



Laurel Weaver

January 28, 1933 - August 17, 2013

Laurel W. True, beloved husband of Alice Stivers True for 57 years, passed away Saturday, Aug. 17, at his home in Shelby County, at age 80.

Mr. True had a long and distinguished career in Kentucky state government, holding key positions in public health and public education. In retirement he continued as an advocate for health, education and human service issues as a member of the National Policy Council of AARP, vice chairman of the board of Seven Counties Services and as a former trustee of Georgetown College, his alma mater. He also was a farmer and a Marine Corps veteran.

First and foremost, Mr. True was a dedicated disciple of Jesus Christ, devoted husband, father and grandfather. He and wife Alice were charter members of Immanuel Baptist Church, in Frankfort, where he served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and trustee.

In addition to Mrs. True, survivors include a son, Julian Guthrie True (wife Jennifer), of Frankfort, and granddaughters Whitney True Lawson (Phillip), of Frankfort, and Sloane Guthrie True, of New York City. He was predeceased by his parents, Arthur Julian and Isabelle Harp True, and a brother, Arthur Julian True Jr.

Laurel True, known to family and friends as "Poppie," was born Jan. 28, 1933

at Newtown in Scott County, but was raised near Burgin in Mercer County and graduated from Burgin High School in 1951. He then entered Georgetown College, and after graduation in 1955 began four years of service in the Marine Corps, attaining the rank of captain. He and Alice were married in July 1956.

After leaving the Marine Corps in 1959, Mr. True began a career in state government, first with the Department of Revenue and the former Department of Health, where he played a role in starting the Kentucky Medicaid program and the Appalachian Regional Hospitals system. He also earned a Master's degree in public health from the University of Michigan. When the state Department of Human Resources was elevated to cabinet level, Mr. True was appointed as its first secretary by then-Governor Wendell H. Ford.

During the administration of Governor Julian M. Carroll, Mr. True served as executive director of a commission on deep mine safety. Mr. True joined the Department of Education as an assistant superintendent under Raymond Barber, the state superintendent of public instruction.

Mr. True's long years of volunteerism have included membership on or activities with AARP, the Frankfort Rehabilitation Board, United Way of Franklin County, Seven Counties Services board, Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, Friedell Committee for Health System Transformation, Shelby County Hospital Board and Shelby County Library Board.

Active pallbearers will be Arthur J. True III, Ben Stivers, Phillip Lawson, Paul Blakeley, Steve Dooley, Tom Dooley, Bruce Dungan, Scott Tippet and Ryan Sell. Honorary pallbearers will be Laura Sell, John Underwood, Sue Rogers, Janie Columbia and the Men's Sunday School Class of Immanuel Baptist Church.

Visitation will be 3 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, at Immanuel Baptist Church, with funeral services at the church 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21. Burial will be in Frankfort Cemetery. Donations may be made to the Infant Resource Center, Immanuel Baptist Church, 1075 Collins Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601. LeCompte Johnson Taylor Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Guestbook @ljtfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ Alice,
When I hear about Poppy, I immediately thought of our Georgetown years and what a good time we had then. I've never forgotten him or you. I, probably, have seen him over the years much more often than you. He was always busy with his volunteer##imported-begin##JoJenkins##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Alice, thinking of you with love and affection during this sad time.
Joan##imported-begin##JoanMAYHUGH##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ It was my honor to serve in recent years on the Board of Directors of Seven Counties Services with Laurel. He was a fine gentleman and true public servant who was dedicated to improving the lives of others. I will miss my friend very much. My sincere cond##imported-begin##HarryRothgerber##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ he never ever failed to stop by pew and chat, it meant so much, especially to Algin, he will be missed. god Bless##imported-begin##shirleyRoberts##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry to hear about Poppie. He was such a sweet person. I'll be thinking about you all.##imported-begin##PaulaMattingly##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ My dear Alice, Guthrie and family. Extending deepest sympathy and love to you. My heart aches and tears flow as I remember your loved one and my dear friend and classmate "Poppie". I have so many good memories of the school days in Burgin. He was one of##imported-begin##DottieSims##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Mrs. True, Guthrie and families;
I am sorry for your loss. Poppie was truly a fine man. He taught me so much and with all of the things we used to do it was like an extended family. I will cherish those memories forever. I relive them in my mind all of##imported-begin##GordonSanders##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Alice, Guthrie & family,
So sorry that Gary & I are unable to be with you, but know that you are all in our hearts & prayers. Poppie was such a good man & always so fun to be around. I still have a picture with Poppie when I was flower girl in your w##imported-begin##MariannePeak##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ *Laurel was a hero of mine. I served in Health Education in Health Services when he was Secretary of Human Resources. He was always supportive.##imported-begin##ALBERTWILSON##imported-end##*

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am so very sorry for our loss of such a wonderful man. I never remember seeing Poppie with anything but a smile on his face and happiness in his voice. I have so many memories of our long ago Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations when the entire famil##imported-begin##SheriBunker##imported-end##*

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to Alice and Guthrie. I'll never forget the camping trips with our RA boys, the manwich meals over the campfire and blowing that bugle I had! Semper Fi Poppie!##imported-begin##DustyCarter##imported-end##*

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mrs, True, Please accept my sincere regret on your husband's passing. My parents Samuel and Maetta Gray always thought very highly of both of you.##imported-begin##GaryGray##imported-end##*

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Poppy was a special soul who will be missed by many friends. He always had a smile and was a "people person". We enjoyed his sense of humor. Our hearts are saddened by your loss, Alice, Guthrie and family.##imported-begin##HomerCalvert##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Laurel was one of the finest persons I have known. Always thinking the right things and carrying them out. Few if any will ever take his place##imported-begin##WendellFord##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ The year we spent in OCS and Basic School in Quantico, Va. It made life bearable to have a friend share in the same experiences. God Bless Alice, and the family. Bart##imported-begin##BartStephens##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Laurel was the dearest friend of my husband John's and who often was the sole reason he ventured into the deep waters of Frankfort's capitol. Many times Laurel's examples has been John path and just recently said "I wonder what Laurel would do?" Laure##imported-begin##RetaUnderwood##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Brother True was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at Georgetown. The Alumni Board of the fraternity wishes to extend its condolences to and prayers for his family. He is fondly remembered by his brothers from the 1950s.

Kevin Joiner, Sec/Tre##imported-begin##KevinJoiner##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ Alice, Guthrie, Jennifer, Whitney, and Sloane: Words are never adequate when trying to express sympathy at the loss of a loved one. I cherished the time shared with you all and especially my Burgin connection with Poppie. May you find comfort and stren##imported-begin##IsaacScott##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM



“ My condolences to the True family. My thoughts and prayers go out to your whole family. Psalms 147:3 says God, "is healing the broken hearted ones, and is binding up their painful spots." May God bring you comfort and peace.##imported-begin##DWilliams##imported-end##

January 01, 1753 at 12:00 AM