



Merton Whiteis, Jr

August 28, 1940 - December 8, 2012

Surfside Beach, SC

Merton L. Whiteis, Jr.

Mr. Merton L. Whiteis, Jr. (Junie), 72, died Saturday, December 8, 2012 at his residence in Surfside Beach, SC.

Born in Albert Lea, MN, Mr. Whiteis was the son of the late Merton L. Whiteis, Sr and Mayme Whiteis formerly of Matawan, MN.

Mr. Whiteis served proudly in the United States Navy as a Medical Corpsman.

He worked for 20 + years in the banking industry as a bank fraud investigator.

Mr. Whiteis was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed deer hunting and fishing.

He is survived by his loving wife of 33 years, Dianne Whiteis; sons, Jeffrey S. Whiteis (Brittney), Carolina Forest, SC; Brad L. Whiteis (Stacey), Conway, SC; Mark Helm, TN; Scott Helm, NJ; Bryan Helm, NJ; brothers, George Whiteis (Elaine), Surfside Beach; Lowell Whiteis (Doris), Plymouth, MN; 4 grandchildren.

Mr. Whiteis was a loving husband, father and brother.

A graveside service will be held 1:00 PM, Wednesday, December 19, 2012 in Hayward Cemetery, Hayward, MN.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Heartland Hospice, 1500 Main Street Conway, SC 29526.

Sign an online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel, Murrells Inlet, SC is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

JW

“ I land on this page from time to time. With no real rhyme or reason, I find myself here, reading your tribute and obituary. Knowing full well what a great man you were, I guess I still like seeing it in writing. I just miss you, Dad.

Jeff Whiteis - March 09, 2016 at 05:34 AM

DE

Me too!

dee - March 17, 2016 at 04:39 AM

JW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jeff Whiteis - October 15, 2014 at 05:37 AM

JW

“ Dad, it's been almost 2 years since you went to be with the Lord. Not a day has gone by that you haven't crossed my mind. I love & miss you so much. You're still and always will be my Hero.

Jeff Whiteis - October 15, 2014 at 05:35 AM

JW

“ 38 files added to the album *Pictures of Dad*



Jeff Whiteis - October 15, 2014 at 05:32 AM

JW

“ *I love & miss you so much Dad. I can't believe it's already been a year since you left. I know I'll see you again soon. You're still my Hero.*

Jeff Whiteis - December 08, 2013 at 05:21 AM

JW

“ *Even though I can't give you a birthday card or a hug, I know that you hear me every time I whisper "Happy Birthday". I can almost hear you say "Love you Jeffer" in that strong voice that I miss so much. But I'm ecstatic knowing full well that you're spending your 73rd birthday with God, and that's gotta be so awesome. I love and miss you so much Dad. -Jeff*

Jeff Whiteis - August 28, 2013 at 06:53 AM

JW

“ 3 files added to the album *Pictures of Dad*



Jeff Whiteis - January 10, 2013 at 02:29 PM

JW

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Jeff Whiteis - December 21, 2012 at 07:47 AM

JW

“ 3 files added to the album *Dad's Funeral Service*



Jeff Whiteis - December 21, 2012 at 07:45 AM

FC

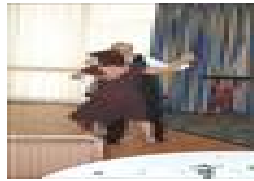
“ *Condolences to Mert's Family from church friends. Didn't know he was ill, as we just heard of his passing.*

*Frank and Deb Catalano
Murrells Inlet, SC*

Frank J. Catalano - December 18, 2012 at 04:59 PM

BW

“ 24 files added to the album Pictures of Dad



Brad W. - December 16, 2012 at 02:07 PM

LH

“ My most sincere sympathy to all of Mert's family. I was a classmate. He was a good friend of my ex husband Roger Hansen. They spent some time in the Navy together. He took the time to come see us whenever he was in Albert Lea. Always being the happiest and most fun person to be around. He will be missed by all who knew him.



I am so sorry that he had to suffer, I did not know he was so ill. I got a facebook notice once asking if I knew him. I answered back but never got a response, now I understand

May God give you the strength to cope through this Holiday Season.

LaDonna Hansen

LaDonna Hansen - December 14, 2012 at 02:09 PM

SN

“ *My most sincere sympathy to the family of Merton Whiteis, during this stressful and most difficult time. I was a classmate and friend of Merton's through our school years. He was a special and trusted friend to me. May he rest in peace now in the arms of our Lord. May God bless and watch over you all.*

*Sharon (Hubbell) Noble
ALHS Class of 1958
Albert Lea, Minnesota*



Sharon Noble - December 13, 2012 at 10:28 PM

SN

“ *Sharon Noble lit a candle in memory of Merton Whiteis, Jr*



Sharon Noble - December 13, 2012 at 10:19 PM

JR

“ *Very sorry for your loss.*

Jason Roth - December 13, 2012 at 06:59 PM

JD

“ Dear Dee, Jeff and Brad...

I am so saddened to hear of Mert's death, although he had been through so much for so long. He is now whole again and with his Lord. Even though you know you will be with him again, the pain of the present separation is incalculable. What a great person he was in spite of his infirmities. May God surround you with His love and comfort as you grieve the loss of your husband, father, and friend. I still miss my father after almost eight years, so I know what a tough road it can be.

May God's blessings be with you during this Christmas season. Try to focus on the fact that he is with Jesus at Christmas.

Love and hugs,

June

June Day

Rocky Hill, CT

June e day - December 12, 2012 at 03:11 PM

SB

“ To the Whiteis Family:

May the love of God grant you the peace and strength needed to endure the days ahead. Psalm 46:1 tells us: "God is for us a refuge and strength, a help that is readily to be found during distresses."

