



J.C. "Jimmy" Rowe

May 30, 1927 - October 9, 2020

On October 9, 2020, J.C. (Jimmy) Rowe passed away while under Hospice Care at Brookdale Carriage Club Charlotte, NC. He was 93.

He was born in Walton County, GA the first of 4 children of Richard and Sarah (Hood) Rowe. J.C. learned the value of a hard day's work helping on his grandfather's farm. He worked many jobs growing up, a favorite being the projection operator at the local movie theater in Monroe, GA. Born in 1927, he knew the hardship of the Depression and developed a financial shrewdness which served him well in his later work.

Following High School, J.C. served in the Army Air Corps 1945-1947.

J.C. married his sweetheart, Katie Burrell, in 1948. Katie lovingly supported all his endeavors until her death in 2001.

J.C.'s career in law enforcement spanned 42 years, beginning in Forest Park, Ga in 1952. In 1960, he joined the police department in Brevard, NC, serving as Chief 1965-1975. In 1962, he co-founded the Transylvania County Rescue Squad and was later elected President of the Western NC Rescue Squad Association. From 1975-1978, J.C. was employed in dual roles as Chief of Police and Fire in Timmonsville, SC. He and Katie moved to Forest Acres, SC where he served as Police Chief 1978-1994. While there he worked tirelessly to expand the SC Police Chiefs' Association, becoming its first Executive Director in 1994. J.C. received the Order of the Palmetto, the highest honor given to a SC citizen, in 2001. In 2017 he was inducted into the SC Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service.

Following retirement, J.C. was twice elected Mayor of Forest Acres.

God provided J.C. wonderful opportunities and surrounded him with outstanding support, notably Chief Gene Sealy and Tina Johnson. For that J.C. was truly grateful.

He was known for his out-going, friendly nature and the big smile he shared with everyone.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Sarah and his wife, Katie Burrell Rowe. He is survived by his daughter, Vicky Rowe Hovis (John), grandchildren, Ben Hovis (Megan), Penelope Bridgeman (Alex) and great-grandchildren, William, Emerson, and Campbell Bridgeman and Chase Hovis. He is also survived by his sister, Martha Knight, and brothers, Gary Rowe(Linda) and Randell Rowe (Janice).

A family service will be held at Sardis Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC and a Memorial Service will be held in Forest Acres, SC, at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), P.O. Box 3199, Camdenton, MO 65020, or at:
<https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org>

Comments



“ My sympathy to the family in the passing of J.C. I remember as a child my daddy (the late L.D. Collins) took us on a trip to the mountains and we went to Brevard to see him. He was a cousin in my mother's side of the family.I was just telling my husband about him last week. My prayers to all the family especially Gary, Martha and Randall. May God bless and comfort all.

Debra Bryant - October 18, 2020 at 07:50 AM



“ Chief Rowe allowed me to lead his first explorer post #400 of the Forest Acres Police Department in the early 1980s. Chief Rowe hired me in 1988 as a patrol officer. Thank you for you loyal service and for the opportunities that you provided me.
Howard Cook

Howard Cook - October 17, 2020 at 01:06 PM



“ Chief Rowe was my first police chief when I started my police career at Forest Acres. I will be forever thankful for the opportunity he gave me. Thank you Chief Rowe for your dedication and service to so many over the years. RIP sir.

Russ Shumard - October 17, 2020 at 12:43 PM



“ Renee Collins lit a candle in memory of J.C. "Jimmy" Rowe



Renee Collins - October 17, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ Prayers for immediate family my Daddy (Sammy Palmer)loved Jimmy very much he often talked about him before daddy came down with dementia Jimmy was a wonderful person I know y'all will miss him love Pat & Rita Evelyn



Rita Brown - October 17, 2020 at 05:43 AM