



## Melville Emerson Hurd Jr.

May 15, 1946 - September 10, 2019

Melville Emerson Hurd passed away on September 10, 2019, in Fairfax, Virginia, surrounded by his family. He was born in Milford, Connecticut, on May 15, 1946 to Melville Sr. and Virginia Vernelson. He was the beloved husband of Sherril Larsen for 31 years. He grew up in Milford, Connecticut, and graduated from Milford Preparatory School before attending Southern Connecticut State College. In 1968 he moved to the Washington, DC area, where he lived in both Maryland and Virginia.

Mel was a Milford native and member of the Milford Historical Society. He was an avid postcard collector who captured some of his vast collection in his book, *Milford: Postcard History Series*. He was president of the Maryland Geological Society for many years and a life member who served on the board of directors.

Mel was a beloved husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother-in-law, son-in-law and friend. He is survived by his wife Sherril Hurd, sister Donna Drohan (Paul), daughters Veronica Vagnone (Joe), Monica Taylor (Kirt) and Gillian Peterson (Martin). He is also survived by his five grandchildren (Sabrina, CJ, Jordan, Jayden and Ullie), and three great-grandchildren (Sophia, London, and Giavonni), and 6 nephews and nieces (Mark, Eric, Michael, Mark Jr., Lily, Avery). He is pre-deceased by his parents (Melville and Virginia) and his nephew Tom Woodman.

Mel will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. Mel enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He was a lover of the outdoors, fossil/shark teeth collecting, gardening, fishing, birdwatching, cooking, and boating. Mel was a music enthusiast, it not only showed in his extensive collection of albums and cds of all genres from many eras, but in the way that he internalized and shared this passion with others. He was a true renaissance man.

In lieu of flowers, please consider supporting the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Services and interment private.

# Comments

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“ Mel – Always a bright smile, always a good laugh, always an interesting story, always a positive comment, always a true friend. I only knew Mel on one level, as a friend, but was certainly aware of his love of family. You could see it in his eyes as they lit up when he talked about family.

Mel was one of a handful of people that made the Maryland Geological Society a viable organization. He served as President for several years, infused his positive energy into the meetings and events, served on the Executive Board, and was honored with Society's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. It is difficult to think of the Society without Mel as an active part of it. I will miss my friend and would like to send my most heartfelt condolences to his family and to everyone that knew him.

Rick Smith

Rick Smith - September 13, 2019 at 03:13 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Andrew I. Porter - September 12, 2019 at 01:07 PM

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“ Mel, you and I always had such interesting conversations; especially about your connection to the Transcendentalists and Naturalist writers. Your sense of humor and big smile is what I'll miss most. May feelings of comfort and peace wash over your girls and family members knowing you are no longer in pain but at peace.



kathy lindenberger - September 12, 2019 at 11:55 AM

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“ 11 files added to the album Memories Album



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - September 12, 2019 at 10:55 AM

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“ Mel, I will never forget all the trouble you and I went through to get some Mother's Day flowers to Ronnie when she went to visit you this past May that she never got! But, I am thankful that you and I got to laugh about it together at CJ's graduation party about a month later. It was always great to see you - you made me smile! :)

Julie Wozniak - September 11, 2019 at 04:36 PM