



John "Sam" Lawrence Mellick

September 21, 1928 - October 24, 2011

John Lawrence "Sam" Mellick, age 83, of Hiteman, IA, passed away Monday, October 24, 2011 at the Monroe County Hospital in Albia, under the care of Care Initiatives.

Sam was born on September 21, 1928 in Albia to Kate Mellick. Kate later married John Hughes. Sam married Doris Louise Barker on December 20, 1952 at the Zimmerman Funeral Home in Lovilia. They shared 58 loving years together.

Sam served his country proudly in the United States Army from 1950-1952 in Korea. He retired from Maytag in 1980 after 30 years and drove a school bus for the Newton schools. After moving to Hiteman in 1984, he drove a bus for the Albia Schools for 10 years.

Sam was a member of Community of Christ Church in Oskaloosa, the American Legion Howard Cessna Post #136 since 1952 and a life member of the VFW Grimes Memorial Post #8190. He was Commander of the VFW for 10 years. He enjoyed gardening, playing cards, fishing, coffee time with friends, and raising horses and cattle. He also loved time spent with grandkids and family.

Sam is survived by his wife, Doris of Hiteman; 2 children, Ann of Hiteman and

Mike of Newton; five grandchildren, Jacob, Josh (Melissa) Calhoun, Paul (Rachelle), Ryan (Crystal), and Curt (Caitlin) Mellick; 12 great grandchildren, Victoria, Tyler, and Shania Calhoun, Nathan and Kyle Calhoun, Benjamin, Kristin, and Lorin Mellick, and Liberty, Caleb, Joshua, and Nathaniel Mellick; 2 great-great grandchildren, Tray and Alyvia; a special aunt, Edna Dooley; a step-sister, Mary (Bill) Kehl of Dubuque; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Kate and step-father, John Hughes; a son, Jeff; a great grandchild, Corbin Mellick, son of Ryan and Crystal; 10 aunts; 2 uncles; and 2 step-brothers, Francis and Dan Hughes.

Memorial services will be 11 a.m., Saturday, October 29, 2011 at Tharp-Winfield Funeral Home in Albia, with Rev. Connie Sneller and Rev. Lois Behrens officiating. Military Rites will be provided by American Legion Howard Cessna Post #136, with burial at a later date.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m., Friday, October 28, 2011 at the funeral home, with Sam's family present from 6-8 p.m. There will also be visitation from 10-11 a.m. Saturday morning at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Ministerial Association, or Community of Christ Church in Oskaloosa.

Condolences may be left for the family at www.tharpfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *John "Sam" Lawrence Mellick*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *John "Sam" Lawrence Mellick*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Well Doris here it is 2 years swept by! I know you miss Sam and nights are hardest. We still hold you up in prayer and letting you know we think of you often and as we say "shoot one up when we do". :o) As I always tell you when I see you we are just a phone call away. Still in our hearts and sending much love. many hugs, and our blessings, Gene and Lois*

Gene and Lois Behrens - Albia, IA - church associates - October 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thank You Sam for all the Great Memories I have with you. You and I riding the 4 wheeler together up to the barn. Going and checking the garden to show me what you had growing. What you had to take to the fair. All those ribbons you won with your flowers and vegetables. Your laugh was great and yet such a quiet man. You were the best father in law of 32 years and I will greatly miss you. With Much LOVE, Aileen*

Aileen Mellick Brown - Kellogg, IA - Father in Law - October 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

“ Though you were a quiet man, whenever there were others around, you had a knack for making me feel as though I was the only one in the room with you. You taught me so many things, such as how to pick out the best worm for a hook, how to “safely” operate a four-wheeler, and how to be an effective listener. If one were to look at you, they would see and feel your hands of leather, and weathered face that has spent years in the hot sun toiling for the biggest vegetable and the brightest flower. But for those that knew you, all we had to do was look into your eyes and see that you were much more than work and sweat. They would overwhelmingly see love and kindness for others and your family. I’d give anything just to sit quietly in the gazebo again with you watching life and the leaves go by; to smell the coffee on your breath; and to hear your quiet laugh. I know that your love for me would still be the same. Grandpa, while I will miss your vast knowledge of vegetables and your lucky card playing skills, I will miss your love the most. The greatest of all of these is your love.

1 Corinthians 13:12-13 MSG

We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us! But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

Paul Mellick - Tacoma , WA - Grandson - October 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

“ Though you were a quiet man, whenever there were others around, you had a knack for making me feel as though I was the only one in the room with you. You taught me so many things, such as how to pick out the best worm for a hook, how to safely operate a four-wheeler, and how to be an effective listener. If one were to look at you, they would see and feel your hands of leather, and weathered face that has spent years in the hot sun toiling for the biggest vegetable and the brightest flower. But for those that knew you, all we had to do was look into your eyes and see that you were much more than work and sweat. They would overwhelmingly see love and kindness for others and your family. I'd give anything just to sit quietly in the gazebo again with you watching life and the leaves go by; to smell the coffee on your breath; and to hear your quiet laugh. I know that your love for me would still be the same. Grandpa, while I will miss your vast knowledge of vegetables and your lucky card playing skills, I will miss your love the most. The greatest of all of these is your love. ¹ Corinthians 13:12-13 MSG We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us! But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

Paul Mellick - Tacoma, WA - Grandson - October 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ *Dode and Family...So sorry to hear about the loss of Sam. My kids all enjoyed riding the bus when he was their neighbor. I remember he always had a huge garden...several of them each year. I won't be able to attend the service as I am with Jeremy and his family. Kathy, Jers' wife, had brain surgery last week, and I am helping while she is in the hospital and during her stay in rehab. I will keep you and your family in my prayers. Doris Little*

Doris Little - Hiteman, IA - family friend and neighbor - October 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *Doris,
So sorry to hear of Sam's passing. Thinking of you and your family. Your faith is strong and I know you have prepared for this day. He was such a great guy. Always smiling and right by your side Doris. Make God bless you with comfort and peace as you go through the days ahead without your best friend. To your family he was a wonderful father and grandpa. Stay strong and know that others are lifting you up.
Blessings and Hugs,. Barb and Bill*

Barb McEwen - Gilbert,, AZ - Friend - October 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Dear Family,
Duane and I are so sorry to hear of Johns passing. We know how valiantly he fought!
We both will always remember when John drove the bus for our daughter, Amber.
He was always so kind and gentle with her, and we appreciated that so much!
Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers and we pray the Lords comforting arms will enfold you one and all~

Lisa Blommers - Newton, IA - A good friend of Johns son, Mike - October 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Dode, Ann and family, so sorry to hear about Sam. A person could not ask for a better friend. Sam was always there to help. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Cheryl Gray - Unionville, IA - Friend/ex-neighbor - October 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Dearest Friends, one and all, we hold you all up in our hearts and prayers. Having been with you at the hospital and home and church we know your outlook on life and death and know you are certainly already blessed. We add our blessings and prayers to those you have already received. Sam was one of a kind! Always a smile and wise and will be remembered by many as "the candy man"! Love to you all.

Gene and Lois Behrens - Albia, IA - Friends - October 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Jake and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Sam's (Grandpa's) passing. He was an awesome man and friend. He was a GREAT Bus Driver and even better friend. I always enjoyed spending time with you and out at the house. We were more like family than friends and Sam was part of the and will always be Grandpa in my heart. Enjoy your memories and treasure them. Sam will be missed.
Love ya,
Just Joy

Joy Stringfellow Plackett - LaSalle, IL - Friend - October 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Can't seem to remember just how long i have known Sam, but it wasn't long enough ! he was always very good to me, friendly, helpful, always with a smile.I know there was a time or two i might have tried his good nature, but he never sent me away..I will miss him tremendously. very hard to come across people like Sam,my thoughts and prayers to his family.

Lee Stephens - Albia, IA - Friend - October 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM