



Franklin Marshall Slayton

August 14, 1932 - October 29, 2013

The Honorable Franklin M. Slayton of South Boston, Virginia, died Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at his home. He was born in Richmond, Virginia, August 14, 1932 and was 81 years of age. He was the son the the late Marshall William Slayton and Katherine Moore Slayton and is survived by his wife Ruth Jean Gilliland Slayton.

Judge Slayton received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Virginia, graduating from law school in June 1959, and upon graduation he received a reserve commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. After leaving active duty, he entered the Judge Advocate General Corps of the Virginia Army National Guard, serving his state and nation with great pride and patriotism for twenty years as the JAG lawyer, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and the position of Judge Advocate General of the National Guard.

Upon completion of his active duty tour in the United States Army, he began the practice of law in South Boston, Virginia with James S. Easley and Robert T. Vaughan. Judge Slayton served as acting Commonwealth Attorney for Halifax County during the illness of James E. Easley, prosecuting cases in the County and Circuit Court of Halifax County. Judge Slayton was appointed to the South Boston City School Board and served eight years fostering progressive changes in school policies benefiting all the citizens of South Boston and Halifax County.

Judge Slayton was elected to the Virginia Assembly in 1972, representing the citizens of the 60th House District, serving in that capacity in the House of Delegates for eight terms and becoming an influential member of the House Appropriations and Court of Justice Committees. He was a leader and prime influence behind the revision of the Juvenile Justice Code of the Commonwealth, the great majority of which remains in place today. Judge Slayton served the Commonwealth as Chairman of the Board of Youth and Family Services, always advocating for the protection and rights of children. He championed the rights of all citizens of the Commonwealth to equitable representation in the Virginia General Assembly, exemplified by his challenge of district gerrymandering before the Supreme Court of Virginia.

The Honorable Franklin M. Slayton was appointed Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for the Tenth Judicial District of Virginia on July 1, 1997, by Circuit Judges of this circuit, and confirmed by election in the Virginia General Assembly. Judge Slayton has served the Tenth Judicial District with honor, integrity, intelligence and professionalism from the date of his appointment until his retirement on January 28, 2003, emphasizing foster care, truancy and nonsupport issues, resulting in improvement in the court system in all these areas. After serving his town, state, county and nation, as a lawyer, Delegate, and Jurist of the highest caliber, Judge Slayton retired from the bench at which time he was highly commended by the Judges of the tenth Judicial Circuit for his distinguished service. They expressed respect, appreciation and affection for Judge Slayton and his many contributions to the Tenth Judicial Circuit and to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Judge Slayton was a member and former Deacon of First Presbyterian Church , South Boston, Virginia, was a former member of the Board of Directors for the South Boston- Halifax County Historical Museum, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the

Halifax Educational Foundation.

The Honorable Franklin M. Slayton is survived by:

His Wife

Ruth Jean G. Slayton of South Boston

One Daughter

Sarah S. Hodges & James of Stafford

Two Sons

Marshall Douglas Slayton & Sandy of Halifax

George R. Slayton & Kim of Chester

One Sister

Katherine Shortt of Halifax

Five Grandchildren

Adam Marshall Slayton of Reston

Patrick Daniel Slayton of Fairfax

Emily Marshall Slayton of Halifax

Jacob Slayton Hodges of Charlottesville

Blaire Marie Hodges of Charlottesville

**He was preceded in death by

Two Brothers

William W. Slayton and Charles Wayne Slayton

Funeral Services for The Honorable Franklin Marshall Slayton will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Friday, November 1, 2013 at 2:00 P. M. with the Rev. Dr. Russell Lee and The Rev. George Gorman officiating.

Burial will follow in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Immediately following the service there will be a catered reception at Ernie's Restaurant.

The family will receive friends at Powell Funeral Home, Thursday, from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. and other times at the home, 2711 North Main Street, South Boston,

Virginia.

For memorials, please consider the Halifax Educational Foundation, 820 Bruce Street, South Boston, VA. 24592 or Halifax Regional Hospice, 2204 Wilborn Avenue, South Boston, Virginia 24592 or Halifax County Cancer Association, P. O. Box 1891, Halifax, VA 24558.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall

GP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you,

George & Ruth Ann Poe - January 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ It was an honor to play TAPS for Colonel Slayton at his funeral. Please accept my sincerest sympathy to your family on behalf of myself, Bugles Across America and a grateful nation.

Conrad L Kimbrough, III - November 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ A great and wonderful man whom I've had the pleasure to know for the past 14 years. His stories of his years of practice and experiences on the bench were both always entertaining and highly informative. He will definitely be missed.

Ron Schirtzer - November 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ Will miss our deep conversations on the realm of life, liberties and justice. Our time spent cultivating ideas on plant material that could be shared with special friends and family. We had a unique bond that I will always treasure. As you would always tell me... thanks for coming.

Charles Evans - November 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Along with his many achievements Judge Slayton was a very nice person. Deepest Sympathies to his family and friends.

terry ingram - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Sarah, I am deeply sorrow for the loss of your father, the Honorable Frank Slayton. Please extend my sympathy to your mom, Kitty, and your entire family.
Sincerely yours,
Mary

Mary Breeden - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ Franklin Marshall Slayton

Nancy Williams Farrell - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Hello Sarah,
You are in our thoughts and prayers. We pray the Lord will keep you in perfect peace from day to day.
Flo

John and Flo Worsham - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ We know the judge will be greatly missed by family, friends and the community. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

Tom Shepherd & Ginny Bogart - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Ruth Jean, the sblings and Kitty Shortt,
Our Thoughts and Prayers are with all of you during this time of sadness. Trust that God will give comfort and peace to each of you.
Blessings.

Shirley and Earl Powell - November 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

I1

“ To Sarah.. Classmate.. I wanted to let you know how sorry I am for your lost. I met your father and he was a nice man. I remember you as a cheerleader in high school and how you were nice to me as well. Remember him in all that he was and you shall always have him with you.

Ida C. Terry Class 1978 - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Sarah, we will have you and your family in our prayers through this difficult time.

Roger and Susan Martin - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Sarah, please accept my sincere sympathy for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family .May God bless and keep you in His care now and forever.

Cynthia Kent - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ what all respect to a true gentleman, scholar, jurist and genuine person

e m wright jr - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ George and Kim, We are deeply saddened at the passing of your father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Chester and Leona Kowalczyk - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Margaret DeJarnette has sent this Expressions of Sympathy card.

Margaret DeJarnette - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Just want to let you know we're thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers!

Betty & John Mele - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ We share your loss. Keeping all in prayers.

Nancy & Weldon Lowery - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Dearest Ruth Jean and all the Slayton Family,
We join you in remembrance and celebration of the wonderful life of Frank, a true Virginia gentleman. Frank and I were like brothers growing up together; participating in scouting, sports activities, UVA classmates, and serving our country in military careers. While God has blessed each of us with Frank's friendship, he was likewise blessed to have a loving and devoted family. He will continue his Wahoo Wa spirit in heaven! Frank will live forever in the memories of all his family and friends. We all will miss him .

Bob & Ramona Reeves - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Sarah - With loving memories of your Dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Laurie Crews Mergler - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ My heart goes out to the Slayton family and friends at this very sad time, but I cannot help but smile when I think of Mr. Slayton! I was his secretary during two sessions of the Virginia General Assembly in the mid- 1980s. While he is forever in my memory as a passionate legislator, a dedicated servant to his constituents and a truly great Virginian; he was also a man of boundless energy and hilarious good humor! Even during the most stressful times he could put a positive spin on things and make people laugh. The world has truly lost a beautiful spirit. God bless him.

Celie Thomas - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. The Bible tells us at Acts 24:15 that Jehovah will resurrect the dead. Another scripture is Psalms 37:9-11;29 and here we see that we all have the hope of living forever on earth in a Paradise. I hope that these scriptures can help all in grief.

Kelsi Slaughter - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ We're so sorry for the loss of Mr. Slayton.

Floyd & Linda (Snead) Short - October 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PJ

“ So sorry. I feel like another member of the Jones family is gone. I'm sure Frank, Martin and J Walter will have plenty to talk about in heaven.
I will certainly miss his humor and thoughtfulness.

Pam Jones - October 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ *Mr. Slayton was a true southern gentleman. In addition to all his accomplishments listed here, he was also a man who dearly loved his family and his friends. His word was his bond and he expected the same. It was an honor to have called him our friend.*

Phil and Bunny Propst - October 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ *The SVHEC (and our community) has lost one of its brightest lights and most passionate champions. The Judge was standing on the podium in 1986 when the ribbon was cut on the SVHEC's first location. In the 27 years that followed, the Judge was with us at every turn, often leading the charge. He believed passionately in the power of education to change lives and saw the SVHEC as a vehicle for making transformations happen in Southern Virginia. Even in his waning years, he made regular appearances at HEF meetings, speaking vigorously and cogently about SVHEC matters. We have lost a great man.*

Betty Hope Adams - October 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *Our prayers are with the Slayton in your hour of bereavement.*

Dr. and Mrs. P. A. Medley - October 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT THE PASSING OF FRANK. HE WAS A GREAT DEVOTED FAMILY MAN AND WILL BE MISSED BY ALL. MAY GOD BLESS THE FAMILY.*

JOHN LAWSON - October 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *A great light has gone out in Halifax County and the Commonwealth of Virginia. I was very proud to know and love Mr. Slayton and his family. He leaves a legacy of service, honor, and pride. Go Heavenly Hoos!*

Beth Guthrie Layne - October 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM