



Sammy Joe Guynes

October 28, 1935 - January 27, 2022

Sammy Joe Guynes of Haverford, PA passed peacefully in his sleep at the age of 86 on January 27, 2022 following a 10 year battle with cancer. In his final days, Sam was surrounded at home by many of his family members and his loving wife, as was his desire.

Sam was born October 28, 1935 in Dallas Texas to Cumbia Virgle and Tommie Tex Guynes (maiden name: Hodges). He was a graduate of Forrest Ave. High School in Dallas, Texas, and finished his higher education at the University of Texas at Arlington. As a young man, Sam served in the Air Force. He was honorably discharged from the 341st FIDMAINTRON SAC at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, Texas on April 11, 1958. During his service he received the National Defense Service Medal. His military service was followed by a long and illustrious career at Johnson & Johnson - he retired from the position of CFO/Consumer Products in 2001. In his retirement he spent several years as an active member and chairman of Alternatives Inc. of New Jersey, a non-profit which helps physically/mentally challenged adults acclimate into society and live productive lives.

He is survived by his wife (Dell), three sons (Joseph, James and Jason), and their families which include 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren (with one more to arrive very soon).

A memorial service is scheduled for 3:00pm Saturday, February 26th at Bethany Church, 5 N Concord Ave., Havertown, PA 19083. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **26**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bethany Church
5 N. Concord Avenue
Havertown, PA 19083

Tribute Wall

JH

“ I have memories of Sam coming home to visit his parents. And for awhile his Grandpa Guynes. We are cousins. My grandmother was his Dad's sister. The pictures of him look a lot like his Dad. He was a wonderful man, and Sam obviously took after him. His family was always proud of him.

Judy Jefferies Hickman - March 13, 2022 at 08:10 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sammy Joe Guynes.



February 26, 2022 at 01:34 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sammy Joe Guynes.



February 25, 2022 at 10:08 AM

LH

“ Larry and Jan Holden purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Sammy Joe Guynes.



Larry and Jan Holden - February 25, 2022 at 08:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Sammy Joe Guynes.



February 24, 2022 at 06:01 AM

“ Since the day I learned of the impending departure of Sam, he has been in my thought every day. Why? In all the year of ministry as a local church pastor, no one has been closer to my heart than Sam. No one has worked so close to me and contributed to my work as Sam. I even dare say that no one has loved me more than Sam.

We've spent many times together as friends over dinner, fireside chat, and picnic in the garden. I think Sam and Dell know every thought in my mind and every feeling in my heart. We were not only close personal friends, we were ministry partners.

Sam, as I've said before, was a true leader. His presence induced trust, confidence and commanded respect and followership. Sam never had to argue with anyone, never raised his voice. He didn't have to. Everybody listened to him and cooperated with him. I never raised my voice either. I didn't have to, because Sam was there to support me. He just had that magnetic power to quietly draws everyone around him.

But he was also a servant. A hands-on person who is willing to pick up any task, no matter how boring or how difficult the work. For example, he knew that I didn't enjoy paper work. So, for years, Sam compiled and submitted the annual year-end report to the Annual Conference for me. It took a huge load from my shoulders.

He over heard me saying to myself one time that the church needs revival. Therefore, he initiated a week-long revival meeting. He recruited his team members and worked diligently for seven years for that annual revival time. That kept our fire going for the congregation.

He was also a compassionate caring person. It is no wonder that he served as an active member and chairman of Alternatives Inc. after his retirement. I personally had benefitted from his gift of compassion. In 2010, I received words that my youngest brother, who lived in China at the time, had a kidney cancer. He went back

to Taiwan for treatment and one of his kidneys were removed and the other one was cut in half. At the time, his survival was in question. So, Sam said to me, Paul, you need to go home to see him and our church is going to pay for it. No, the church didn't pay from its general fund. It was funded by "a few people", I knew it was mostly Sam. Not only did the church paid for the airfare, the church also paid for limousine service to and from JFK in New York. When I got home, my family was so amazed that my church would do that for me. I know, it was Sam.

We know that this day will come sooner or later to everyone of us, but when it comes, it makes us cry. And this is especially true to Sam. I cried when I got the initial phone call and learned that he was under a hospice care. I know that I will be sad for a long time to come. But we are Christians. We have hope. We turn our love for Sam into the hope that one day we will be reunited with him, just as our Lord had promised. At that time, we will enjoy again that fireside chat that we did so often.

May the peace and joy of our Lord be with Dell and family and the strength and comfort of our Lord carry you every day.

Pastor Paul & Amy Jaw

Rev. Paul J. Jaw - February 23, 2022 at 01:27 AM

JW

“ Words can't describe the grief that my wife, Barb, and I feel over the loss of Sam, a friend that I've known and loved for over 50 years. Not only did we share many wonderful times together at JNJ, especially when he and his family accepted a big promotion in NJ, which meant they'd have to leave their beloved Texas, but also on a personal basis where they were always among our best friends I'll also be forever grateful to him for getting me to be a Board Member of Alternatives, Inc, an organization that I've come to admire and love after serving there for over 20 years. His friendship and the gift of Alternatives have been a major part of my life. All the wonderful comments already made in his tribute are very true, and while he will be greatly missed by all of those who knew and loved him, I'm certain he's in a better place looking down on us all with love and care. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dell, and their whole family,

Joe Westlein

Joe Westlein - February 21, 2022 at 12:18 PM

BP

“ Sam was a true Gentleman! He always had time for me when I worked as a Secretary at FUMC! He was a friend to me and I will never forget the kindness he always showed me! His loving ways and compassion shown thru in his everyday life! I will always remember Sam as he played an important part in my life! My condolences to Dell and the Guynes Family! RIP

Barbara & Barry Polhemus - February 14, 2022 at 06:06 PM

FF

“ *From Rev. Paul & Amy Jaw and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sammy Joe Guynes.*



From Rev. Paul & Amy Jaw and Family - February 13, 2022 at 09:18 PM

MG

“ If you look at all the various pictures, mementos, etc. that Grandpop has accumulated on his desk over the years, you’ll notice a small white notecard carefully kept that reads: “4 Things I Must Do Each Day - 1. Talk to the Lord, 2. Read the Bible, 3. Strive to be a better husband, companion, and friend, 4. Strive to be a better father and grandfather” Over the course of 86 years of life, Grandpop learned quite simply what is most important in life and sought to live it out, in that order. And it showed. In how he lived, in how he loved, in how he served and guided.

Grandpop, I wasn’t prepared for this. I praise God for the extended time he gave us with you and only wonder why it couldn’t have been more. But then again, perhaps that is selfish. After all, you have finally received the crown of life that you prepared for for so many years. In the hopes that you already knew this without my saying so before - thank you for everything. Thank you for the steady humility and joy you taught and loved by. Thank you for the confident example you gave me of all that an introvert can be and can have to offer. Thank you for showing me how to grow into that side of myself and appreciate it more fully. Thank you for your generosity through your time, gifts, and finances. Your constant outpouring encouraged me to pursue a life of generosity as well. Your financial blessings inspired and enabled me to extend blessings to others that I may not have been able to do otherwise. Your life and impact has created innumerable ripple effects extending far beyond your own family. To simply say I love you doesn’t feel like quite enough but perhaps, in your completeness now, you can more fully understand than I myself can express. I love you, Grandpop.



Maddie Guynes - February 02, 2022 at 07:17 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lindsey Jay - February 02, 2022 at 10:30 AM

LJ

“Hey Boo!” I can hear you say when I call or walk in the room. Your nickname for me since I can remember. Well, “Boo boo” actually. Not sure where it came from but I’ve always loved it. You always sounded and seemed happy to get a phone call, short and sweet conversations were your thing. I just wanted to say thank you for giving me some of the best memories over the years. Coming to stay with you and granny for the summers and holidays was always something I would look forward to. Still is. I think some of your favorite memories was telling ghost stories about Jeremiah the ghost around the fire pit. You always got a good chuckle out of that. No wonder you loved scary movies so much. You loved seeing my reaction from watching scary movies because I think you knew I didn’t like them. Although, Alien wasn’t too bad. Thank you for showing me what it was to enjoy a good movie, good food (your steaks are still my favorite), drink, music, art, Broadway, football (the Cowboys mainly), how to shoot a shot gun and many other things. Thank you for supporting me with my education and life in general. Thank you. You’ve set an incredible example of what it means to be a great Christian man, a great leader, the best grandfather, father, and husband. Your marriage to granny is definitely something to aspire to. Your love for her is known by all. Always walking hand and hand with her and serving her so well. What a blessing. I’m sorry I never really got to tell you all of those things. I wish I could have. I hope you’re reading this now. Your life is truly to be honored. We will all miss you. I love you Grandpa. ❤️



Lindsey Jay - February 02, 2022 at 10:27 AM



“ Granpop,

I'm sure a lot of people feel this way when they lose people they love, like they didn't have enough time with them. Even when I've had you around my whole life, I still wish I had made more time. You lived a long, blessed life, but I feel like you were taken from us too soon.

I wanted to watch this Western with you, Dad, and Tanner. I thought you'd be into it and I wanted to spend some extra time with you. Or, even rewatch Top Gun, because that was always one of your favorites.

On your bucket list after retirement, you had written, "get a tattoo". I tried talking you into it a few times with me and Dad, but I wish I had been more persuasive. That would have been pretty cool, getting a tattoo with my grandfather, although, I'm not sure Granny would have liked it very much (or, maybe she'd have thought it was sexy?)

I wish you, Granny, Jenna and I could have gotten dinner again. I feel like another one of those was in order. After all, we only had one time together, just the four of us. We had a great time, you and I got Manhattans. Jenna always loved you.

I wish I had asked you to have a cigar with me earlier on Thanksgiving. By the time I thought of it, it was late and you were tired. I think you noticed I was disappointed, I hope I didn't make you feel bad about it. Sometimes, men need that social lubricant to talk to each other, and I miss those times with you over a cigar.

I wish I had told you one last time how much you meant to me, because you meant a lot. I hope you knew that, but many times we don't realize how much we mean to each other, we need someone to say it or write it. At least I know that you can know now, because you're up there, reading this as I write it.

I don't want to be a bummer, I just want you to know these things. There will be many things I'll miss about you. The way you'd say "Aidan!" when you walked into a room. How you'd say "who?" when you were confused. I'll miss hearing your radio playing when I walk into the house. Your steaks for dinner, and your scrambled eggs for breakfast (I now know your secret ingredient, Texans love their butter). Your quiet presence that gave everyone a sure footing. Your pats on the back. Your letters. There's too many to list, and I'm getting too sentimental for you, so I'll end it here. We love you, and we know that you loved us, dearly. Keep it real up there, Granpop. I have your paintings here in my office, it's cool that you were an artist, I get some of it from you I think.

Aidan Guynes - February 01, 2022 at 10:45 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Aidan Guynes - February 01, 2022 at 09:06 PM

CH

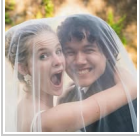
“ *I joined the Guynes almost a year and a half ago, and while I haven't spent much time with grand Pop, I have made some memories. Grand pop has been kind to me and treated me the same as his other grandchildren since the first time we met. I recall when I was in college for the first time and he encouraged me to do well and work diligently. GrandPa, may you rest in eternal peace. We will always remember and cherish you.*

Cherinet Hariffo - February 01, 2022 at 08:44 PM

JG

“ My father was the best dad any son could have asked for. Watching old Frankenstein movies and wrestling late on Friday nights, going fishing and deer hunting, attending all my high school football games, being my scoutmaster, camping almost every weekend and going to the National Jamboree in Idaho in 1973, being a rabid Dallas Cowboy fan, being involved in his grandchildren’s lives, etc., etc., etc. The list could go on and on. He taught me what a Christian husband was all about and he spoiled my wife without hesitancy. He taught me what a Christian father was and what a Christian man was to be - balanced, gentle, kind, loving. He taught me to not make money my god by how he dealt with it. He was my best friend on earth next to my wife. We talked about everything. He and I spoke four to five times a week right up until the very end. I keep finding myself picking up the phone to call him. How I miss him! See you again some day, Pop!

Joe Guynes - February 01, 2022 at 04:42 PM



“ Grandpop--once when Aidan, Maddie, Tanner and I were a little younger, we took your small John Deer Tractor, with the wagon being pulled behind it, out for a spin as per usual. To be honest, I forget who was driving--although I'm fairly certain it was one of the boys. Tanner, maybe. We were out by the last line of the Christmas trees, right before the mud bridge that led to the second field, and we hit one of them and knocked it a little crooked. We felt really bad, thought it was a big deal, and swore we would never say anything about it--especially to you.

Well, years later, I thought I would confess on behalf of all of us! I know you're with the Lord now, where any and all trees are straight as can be, assuming that's the way you like them. I can't wait for the day when I join you and get to speak to you again without sickness and age getting in the way. I was able to see plenty of your kindness and love and sincerity, even if I was young for so much of it, but up there I'll be able to see it all.

Thank you for everything--for movies and love and food and kindness and generosity and humor and a role model and my engagement ring. You have great taste! I'll think of you every time I look at it, and if I can have half the marriage (or even half the years!) you had with Granny, I'll feel incredibly blessed. I'm off to a good start, I think, because Caleb reminds me of you.



Senah Guynes - February 01, 2022 at 04:18 PM

LS

“ Thinking of you Joe and your families keeping you all in my heart ad prayers. May our good Lord keep you all wrapped in his comforting arms and may His Peace and Love surround you. Laura

laura sutton - January 31, 2022 at 06:02 PM



“ Growing up I would bring girlfriends home, and all of them would leave (including my wife until this day) and say, “Oh my gosh! I love your dad! What a sweet man!” I’ve had to live up to that all these years! And am grateful for the high bar set and wonderful challenge! He had 65 years of marriage to my mom. It was a blessing to watch him lift my moms hand to his mouth to kiss it in the last moments of his life. It was a good passing, because he was a good man, and many were able to be by his bed for the last few days. He will be missed, and celebrated as well!

Jason Guynes - January 31, 2022 at 03:39 PM