My condolences,

SJB.

S.J. BROWN - December 12, 2012 at 12:01 PM

JH

“ Deepest sympathy to the Whiteis family. I have known all of you for a long, long time, and know how much you loved one another. Will be praying that God will give you peace as Mert will not be in pain any longer, and knowing you will see him again some day is a blessed comfort. Love, Jean Harris

Jean Harris - December 11, 2012 at 01:03 PM

JF

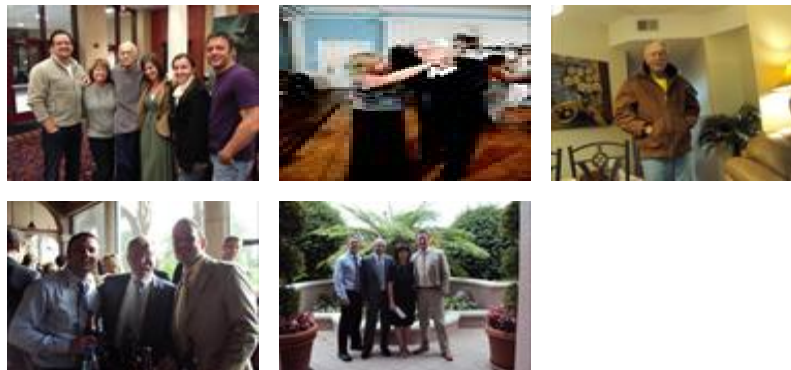
“ 9 files added to the album Mert's Minnesota Trip



Jeff Fertig - December 11, 2012 at 12:33 PM



“ 11 files added to the album New Album Name



Jeff Whiteis - December 11, 2012 at 12:10 PM

“ My Dad was the toughest man I know. As a kid, we always looked at him as if he were superman. He was someone who could do anything, fix anything, solve any problem and he wasn't afraid of anything or anyone. He worked hard his whole life. As a young boy growing up in Minnesota, he woke up at 4am, worked on the farm and then went to school. After school he returned home and worked on the farm until dark. That was my Dad, a hard worker. My father enlisted in the US Navy in 1958, and spoke highly of the Navy his entire life. My Dad would tell me stories about being stationed in North Carolina and frequently hitchhiking back to Minnesota. I envision a young Navy seaman, dressed in a white service jumper, with his thumb out on the side of the road. A few years after his service in the military, my Dad moved to New Jersey and worked as a police officer in Margate, New Jersey. The stories he told of his days as a cop is what made me want to be a police officer, it guided me through school and eventually through the police academy. I saw the pride in my father's eyes the day of my graduation. I'll never forget that.

Shortly thereafter, my Dad worked in a restaurant and met and fell in love with my Mom, a young waitress at the restaurant my Dad worked at. In 1979, my Mom and Dad were married and in 1981, my Mom gave birth to my brother and I. My Dad worked at a bank for almost 20 years. He loved his job. He used to tell me to pick a job that I would love, because if I did I would never work a day in my life. My Dad really loved what he did, even going to work when he was sick. In just a few years of working there, he became the Director of Security for the bank, handling all sorts of cases from bank fraud, bank robbery, bad checks, etc. As a kid, I was always proud of what my Dad did.

My Dad was an avid hunter and outdoorsman. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping, 4 wheeling and just about anything outdoors. He had a lot of power tools in his garage and an awesome workshop. And there were a handful of times my brother and I got in trouble for not putting his tools back where we found them. He was a man's

man, a guy's guy. He grew up in an era where the men worked hard, never backed down and gave 100% in everything they did. As a child, my father was a strict disciplinarian. As a child I thought he was so mean, but as a man today I am thankful for the way he brought us up - to be respectful, to be tough, to be diligent, to be men. Not everything was perfect, but I attribute a lot of my success to my Dad. I wouldn't be the man I am today without him. He taught us how to throw and catch a football, how to throw a baseball, taught us how to fix stuff, taught us how to defend ourselves and how to be self sufficient. Maybe he didn't walk us through instruction, but as a man today I realize that all those days holding the flashlight for my Dad underneath the hood of a car was for good reason. He was teaching us in his own way and we were watching.

My Dad also taught us to never half-ass anything and that there was no point in doing something unless we were going to give it 100%. As a boy I only saw my Dad cry 2 times, and one of those times involved our family dog dying. Needless to say, my Dad was a tough man, tough as nails, and wouldn't back down to anything or anyone. I remember one time when my Dad was helping a friend do construction on his house, he had drilled a drill bit right through his hand. Did he go to the hospital? Nope. He just pushed the meat back in, wrapped it up in some ducttape and kept working. That was my Dad.

I remember how excited I was when he started taking my brother and I hunting with him. Walking through the woods, being instructed on how to walk quietly, how to track deer and of course how to use a firearm. As a kid though it didn't matter what we did, as long as we got to spend time with him. Watching his health deteriorate during the past several years has been tough. During the entire process he was strong-willed, always wanting to handle things himself, remaining as independent as possible. He

Jeff Whiteis - December 11, 2012 at 12:01 PM

CJ

Wow Jeff, and your family: I am cousin Char, Uncle Russ's daughter. That sounds like Uncle Mert! I lived away, but I will never forget how handsome and strong Uncle Mert was when he came home from the service. We were visiting also. I thank God for Uncle Mert and how he made me feel.... loved. I too share in your loss and grieving. God's greatest gift to humanity is family; one of which we can all be a part of through his son Jesus. May we grow in the strength and truth of our Lord 2013. Merry Christmas

Charlene Johnson - December 15, 2012 at 09:03 PM