



Odell Witherspoon

Dec. 27, 1943 - May 22, 2024

Odell Witherspoon, 80, of Morganton, NC went home to be with the Lord, Wednesday, May 22, 2024. Born in Maryland on December 27, 1943, he was the son of the late Howard and Katherine Witherspoon. He was an avid member of First United Methodist Church Morganton. Odell graduated from Maiden High School and Appalachian Teachers College. He taught math at Western Piedmont Community College for 34 years where he served as the Head of the Math Department and Dean of Natural Science and Engineering. While at WPC, he won the Excellence in Teaching Award in 1987 and also coached the women's softball team. Aside from teaching, Odell was also a realtor for many years. He was an avid woodworker and enjoyed making crafts for others. He loved attending craft shows and could not wait to tell others about all the projects he had been working on. In addition to woodworking, Odell loved to garden and be outdoors. He was always so proud of his produce. Odell was a family man and never missed anything his children or grandchildren were involved in.

Odell is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary Ellen Witherspoon; children, Leslie

Carpenter (Jeremy), Jamie Sisk (Clay); daughter-in-law, Tanya Witherspoon; six grandchildren who were his pride and joy, Carson Witherspoon, Tucker Sisk, Tanner Carpenter, Allie Witherspoon, Courtney Sisk, Abigail Carpenter; sisters, Nancy Childres, Mert Hass (Kenneth); and a number of nieces, nephews, and extended family.

In addition to his parents, Odell is preceded in death by his son, Chris Witherspoon, brother, Marty Witherspoon.

A celebration of Odell's life will be held at 3pm, Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at First United Methodist Church Morganton with the Rev. Dana McKim officiating. The family will receive friends following the service on the front lawn of the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the FUMC Wood Ministry.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



Though it's been many years since I've seen your family, I have known you for almost my entire life. Such dear friends of my parents, with both of them asking about you before they, too left this earth. My heartfelt sorrow and great sympathies to all of you during this time of grief. Odell made such a great impact on his community. I know how much he'll be missed. Holding your family close today and always.

–Christina Young

Had the pleasure of working with Odell at Western Piedmont Community College when he served as dean of the Sciences and Engineering division. I greatly respected Odell as my senior colleague who helped me get started in the educational field. We had many good times together, he will be greatly missed. My condolences to Mary Ellen, children, relatives and all who knew him.

–Max Jordan



Leslie and Family, You're in our prayers and thoughts during this sad time. We pray for Gods Peace and comfort for you. We love you.

–Benny \$ Barbara Childers



Our sincere condolences to your family.

–Toner Machining Technologies, Inc.

Odell and I were colleagues for 20 years in the Mathematics Department of Western Piedmont Community College. There we served together to establish the college transfer mathematics curriculum. We were working companions as well as good friends. Odell will be sorely missed by family, friends and community. My wife Sarah Anne and I send our sincerest condolences to Mary Ellen, children, grandchildren and other relatives and friends.

–TOMMY ELLER



–Libby Arney

So sorry for your loss. Please accept our sincerely condolences. May you find comfort in Gods promises.

–Bruce and Sheila Carpenter

You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Love from Mary Stuart & Larry.

–Mary Stuart and Larry Lackey

Odell taught me physics at WPCC and sold me a few homes. He was an

outstanding man of character and will be missed on this earth....

–tim l norman

My thoughts and prayers are with you, Mary Ellen, and with your entire family. I know Odell was the light of your life. Your love for each other is an incredible example of God's love. May the PEACE of our Lord be with you at this difficult time. I will continue to pray for you and your family. You are a wonderful person and have been a perfect wife for Odell. Love, Becky Myrick-Poteat

–Becky Poteat

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I have be I enjoyed all the good times at the real estate office, not to mention the golf. Mary Ellen you were blessed to have such a wonderful person for all those years.

–Jim and Linda.

I am saddened by the loss if your loved one, Odell. He was a good, loving man who loved his family with all his heart. Prayers and love sent your way in this time of loss.

–Shirley Dale



Larry and I were heart broken to hear of Odell's passing. He was a blessing to Mary Ellen, Leslie, Jamie, Chris, their spouses, and his grand children. Their love for him was immense, as was his for them. I know he was part of a caring community in Morganton, and his passing will leave a void in many lives. We send our blessings for comfort and peace to those he left behind.

–Judy Franklin Pearson

I have known Odell for many years. A friend and Realtor associate- always such a nice man! Prayers and comfort to his family

NICE MAN! Prayers and comfort to his family.

–Laura McCoy

I worked with Odell at WPCC. He was always willing to help anyone. My prayers are with the family. He will be missed.

–Susan P Ingram



My sincere condolences to Odell's family. We worked at Western Piedmont Community College at the same time. May God each of you during this most difficult time in your lives.

–Diann Thomas Tate

Deepest sympathies from the Whisnant family.

–Gina Whisnant



Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. I so understand what you are going through. Please remember where Odell now is and how he is at peace..... Those thoughts carried me through the difficult days after Pete moved on to heaven..... May you also be comforted and strengthened by this..... With deepest heartfelt sympathy... Libby

–Libby Linker

Thoughts and Prayers for you Jamie, and all your family as you grieve the loss of your Dad

–Ozelle Sotelo

So sorry Odel was a great man and I enjoyed seeing him at the college.

–Jim and Judy Pearson



My heart is with Melon and all the family..Odell was a very special man...Allan enjoyed playing golf with him.....I loved working with him at the real-estate office....God needed him. HEAVEN has received a great man.....My prayers are with you..

–Beck Janet

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time. He was such a sweet and kind man. We treasure the memories of his visiting us at the center.

–Fresenius medical care