



Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff

December 19, 1921 - December 19, 2014

Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff of Richlands, Virginia, a decorated veteran of World War II, who helped liberate Holocaust victims from Nazi concentration camps before proceeding to a long career as an accountant, died December 19, 2014 at his home surrounded by his family. A member of "The Greatest Generation", he passed away on his 90th birthday, which would also have been his 65th wedding anniversary.

Born in Pounding Mill, Jack was the eighth of ten children born to the late Henry and Myrtle Griffith Ringstaff. He graduated from Richlands High School in 1941, and at nineteen years of age, Mr. Ringstaff voluntarily joined the U.S. Army, to serve his country during World War II. As a member of the 87th Infantry "Acorn" Division, Company "C" 346th Infantry Regiment, Mr. Ringstaff served in campaigns throughout Africa, Italy, France and Germany. Among many courageous feats, his unit liberated the Buchenwald Concentration Camp in 1945; an event that impacted his life profoundly. He earned the Bronze Star, the European, African, Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal among other commendations for his service. Upon leaving the military, Mr. Ringstaff returned to Pounding Mill; entered McClain's Business College and met his future wife, Isabelle Harrison, from Clifffield. The couple married in 1949; moved to Cedar Bluff, and later to Richlands in 1955 and raised one daughter, Beverly Lynne, who he deeply cherished.

Mr. Ringstaff was employed with Pittston Coal Company and the Jewell Ridge

Coal Corporation; working in Jewell Valley for most of his 35 years of service until his retirement in 1986. While Mr. Ringstaff's devotion to his country and profession were unparalleled; it was his honesty, integrity, selflessness, and character that solidified his presence. His impeccable reputation was forged through his humble upbringing, strong family ties, great work ethic, and service to others. He had no enemies but many friends.

Mr. Ringstaff was a member of the First Christian Church of Richlands, and he served as an elder and deacon for many years. His culinary attributes were well known, and in his retirement he became quite famous for his splendid desserts. An avid sports fan, he followed Richlands High School, Virginia Tech, the Green Bay Packers, and the Atlanta Braves. His devotion to his favorite teams took a back seat however to his grandson and great grandsons' athletic activities. "Gange" took great pride in their activities and seldom missed their games. He was also a regular contributor solving the world's problems with his buddies at Hardees of Richlands, usually anchoring both the breakfast and lunch shifts. He was the Chairman of the Board of the ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Club. He forged many relationships with these gentlemen and his wit and wisdom will be missed.

Mr. Ringstaff's wife of 57 years predeceased him in 2007. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Lynne and George Brown as well as his grandson and granddaughter-in-law, Glayde and Jennifer Brown, two great-grandchildren, Trey Brown and Dylan Brown, all of Richlands. Mr. Ringstaff is survived by several siblings; sister Nancy Simmons of High Point, N.C. and twin brother Hoyt and wife Thelma of Claypool Hill and brother Tommy of Bristol, Virginia. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Clara Harris, Wayne Crouse, June Smith, Barbara Duncan, and brothers Max Ringstaff, and Layne Ringstaff. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews who he truly loved, especially the "Simmons' girls".

A celebration of Life will be conducted Monday, December 22, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Hurst Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia. Visitation will be

from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. Entombment will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens Mausoleum. Pallbearers will be George Brown, Glayde Brown, Trey Brown, Dylan Brown, Dennis Simmons, Doug Laforce, and Jim Hammond, Gene Hearl, J.C. Hogston, and Bill Simmons. Honorary pallbearers will be former employees of Jewell Ridge Coal Corporation and the Hardees Bunch regulars. Members of Casey –Shortt VFW Post #9640 will conduct military graveside rites. Special thanks are given to Dr. Jose Piriz for his compassionate and tender care during Mr. Ringstaff's illness as well the employees of Helping Hands Hospice and all of his friends and neighbors who have expressed concern and sympathy. Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands Virginia is in charge of arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Greenhills Memory Gardens

11800 Gov G.C. Peery Hwy
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **22**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Service

DEC **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff*

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff*

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ *Thoughts and prayers are with your family at this difficult time. I am so sorry for your loss. May God bring you comfort in the time ahead and may you find peace in the memories you have shared.*

Judy Stamper - January 01, 2015 at 05:29 PM



“ *Velma Conner lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff*



Velma Conner - December 31, 2014 at 03:18 PM

VC

“ Lynn, I am truly sorry and also very sad about the loss of your precious daddy. Jack was always a real joy to be around, we sure are going to miss him at Trey and Dillon's ballgames . Please know that I will keep you, George, Glayde and all of your family in my heart and my prayers. We love you all very much.



Velma Conner - December 31, 2014 at 03:06 PM



“ Carolyn Pyles lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Carolyn Pyles - December 22, 2014 at 10:31 PM

DP

“ Debbie Peak lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Debbie Peak - December 22, 2014 at 08:29 PM

RA

“ RUBY ASBURY lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



RUBY ASBURY - December 22, 2014 at 04:53 PM

RA

SO SORRY TO HEAR OF THE PASSING OF JACK, HE ALWAYS WAS A KIND HEARTED PERSON. PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL AT THIS TIME.

RUBY ASBURY - December 22, 2014 at 04:55 PM

BA

“ Bandy Cline And Associates lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Bandy Cline and Associates - December 22, 2014 at 09:53 AM

VN

“ Vicki Stumpp Nuckels lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Vicki Stumpp Nuckels - December 21, 2014 at 08:33 PM

OF

“ I was so sad to hear about the passing of one of the kindest, nicest and loving men that I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Sad also that I am unable to be there to say goodbye to him. Lynne please accept my deepest condolences and I promise to stop and see you and George the next time I am in Richland's.

Omer Fannin - December 21, 2014 at 04:22 PM

NG

“ *NORMA GRACE sent a virtual gift in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff*



NORMA GRACE - December 21, 2014 at 03:39 PM

NG

Rejoicing in paradise may your new life be full of Peace Love an Happiness .Thank you sir for your service to our country.

NORMA GRACE - December 21, 2014 at 03:43 PM

JH

“ *Lynn & Family, I was sorry to hear about the passing of Uncle Jack. I remember how much fun he was and always loved to play croquet or "Rook" whenever we got together. My thoughts & prayers are with you. Jeff "Bud" Harrison*

Jeff"Bud" Harrison - December 21, 2014 at 02:50 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff.*



December 21, 2014 at 12:16 PM

AM

“ Anita McGlothlin-Gibson lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Anita McGlothlin-Gibson - December 21, 2014 at 06:59 AM

RB

“ Hoyt, Thelma and family,
We are so sorry for your loss, you will be in our prayers.
Robert Blankenship

Robert Blankenship - December 21, 2014 at 06:35 AM

DH

“ Lynn and family,
We are so very sorry about Jack's passing. He was a wonderful person. We (I) loved him dearly. I have known him all my life and it was always with fond memories of "Jack and Isabell" visiting. You and the family will be in our thoughts and prayers in the coming days.
Neal and Debbie Hunsaker

Debbie Hunsaker - December 21, 2014 at 05:41 AM

RK

“ Roy And Jill Kinder lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Roy and Jill Kinder - December 21, 2014 at 04:57 AM

CS

“ Charlotte Short, Sam Short, Anita Short lit a candle in memory of Herbert Jackson "Gange" Ringstaff



Charlotte Short, Sam Short, Anita Short - December 21, 2014 at 04:07 AM

JH

Lynn & Family, I was sorry to hear about the passing of Uncle Jack. He was always fun to be around & played cards and croquet whenever we all got together. Thoughts & prayers are with you.
Jeff "Bud" Harrison

Jeff "Bud" Harrison - December 21, 2014 at 02:35 PM

BD

Dear nancy and daughters, so sorry to read of the death of your brother and uncle. GOD will be with you as you travel this journey of grief.. GODS blessings to you. Betty Simmons dunn

betty simmons dunn - December 22, 2014 at 07:37 AM

JC

in honor of my father and uncle. I never heard him called anything but 'crow' by gus crouse. he thought the world of jack. to the best of my memory, it was because uncle jack came to visit at a young age, got into the spirits and roosted in a tree. rip

Jackie Crouse - December 22, 2014 at 10:18 AM

SD

Thoughts and prayers to all of the family. Jack was a great person who touched so many lives in his time. Lynn, my condolences to you and share my thoughts with Hoyt and Thelma.
Stan Dunham

Stan Dunham - December 22, 2014 at 01:23 PM