



John Wellman

July 20, 1925 - September 26, 2013

Pawleys Island

John G. "Jack" Wellman died Thursday, September 26, 2013 at Tideland Community Hospice House after a long battle with cancer. He was surrounded by family and friends.

Born on July 20, 1925 in Newton, Massachusetts, he was the son of the late Arthur Ogden and Ruth Kingman Wellman. Jack attended Governor Dummer Academy in South Byfield, Massachusetts and was awarded his High School diploma while serving as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Upon separation from military service, he elected to join his father in the textile business. In 1954, after pursuing responsibilities as a buyer of wool in Australia and South Africa for five years, he persuaded his father to move the manufacturing segment of the company to Johnsonville, South Carolina. Shortly thereafter, he took full time responsibility for Wellman Combing Company transforming its "wool top" manufacturing into the largest and most modern in the industry. In concert with his father and brother, the company diversified into recycling polyester and nylon fiber waste into fiber for carpeting, polyester fiberfill and other textile products and established similar operations in Ireland and offices world-wide. Jack adopted South Carolina as his home and dedicated personal and company activities to those pursuits he thought would help South Carolina transition to become "The best place to live life to its fullest". His activities included working with the ETV network, Boy Scouts, SC Textile Manufacturers, American Textile Manufacturers Institute,

SC Chamber of Commerce, State Development Board, State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army and many others. He was awarded Honorary Degrees by University of South Carolina, Charleston Southern University and Francis Marion University. He retired as Chairman and CEO of Wellman Inc. on September 20th 1983. Noteworthy on this same day his wife Charlottie Abbott (Chotsie) Wellman passed away. Jack decided to move to Murrells Inlet, SC ultimately to Pawleys Island, SC. On November 17th 1984 he married Frances Bartell Lewis. She led him to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ for which he is eternally grateful.

Surviving besides his beloved wife Frances of 28 years are his three sons, John Jr. (Mimi) of South Amboy, NJ, Gregory Abbott (Melissa) of Huntersville, NC, Michael Allen (Lynn) of Norwalk, CT and daughter Lynda Wellman Scott Dobson (Peter) of Pawleys Island, SC. He also has nine grandchildren, Lydia W. Neher (Eric), of Atlanta, GA, Heather Wellman, Waltham, MA, Gregory A. Wellman, Jr. (Kimberly) Kingsport, TN; Jessica Wellman of Baltimore, MD; Lindsay McClintock (Justin) of Marietta, GA; Michael A. Wellman, Jr. (Kate) of New York, NY; Benjamin R. Wellman of Dothan, AL; Zachary J. Wellman of Norwalk, CT and Charlottie "Chotsie" Scott Johnson (Devin) of Columbia, SC. He has six great-grandchildren, Gracie, Ethan and Samuel Wellman of Kingsport, TN, Claire Lynda Neher of Atlanta, GA and Jonathan and Joshua McClintock of Marietta, GA. He has four step-children, Hal E. Lewis (Suzanne) of Charlotte, NC; Pamela L. Burnett (Reggie) of Pawleys Island, SC; Steve Lewis (Jill) of Lancaster, SC; Cindi L. Sutton (David) of Charleston, SC. He has eight step-grandchildren, Adam Lewis, Blake and Ross Burnett, Amanda Ghent (Jeremy), Jon Lewis, Andrea Graham (Mike), Kaylie and Breanna Sutton. He has four step-great grandchildren, Taylor and Channing Graham of Kingstree, SC and Jaxon and Morgyn Jaine Ghent of Lancaster, SC. His brother Arthur O. "Bud" Wellman, Jr. predeceased him in 2003 and a sister Marjorie W. Bullock (George) of Little Compton, RI and Juno Beach, FL predeceased in 2013.

Mr. Wellman was a member of Georgetown First Baptist Church. Visitation will be at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Litchfield/ Pawleys Chapel on Saturday, September 28, 2013 from 5:00-7:00 PM. A funeral service will be held at Georgetown First Baptist Church on Sunday, September 29, 2013 at 2:00 PM with burial at Pawleys Island Presbyterian Church Cemetery after the service. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to Pawleys Island Community Church Guatemalan Missions or Georgetown First Baptist Church or to the charity of one's choice.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of John Wellman*



Goldfinch Funeral Home - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mike, Lynda and your families,
We were so very sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad. Praying for peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.
Our deepest sympathy, Libby (Munn) and Tommy Haselden*

Libby Haselden - October 01, 2013 at 11:05 AM



“ *RIP Soldier !!!!*

Wayne Williams - USMC - September 30, 2013 at 07:31 AM

TT

“ My heart goes out to Frances and the entire Wellman Family. I had the privilege of not only knowing Jack, but I worked for him from 1989 - 1997 as his CFO for JG Wellman Industries, Inc. He was there for the birth of my son, Charles in 1994 and setup a nursery in our office to accommodate my needs. For the first 2 1/2 years of Charles' life Jack blessed my him with his presence, love and opportunities which would not have been otherwise available. He was such a wonderful man whom will be truly missed by many. This world has really lost a lot with his passing.



Tamara Tindal - September 29, 2013 at 08:45 PM

LJ

“ My wife and I send our sincere condolences to Mrs. Wellman, Jack, Jr., Greg, Mike and Lynda and your families.
John & Christine Johnson, Amesbury, MA.

Leonard Johnson - September 29, 2013 at 08:20 PM

BK

“ It was a privilege of mine to have worked with Jack for several years. The world could not know a kinder, gentler person - a person who genuinely cared for others and showed it. He was great to work with always with a kind smile and advice if you asked for it. I ran into him just a short couple of months ago and it was a reunion in the Kroeger parking lot. He said he was doing so well and he looked well. I will miss him always. My sympathies to his wife and children.

Betty Knodel

Betty Knodel - September 29, 2013 at 11:39 AM

GS

“ Frances, Jack Jr., Greg, Mike, Lynda,

Please accept my condolences. Jack was the finest person I had the pleasure of working for during my many career years. It was always a pleasure to know him and be associated with him and your family. This world has truly lost a wonderful soul, but this world's loss is heaven's gain. I look forward to seeing him again one day!

Glenn Sizemore

Glenn Sizemore - September 29, 2013 at 10:34 AM

KL

“ Mrs. Frances, Jack Jr., Greg, Mike, Lynda--

My thoughts and prays are with all of you during this time of sadness. May the Lord give you comfort and peace knowing that Mr. Wellman has moved on to a better place.

Ken Lyerly

Ken Lyerly - September 29, 2013 at 05:36 AM

MB

“ *I extend my heartfelt sympathy to the Wellman family. May those precious memories of your dear loved one John be foremost in your hearts and minds along with this wonderful promise that Jesus made at John 5:28,29. Again, my sincere condolences.*

MB - September 29, 2013 at 04:21 AM

NE

Thanks!

Neal - March 13, 2014 at 03:44 PM

LP

“ Jack, your father meant so much to the Pee Dee area and also to our family. Just wanted to let you and your family know how much your father will be missed. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. Tommy and Laura (Coleman) Phillips

Laura Phillips - September 28, 2013 at 10:43 PM

AK

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of your loss. My father (Sweeney L. Altman) worked at Wellman for many years. My mother (Grace A. Johnson) taught several of the children at Johnsonville Elementary. I went to school with Greg and worked at Wellman in Hemingway one summer while I was in college. Wellman was an enormous contributor to the town of Johnsonville and surrounding communities. I know you are in everyone's thoughts and prayers. Ardith Altman Koon

Ardith Altman Koon - September 28, 2013 at 09:23 PM

RH

“ Working for Wellman Inc. and Mr. Wellman was a great honor and privilege, as well as getting to know his entire family and all the many other people associated with Wellman. These many wonderful memories will be with me always. My heartfelt condolences go out to his entire family.

