



Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell

September 10, 2020

Paul H. and Nancy R. Mitchell

Nancy Ruth Mitchell, age 73, passed away on August 18, 2020, and her husband of 54 years, Paul Herbert Mitchell, Jr., age 76, passed away two weeks later on September 1, 2020. They were both surrounded by their family as they left this life.

The daughter of the late Isaac Henderson DeVault and Evelyn Rowell DeVault, Nancy was born April 4, 1947 in Springfield, Illinois. Paul was born on September 5, 1943 in St. Louis, Missouri and was the son of the late Paul Herbert Mitchell, Sr. and Gainel Frey Mitchell. They both attended Southwest Missouri State College, now Missouri State University, where Nancy was a member of the Tri Sigma sorority, and Paul was a member of the Sigma Pi fraternity. It was at a party there where they met, and Paul, perhaps after a few too many drinks, saw Nancy across the room and went over, laid his head in Nancy's lap, and asked her to feed him potato chips. Whether random luck or fate, it was love at first sight, and they became inseparable. Paul and Nancy were lavaliered on November 1, 1965, engaged on March 6, 1966, and married on June 24 of that same year. Paul began his engineering career in aerospace, and in 1971, he and Nancy settled in Greenville, Alabama where Paul was the Plant Manager of Rheem Manufacturing and where they raised their two sons. Becoming "Dye-Hard" Auburn fans in their adult lives, they retired to Auburn, Alabama in 2003 to be closer to their family, where they could cheer on the Tigers and be a part of the fun during home games. War Eagle!

Nancy had a vivacious personality with an infectious laugh and indomitable spirit. As a homemaker, a wife, and a mother, Nancy was devoted, caring, and tireless. She was always striving to make everything fun and memorable, whether it was your favorite meal or dessert, a personalized handmade item, decorating the house to the hilt for a holiday or birthday, or being your biggest (and loudest) fan at an event. She was also a skilled artist, and her hands were rarely still whether she was painting, cross-stitching, or using her incredible eye for showcasing and repurposing older items into new and surprising vignettes. Her home was always a warm and inviting place you enjoyed visiting, felt safe,

and most-of-all, were loved.

Paul was a driven professional with an unmatched work ethic and an avid tinkerer in his free time. When he wasn't expanding Rheem's practice and plant, he could be found in his custom-built four-car garage doing a frame-up on two classic corvettes. After he retired in his early 40's, he started a business named "Tin and Again" where he took found objects and crafted them into pieces of furniture or works of art. He was a perpetual planner and problem-solver who believed in doing something right the first time, and he prided himself on passing his many life-lessons to his children and grandchildren.

Nancy and Paul are survived by their two sons, Paul Brandon (Marilyn) Mitchell and Charles Clayton (Lisa) Mitchell, and their four grandchildren, Brennan Elizabeth Mitchell, Ryan Alexander Mitchell, Megan Olivia Mitchell, and Emory Margaret Mitchell, all of Newnan, Georgia. They are also survived by Ali (Chad) Herring, Rian (Josh) Burt, Jude Burt, Ansley Burt, and Theo Roman whom they also considered family.

Due to current restrictions from COVID-19, the family will hold private remembrances. Those who wish to honor their lives with a memorial gift might consider their love of working with their hands and making a donation in their name to Drawchange, Inc at

<https://www.drawchange.org/donate>, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping children worldwide find their innate creative spark.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

Comments



“ Paul Mitchell hired me at Rheem when I was 18 years old as his Executive Secretary and remained in that position until he retired. He was the best boss I've ever had. I attribute my strong work ethic to his constant reminder that you have to focus on yourself! He and Nancy were wonderful people. Nancy was the sweetest person. I will always remember her laugh! I remember when the boys were born and how excited they both were! I have thought about them many times over the years and how grateful I am to have been a part of their lives. Take comfort in knowing that they are together and are watching over their family. May God bless you and keep you strong during this sad time.

They will be missed..

With deepest Sympathy,
Sylvia Murphy

Sylvia Murphy - September 15, 2020 at 08:17 AM



“ Oh, Miss Sylvia, what lovely words. Thank you so much for sharing, and mom and dad always spoke so very fondly of you. I hope you're doing well, and thanks again.

Best Regards,

Paul

Paul - November 02, 2020 at 09:15 PM



“ Charles & family - your family is in our thoughts and prayers during this time of significant loss. We can not imagine the pain. Please know your Wencor family is thinking of you. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to help.

Best Wishes
Barbara Justice
Wencor

Barbara Justice - September 14, 2020 at 10:40 AM



“ Thanks so very much, Barbara. I passed this along to Charles as well.

All the best,

Paul

Paul - November 02, 2020 at 09:16 PM



“ Nancy and Paul Mitchell was two of the sweetest people that I know. I remember when they first moved to Greenville and he started to work with my father at Rheem. They spent a lot of time together....both working and making the loop as they called it. I have such fond memories of them while I was growing up. And their friendship with my father carried on throughout the years. They would drive down from Auburn to visit with him while he was dying of cancer, and their visits meant so very much to him and all of us. Nancy was such a beautiful lady inside an out and she could give some of the best hugs! And Paul was just a great and loyal friend to so many and could tell wonderful stories and had a great laugh. I am certain that dad welcomed his dear friends when they reached the gates of heaven. I am praying for their family to have comfort and peace knowing that these two are united together. May God bless you all.

Deepest Sympathy,

Brenda Armstrong Norman

Brenda Armstrong Norman - September 11, 2020 at 05:23 PM



“ Mr. Paul and my grandfather worked together at Rheem and became life long friends. When my grandfather was diagnosed with cancer Mr. Paul and Mrs. Nancy were so faithful to drive down to Greenville and spend some quality time with him. I got the pleasure of knowing them both during their visits. They both raised spirits and brought life, laughter and love during a hard time for our family. A true definition of the word friend! I am certain today they are catching up and telling stories! Praying for comfort and peace for their family today and in the days ahead.

Amanda Thomas

Amanda Thomas - September 11, 2020 at 01:53 PM



“ Thanks so much for the lovely words, Amanda. They mean so much.

All the best,

Paul & Charles

Paul - November 02, 2020 at 09:17 PM



“ Two of the most genuine people I’ve ever had the privilege of knowing. Every family gathering I would look forward to catching a conversation with Mr. Paul about old corvette projects of his and I would share with him my frustrations of current car projects. He and I shared a lot in common with personal hobbies as well as his perspective on many things. You will be greatly missed Mr. Paul. Mrs. Nancy, it didn’t matter if I was having a good or a bad day just having your energy and personality in the room could improve it regardless. Although I knew the two of you for a short time you provided me with memories that I won’t forget.

Chad Herring - September 10, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ We will miss our dear friends of over 50 years! We met in Oklahoma City and soon joined them in Greenville, AL, with Rheem. Paul, engineer, strong work ethic, creative builder, wood worker and loyal friend. Nancy, sweet, loyal friend and SO much fun!! She was a bright spot with a smile, a laugh, and (not shy with expression)! This world needs this more than ever now. Phillipians 4:8 whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things. I always admired her skills in many areas: excellent homemaker, creative with cooking and baking, design artist and craft maker and always made one feel valued and loved. Dear family and friends, may God give you comfort and peace. In loving memory, Rhoda and Jim Scott.

Rhoda k Scott - September 12, 2020 at 04:47 PM



“ Phyllis Armstrong - 14 at 4:18 PM

Phyllis Armstrong - September 14, 2020 at 05:22 PM



“ Both of you will truly be missed. Thank you for your friendship over the years and for being with us in saying our good byes for Billy. it ..meant so much to all of us My prayers to Paul Brandon and Charles and your grand kids for their comfort and peace at this time'

Phyllis Armstrong - September 15, 2020 at 05:16 PM



“ Thanks so much, Miss Rhoda and Miss Phyllis. We really appreciate the lovely words. They are certainly missed every day.

Love,

Paul & Charles

Paul - November 02, 2020 at 09:18 PM