

Jack Ashley Holt

Jack (Jackie when in Summers County) was born in Hinton, WV on January 6, 1949, the first child of Jack and Enola Holt. Jack attended Central Elementary, Hinton High School and Marshall University. He was president of his senior class at HHS as well as being active in sports, playing little league baseball, high school basketball and football. At Marshall University, Jack was president of his freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes as well as serving as president of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha and president of The Robe, the men's leadership honorary.

He married Judy Jones from Hilldale, WV and they have two children, Kristin of Pittsburgh, PA, and Jack "Jody" of Summerville, SC and are the proud grandparents of 3 granddaughters Jadyne 24, Jaclyn 20 and Dylan, 15. Exiting college, with a major in history he then acquired a Master's degree in Safety and later an executive program MBA from the University of Virginia. He accepted a job with CONSOL Energy and worked in their southern branch at Bluefield, VA before being "loaned" to Dupont in Wilmington, DE. His Safety Consultant position there required him to travel the world for 3 years, before returning to the parent company of CONSOL in Pittsburgh. There he attained the rank of Senior Vice President of Safety and Human Resources. He wrote, lobbied, and implemented mine safety legislation which changed the culture of the mining industry with a goal of "Zero accidents". In 2008, Jack retired from CONSOL and he and his wife Judy moved to Carolina Beach, NC.

Jack's hobbies were finding old Juke Boxes, repairing them and passing them on to folks who could receive enjoyment from the old 45s. He was an avid runner, and he ran and completed most of the major marathons across the U.S.A. Jack liked to collect large pieces of memorabilia, like Disney pieces, Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, etc.

After retirement, Jack, and longtime Summers County friend, Cotty Farley, decided to develop an organization to "give back" to Summers County. Hinton was a large railroad town and there were many youngsters. When the coal mining stopped in the surrounding counties, the railroad yard was removed by the Chessie System, and the population started to diminish. Their thoughts were

"To exit, hit the "X" on your browser's tab for this page"

that while growing up, the residents of Summers County had looked over them and nurtured the youth in the area. Others were brought in to fill various roles in the organization. Jack and Cotty thought that establishing a group to garner funds, complete projects and establish a perpetual fund to financially support future projects and community needs was an important part of this process. Many local volunteers, and several out-of-town former Summers County residents, showed up to help complete the Projects. MAD succeeded financially, by raising \$300,000, which is housed in the Hinton Area Foundation's general fund. Interest-only is withdrawn annually and is awarded to approved grants submitted to the HAF. The group was named Classes of Hinton High School – Making A Difference.

To create transparency of MAD's actions, Jack insisted that records and visual details of all (30 to date) projects could be readily found. He and Cotty brought in Jimmy Noel and later David "Richie" Richardson to create a Making A Difference website. Visual and documentary records of all of the Projects can be found on "Our Projects" page. Jack has touched many lives in an incredibly positive way. His never-ending smile and strong morals should be an example to us all.

Jack(ie) passed on November 2, 2023, of health complications. He is sadly missed.

Jack Ashley Holt, We Salute You!

"To exit, hit the "X" on your browser's tab for this page"

Page 2 of 4



“To exit, hit the “X” on your browser’s tab for this page”
Page 3 of 4



“To exit, hit the “X” on your browser’s tab for this page”
Page 4 of 4