Bob Hawkins

Robert (Bob) Hawkins - September 28, 2013 at 02:33 PM

ET

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire family. Our heartfelt condolences.
Ann & Ealon (JR) Thompson

ethompson - September 28, 2013 at 02:08 PM

RJ

“My thoughts and prayers to the entire family. Mr. Wellman did much for the state of South Carolina, but more importantly the Johnsonville-Hemingway area. I often think about what my life would have been like if not for Wellman Industries. It is unknown the number of family members in this area of the state that attended college as a result of parents working at Wellman. His company provided food and housing for many! I often remember the gift that we children were able to pick out during Christmas. He was a true leader, and a great gentleman.”

Ron Joye

Ron Joye - September 28, 2013 at 12:59 PM

AR

“Ah, Mr. Jack, what fond memories I have of you and Mrs. Chotsie visiting in our home with my daddy, your first personnel manager in Johnsonville.....Don Altman; and, my mom, Marie Altman(formerly of Dillon) running around with your wife decorating guest homes in Johnsonville. I remember you taking me to play with the lambs and watching the sheep being sheared by Cliff Mudge. Mama appreciated being in touch with you over the years; both dad and mom are deceased so I hope you all get to reunite in your new heavenly home. Thank you for the memories and my sympathies to all of your dear family. Anne Altman Rodgers, Columbia, SC

Anne Altman Rodgers - September 28, 2013 at 09:01 AM

SW

“ I am so very sorry to hear of the passing of Mr Jack. I know my dad, Johnny Norton, always thought the world of him. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. I haven't seen Hal or Mrs Frances or Lynda in a long time but still think of you all fondly and my heart goes out to all of you.

Sheryl Norton Williams

Sheryl Norton Williams - September 28, 2013 at 08:16 AM

LS

“ Mrs. Frances, you are in our thoughts and prayers. I am so sorry for your loss, but know that Mr. Jack's graduation day was a joyful one in Heaven!! I send my love to you and the family.

Leslie Shumard and Family

Leslie Shumard - September 27, 2013 at 07:36 PM

WE

“ I'm so thankful to have known Jack. He, Frances, and Lynda have all meant so much to me for many years. Much love to all the family. I rejoice that we'll see Jack again!

Wendy Brzezinski

Wendy - September 27, 2013 at 06:20 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Wellman.



September 27, 2013 at 05:07 PM

CH

“ Mrs. Frances, John Jr. , Greg, Mike and Lynda, I was sorry to read about Mr. Wellman's passing. He was a great man to work for. I worked for him at the Johnsonville plant and at Lakewood Plantation. My parents (Preston and Shirley Hughes) and I send our thoughts and prayers. Mr. Wellman was a friend who really cared about people. He always took the time to talk to me and was interested in what was going on in my life. He will be missed by many, but not forgotten.

C. Calvin Hughes - September 27, 2013 at 02:40 PM

MB

“ Frances, I am thinking of you and your family in this time of great loss.

Mildred Browder-Hughes

Mildred Browder-Hughes - September 27, 2013 at 01:54 PM

JN

“ South Carolina has lost one of its 'turn-the-corner" leaders...one of the most dynamic, committed and genuine men we have had the privilege to know. We have lost a wonderful friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Pam and John Napier

John L. Napier - September 27, 2013 at 01:42 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Wellman.



September 27, 2013 at 12:08 PM

DC

“ *South Carolina lost one of its most innovative citizens with the death of Jack Wellman. For years, he made major contributions to the state's industrial base, its business leadership and its political direction.*

My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

*Dianne Chinnes
Columbia, SC*

Dianne Chinnes - September 27, 2013 at 10:40 AM

WU

“ *RIP Soldier !!!!*

Wayne Williams - USMC - September 27, 2013 at 07:31 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John Wellman.*



September 27, 2013 at 06:34 AM



“ *I know you are now walking on the moon beams on the ocean. That's a memory I will never forget. I love you Uncle Jack. Thanks for your mentoring, guidance and support over the years. You are a man I admired greatly. Say hi to Mom and Dad for me.*

Chris Jones - September 27, 2013 at 06:13 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Wellman.* ”



September 26, 2013 at 05:42 PM