



## Joe B. Calkins

September 2, 1920 - March 29, 2009

Calkins, Joe B.

On Sunday, March 29, 2009 of Springfield, VA.

Beloved husband of Ruby Calkins; father of Dr. Joe B. Calkins, Jr., Vivian Anne McGettigan and Frank Edward Calkins; grandfather of 14 and great-grandfather of eight. Relatives and friends may call at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Dr. Alexandria, VA (just south of the intersection of S. Van Dorn and Franconia Rd.) on Wednesday, April 1 from 6 to 8 pm.

Funeral service will be held at Franconia Baptist Church, 5912 Franconia Rd. Alexandria, VA on Thursday at 11 am. Interment Schurtz Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joe B. Calkins*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *Joe was a great guy to work with; good humor and always helpful.  
An old colleague*

April 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joe was a great guy to work with; good humor and always helpful.  
An old colleague*

April 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *'Grindaddy' will be missed. God our Father, Your power brings us to birth, Your providence guides our lives, and by Your command we return to dust. Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end. I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to You alone. In company with Christ, Who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.*

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ It has been such a short time since Vivian came to Hanover County, but in that time, it has been an honour to hold her father up in prayer, and we feel like we know him through all Vivian has shared about his life and most recent struggles. We continue to hold Joe's dear wife Ruby and family up in prayer. We were struck by the beauty of the above prayer, and hope that the words of the Psalmist are also of comfort and strength, who wrote: "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds." Psalm 116:15 - 16 With love and prayers on behalf of the Hanover County Department of Finance and Administration

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To My Dear Grindaddy, Those hands that I had the blessing of holding these last few weeks are so precious in my memory. Those hands not only held a gun while fighting for the country you loved so much, but also changed my diapers! Those hands picked up sticks in the yard just because and also played ball with me in the yard (and sometimes in the house). Those hands worked hard, wrote checks, patted backs, patted your lap as you heard some 'good music,' and handed out the Lord's Supper in church, among many many other things. My greatest memory will be the moment I was given away at my wedding to that warm and loving, yet strong squeeze as you placed my hand into Jason's. I love you more than I can ever expressed and I feel blessed and spoiled to have been your Amanda Lee. I love you Grindaddy!

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Amanda and Family, I have been praying for you and continue to as you go through this difficult time. Amanda, I know the great love you have for your "Grands" and have a pretty good idea of the hurt in your heart right now. Please know that I love you and will continue to pray in the days ahead. If there is anything I can do when you return home, let me know! Always your friend, Judy*

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *To have lived a long life and seen so much of what we simply now read about in history books is a great achievement. However, the greatest gift is to have been a loving father and proud grandfather that is his lasting contribution.*

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“Daddy, I miss you. I will always remember you as the person who gave selflessly and never expected anything in return. One raining evening over 25 years ago, when I found myself alone with 3 small children to raise, you came to my home as you often did, but that time you simply said let me help you. You asked me to return home with Amanda, Angie and Donnie and return to college full time. Over the next two years our schedules were timed often in minutes. I frequently picked you up from work on Pennsylvania Avenue at 4:00 to make the 4:10 classes with every stop light needing to be timed perfectly. Other days you would meet me and the children on the metro platform where I literally handed off the three preschoolers that required hands to be held and you continued on toward home while I ran up the stairs to class. Often I think how different our lives would be if you hadnt realized that we needed you then and given so selflessly to us. Your focus for many years became those three children who have grown up to be adults that I know you are very proud. After remarrying and having two more children, one day recently as Davy and I left the hospital after a day with Amanda, Angie and Heather, Davy said he wished he had known you the way that his older sisters had as they had shared many loving memories throughout the day. My wish is that anyone reading this message will take the time to share their memories with Davy and the younger children so that they can appreciate the Daddy/Granddaddy we have all loved for so very long. While you rarely said I love you as I remember each and every time, you always showed it in your actions each and everyday. I love you Daddy. Viv

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I’ll always remember Joe as calm and circumspect. When I would ask him, “How are you?” he would judiciously qualify his answer – “OK, I guess.” He was calm even in adverse situations. One morning, I was running late for work, always helpful, he had come by to transport the kids somewhere and was heading home. He got out of his van and came over to talk to me. He very calmly and matter-of-factly said, “I think, you better take me to the hospital.” He was having chest pains and I took him quickly to the emergency room, where they were able to treat him before he had a serious heart attack. Joe was a man of few words. He was always kind. If I arrived and greeted him while he was eating something good he always asked, “Do you want some of this? It’s pretty good.” Joe was a blessing to our family and he will always be missed.

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Losing a love one is never easy. Our prayers are with you and your family. May the many memories that you have of your Dad ease your pain and make you smile.

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ruby and Family, We are so sad at the news about Joe. What a giant of a man he was!! Bob loved his Uncle Joe and has many great memories when he was growing up. Bob's mother, Sybil, Joe's sister, was always so proud of Joe and his accomplishments. Ruby, you and I came into the family about the same time so I have always felt a bond with you. What a great family we married in to. Joe is admired and remembered for his integrity, his wisdom, his intelligence, his love of God, his love and care for his family, his quiet sense of humor and for his servant heart for others. We know you all will miss him terribly but also know you will find comfort in all the happy memories. We are praying that God will wrap his arms around you with His love and will hold you in the palm of His hand and give you peace and strength. Oh, if we were only closer so we could be there for the service and give you a big hug! But, since we can't be there, please know that our love and our hearts are with you. Love and Blessings, Bob and Lynn West*

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *My grandfather is the greatest man I have ever known! He taught me everthing I will ever need to know and I will never forget him! He was the most self giving person I will probably ever meet and we are all so privileged to have know him and to have been close to him! As I am going through life and building a future for my self and soon to be family I always think of him and the wonderful life that he built for all of us! Thankyou Grandaddy for always being there for everyone and thankyou God for making such a wonderful man! He has gone home now and what a wonderful blessing that really is!*

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Amanda, Ruby and Family, I am praying for our Savior to heal your broken hearts, restore peace and tranquility to your homes and give you rest. At the same time, I encourage you all to celebrate the life you were so blessed to share. In John 16:20, when Jesus spoke to his disciples about his departure from earth, He told them, “I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.” My prayer for you is that your grief turns to joy in remembrance and love. Love in Christ,  
Kimberley Cabbage

---

April 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM