



George W. Mason III

April 28, 1945 - April 18, 2020

George W. Mason III passed away in Fayetteville on April 18, 2020 at 11:30 am. It was a beautiful spring morning and the sun was shining. He was born on April 28, 1945, the oldest son of George W. Mason Jr. and Mary Arden Mason (Bozeman). "Papa George" was a lifelong resident of EL Dorado and had moved to Fayetteville in later years to be close to his family. He began a second life of sorts and engrained his wit, passion and character into the many friendships he developed, but his heart never left south Arkansas. He was an attorney and practiced law for more than 40 years, with all of it devoted to representing the poor, disenfranchised and lost. He grew up in and was a member of the First Baptist Church of El Dorado, where he taught Sunday School and sang in the choir. He also traveled with the church to South America to perform missionary work. He was a devout believer in Jesus Christ and always took the side of those in need. He was the first in the room to stand up to injustice. He was an eagle scout and carried the love of outdoors with him his entire life. He loved camping, fishing and being on the Ouachita River. He was a great storyteller and the bearer of his family's history. He loved grilling outside, listening to nature and pontificating the great mysteries of life. He was an avid reader of science, astrology and philosophy. He loved music of all types. He preferred it live and always loud. He loved to dance. More than anything he loved animals. He never went a day in his life without a dog by his side. He also had more than his fair share of cats which inevitably slept on his chest. On the day of his death he had a box of kittens in his bedroom. He also kept horses which he occasionally rode but mostly just fed apples and carrots and liked to pet. Papa George was a character like no other. He was incredibly smart, and his wisdom continues today in the many lives he touched. He was also stubborn and difficult beyond comparison. He took pride in all these qualities and attributed many of his personal gifts, as well as flaws, to being born a Taurus. Above all else, he lived his life on his own terms and for that he is an example to us all.

Papa George is survived by his sister Mayline Biltoff of South Dakota, his brother James Mason and wife Janice of New York, his sons G. Chadd Mason and his wife Amy of Fayetteville, Jerod Mason and his wife Nisha of Philadelphia and Chauston Mason of Fayetteville. He has three grandchildren, Georgia Mason Searcy of Dallas, Caroline Mason of Fayetteville and Jack Mason of Fayetteville. He would want it to be known that

he is also survived by his dog Judy, cats Fay Ray, Fluffy and Little Gray; as well as his horses Iris, Stanley and Truman. Finally, he is survived by his caregiver Teresa Wade and her son Nathan, whose love and dedication to him are remarkable.

A memorial service will be held in Eldorado Arkansas at the First Baptist Church, with a celebration of his life to follow. The time and date will be announced via newspaper and social media as soon as the arrangements are confirmed. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Fayetteville or Springdale Animal Shelter in Papa George's name.

Comments



“ Josh Duggan Sr. & Josh Duggan Jr. purchased the Fields of Europe for the family of George W. Mason III.



Josh Duggan Sr. & Josh Duggan Jr. - April 30 at 09:06 AM



“ Family, please accept my sincere condolences and sadness for the loss of George. We met as pledges at Acacia Fraternity in the fall of 1963 and became good friends. We ate, drank beer and acted as fools more than we should have. George was a true friend, but we lost touch over the years and sadly, I did not pursue contact even though I had two children go through UA in recent years. I honestly thought he had returned to El Dorado. He had a sense of humor that cracked me up and kept me laughing. I will never forget him. Please know that many others will miss him too.
Sam Probasco, Retired State Police, Maumelle, AR

Sam R. Probasco - April 28 at 02:16 AM



“ So sorry to hear about George's passing. Our fathers were good friends, so George & I grew up in El Dorado knowing each other. I moved to Fayetteville a few years before George did, but we reconnected again once he moved up here.
My condolences to Betty, Chad & family...!!
David Alphin
Fayetteville, AR

David Alphin, Fayetteville, AR - April 25 at 05:36 PM



“ Chadd, sending love and condolences to you and your family. After reading about your father's life, he was clearly a remarkably intelligent, fun, and kind man. I know he will be dearly missed. How wonderful that you and your family had that “stubborn Taurus,” who loved you, his work helping others, and his animal friends so much, as a guiding light.

Jeannie Dykes - April 25 at 10:12 AM



“ While a student at the U of A, George was among those who had a car. I was fortunate enough to hitch a ride with him from EIDo to Fayetteville from time to time (him helping the less fortunate!). One trip up the pig trail in the dark, George said "you know I've got no tail lights" and would I mind climbing over to the back seat and holding the flashlight out the rear window when and if a car comes up from behind. (him "being prepared"!) Not a problem. Other good memories.
Sincere condolences to the family.
Frank Herring, EHS 1963

Frank Herring - April 23 at 03:58 PM



“ I miss you so much Papa George. I promise to take care of all your animals and do everything you told me to do for you. I find myself crying for you, but they are good tears knowing you are no hurting anymore. I love you so much my friend. I am so bless you have had 10 great years with you. Love you George

Teresa Wade - April 23 at 02:51 PM



“ One of the last times we were with our cousin George was camping on the Ouachita River at Moro Bay (about 20 or 25 years ago). We both had our dogs with us & sat around the bonfire for hours talking about the 'good ole days'.
RIP George - Wallace & Linda

Linda Moody - April 22 at 05:38 PM



“ Cousin George - we have not seen you in several years; but you were so special & one of a kind. We know that you will be missed by your immediate family as well as your peripheral family. RIP, until we are together again. Cousins Wallace & Linda

Linda Moody - April 22 at 01:56 PM



“ R.I.P.- CR Magness Ouachita River

CR Magness - April 22 at 09:23 AM