson Family##imported-end##*

July 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to the family. I was always a big reader and fan of Mickey. He adopted South Carolina as his home and we are proud to call him one of us.##imported-begin##t brewer##imported-end##*

July 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to the Spillane family. I was blessed with the opportunity of meeting Mickey in March of this year while visiting Myrtle Beach with Banjo Williamson. It was an incredible honor for me to meet such a great man and author. I know he will be greatly missed by many.##imported-begin##Kim Hooper##imported-end##

July 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Janie & Family, A great sadness fell over me when I heard of Mickey's passing. I will always remember and appreciate those once-a-summer mornings I spent with Mickey and you... and the cats when I'd visit my parents in Myrtle Beach. Uncle Mick as my kids would say and I talked about many "writing" things. I feel, with him having written the Foreword to my book, ShowSmarts: The Volunteer's Guide for Putting on Shows with Kids, that I have a little peice of literary history to share with my reading audience. Not many people know he was an award winning children's book author. So I tell them. I cannot make it to his final services, but know that you, your family and Mickey are in my thoughts and prayers. It was a special time in my life... knowing you two. Thanks for the memories. Take good care of yourself Janie. Most Sincerely, Terra Koerpel Pittsburgh##imported-begin##Terra Koerpel##imported-end##

July 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Thanks, Mickey for your kindness and for the opportunity to get to know you. Thank you for so many hours of reading pleasure, good conversation and for sharing your memories of Flexible Flyers, stickball on the streets of New York, and all the rest.##imported-begin##Larry & Ruth Schliessmann##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Jay & Barbara Wood##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Spillane Family, though I never got to meet y'all personally, I have heard so much about you. I understand that Mickey was quite a guy, I saw the documentary that was aired on public t.v. I always wanted to meet and chat with Mickey. I just wanted to let you all know that our prayers are with you and our thoughts and condolences. Brotherly Love T.H.Ray West Columbia S.C.##imported-begin##Theodore Ray##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I interviewed Mickey many times for The State newspaper for which I was book editor and for a book, "Southern Authors," in 1997. Mickey was a generous, fascinating man who shared his past graciously, who loved the South Carolina coast and his family. I have many memories of his kindness to me, and I will miss him. He was an icon of American writing in the 20th century in America, and I will not be alone in mourning him. My prayers to his family.##imported-begin##Bill Starr##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Our heartfelt sympathy to the Spillane family. We look forward to welcoming Mickey back in the earthly resurrection where he can continue his zest for living. With fond memories of Mickey, Bob and Marion williams##imported-begin##robert & marion williams##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I never had the opportunity to meet Mickey, but knew him through his books. One common theme you read or hear is that Mickey was not pretentious. Unfortunately there are not any writers on the horizon that comes close to Mickey?s identifying writing style. Fortunately we have his books for now and future generations. Our condolences and sympathy goes out to his family.##imported-begin##Benny & Peggy Kinlaw##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Ward & Family, I'm very sorry to hear of the death of your Father. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless you as you go through this tuff time. Sincerely, Robin##imported-begin##Robin Holley##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Our heartfelt sympathies to the Spillane family. We share in your loss. We are looking forward to seeing Mickey again here on Earth through the resurrection, which was also his hope. It was so good to see him after many many years in Nov. 2003 while we were vacationing in Myrtle Beach. We cherish the memories, and associations we had with Mickey while he was living here in the Newburgh area.##imported-begin##Andrew & Gudrun Cappello##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ We have always loved the Mike Hammer in Mickey and he will be greatly missed by not only South Carolina but around the world!##imported-begin##Karen Smith##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I was deeply saddened to learn of Mickey's passing. My heart felt sympathy to the entire family. Mickey was always a gentleman, and was a great citizen to his adopted home of South Carolina, which he loved. He will be missed by everyone, but we can take solace in knowing that we will all be together again.##imported-begin##Billy Hall##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Mickey through his many books, he was not only a great talent, but from everything I here a great person. My condolences to his family.##imported-begin##Steven Faulkner##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Jane and family, Everyone here in Murrells Inlet will surely miss Mickey. I will always remember having long talks with Mickey at the house while he was eating his Frosted Flakes! Please call on us if we can do anything for you or your family. God Bless. Jeff, Wendy, Jessica, and Dakotah Benton##imported-begin##Jeff Benton and Family##imported-end##

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ You were a very special man Mickey Spillane 1918--2006 The Man We'd always love Mickey's eye's told the story of who he was--a proud man that America would always love.. Mickey asked me one day--was I a writer or an author, just barely making my way.. He asked this after one of his friends had been put to rest--he was there as one of the guest.. He stood there reflecting on life--bragging about his age, and Jane his wife.. He'd say she was his child bride, with a big smile--that was how he dealt with the parts of his life that was worth while.. Mickey loved Jane, his lady, his wife--he endured the jokes, the humor about they're life.. His eye's told the story of who he was--a tired man that America would always love.. This tough old man strong, trueful as can be--in 1984 his Mike hammer sequel commanded America's TV.. He walked in faith proud and tall--he was never a man to quit or crawl.. The day I met Mickey he was active, quick and bold--he demanded the room, as he bore his soul.. His soul ached for those gone before--he spoke of the day he'd be knocking at heavens door.. On that door he knocked July 17, 2006--he knew it was time and was ready for it.. So that morning he awoke, I feel he said these words--thank you God for waking me, and I feel God heard.. God saw his weakness, pain, his soul--as he reached to put Mickey's name again on the scroll.. The scroll where Mickey's name was placed when he was born--telling of the years, and that his body was old and worn.. Today the TV reminded me of Mickey's eye's and who he was--I realized this man America would always love.. We love you Mickey Spillane By: Patricia Robinson--7/18/06--4:30pm###imported-begin###patricia robinson###imported-end###

July 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jane and family, it is going to be so strange to think of Murrells Inlet and Jordan Landing Road without Mickey. From way back in 1966 when we rented your mom and dad's house we have known and loved Mickey. Such a sweet and loving man, I can still picture him taking our little granddaughter, Fletcher's, hand and letting her lead him across to our house as she told him to "Come on Mickey." We truly do miss him. You are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Archie & Rae Biggs##imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Our condolences to the Spillane family at this time. We will always remember meeting Mickey in NY. He was a true gentleman, posing for a photo and autographing his book for us. He will be missed by all he touched.##imported-begin##Caroline and James Cummings##imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember seeing my father's home movies of Mickey's XK-150 Jag in the "Sun Fun Festival." Dad ran the only grocery store in early Myrtle Beach days and the Jag was used to tote beauty queens in the parade. Sincere condolences to the Spillane Family.##imported-begin##Tom Campbell##imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ To Jane and the Spillane family- Our sincere Condolence. Our condolence is sincere, heartfelt and painfully given. Do know your feeling of loss is shared by to many to count. One of my lifes biggest blessings was to get to know Mickey and to work with him and you and becoming your friend. Kowing you and Mickey has been a real honor for me. I will miss him greatly but as well will be always comforted by the priviledge of knowing him and his Jane- May God Bless you all.-- Chuck and Laverne Thompson###imported-begin###Charles Thompson###imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jane and Family. Our thoughts are with you during this time of deepest sorrow. I believe that Mickey was a friend to everyone he met. We will miss him & He will be missed greatly in this community he loved so dearly. Our thoughts and Prayers are with you.###imported-begin###Buddy and Katie Brown###imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Jane; I was so sorry to learn of Mickey's passing in this morning's paper. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I have many fond memories of my chats with Mickey as well as with you on visits when he was not at home. I know you will miss him and so will so many many more who were fans of his books. I am glad to have been not only a "fan", but also to have been considered as a friend. He always welcomed me with a warm hello. Bucky Snider###imported-begin###Bucky Snider###imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Mickey Spillane was the first celebrity I ever met. I was about six and listened to "That Hammer Guy" on the radio. He was in town for the Sun Fun Festival and visited my grandmother's house with my uncle. I met him a few more times in the fifty some years since then and when I introduced myself he always remembered who I was. I have always admired him and enjoyed his stories. I wish I had known him better. My condolences to you all at your loss.##imported-begin##Carolyn Karn##imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I met Mickey Spillane when I taught at Florence-Darlington Tech in SC and he was speaking at the Book Festival. I admired his candor and his total lack of enchantment with his celebrity. He made no pretenses; you got what you saw. His dedication for his family was always obvious, My heart goes out to his loved ones in this time of his loss. Thank you for sharing this wonderful man with the world. He will not soon be forgotten.##imported-begin##Penny Sansbury##imported-end##

July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM