

## **Christine Wendt post on Facebook, March 14, 2015**

I never have the opportunity to express anything of a personal nature in the paper so this time, in memory of Jack, I am doing it here.

### **The Man with a Smile**

Today Rose Hill said it's last farewell to Jack Carr, father, friend, teacher and coach. Members of the Rose Hill Senior Center, Historical Society, School Board, Civic and City Offices paid their respects to Jack's memory and his family of Scot and Nancy MacKay Carr, Rick and Rhonda Cooper along with brothers, sisters and other family members whom I cannot name. The Rose Hill Rocket Baseball Team attended in uniform to remember a mentor, supporter and fan.

The Rose Hill United Methodist Church swelled with over 200 people whose lives Jack had touched. He was eulogized by long time friend Marion Futhey, who remembered him as a classmate, a man who had served his country, loved his family and dedicated himself selflessly to his community.

A humble man with a warm smile for everyone. I remember that smile. It was one of the first to welcome me, an outsider, a transplant, to this community, who knew no one. He and Marion and Marshall Futhey made me feel welcome at the senior center and the historical society. They teased me out of my shyness with all of the new people and made my transition easier. Jack would call the office and instead of saying "hello" it would be something like "do we have to work today or can we just play" and I would instantly know who it was.

Jack was always there to clarify who belonged with which family and what their names were. He always called me "honey" or "sweetie" as I am sure he did many others, but it made me feel special. Jack delivered lunch to me when I didn't have time to leave the office or hand carried senior menus or information to me so I didn't have to crawl back in the car again.

The empty chair at the school board meeting last week was hard to look at, knowing he wouldn't sit there again. He was remembered by all the board members but most particularly by Kirk Hayden who also called him family. Mayor Jason Jones called for a moment of silence at the city council meeting in Jack's memory. He was missed at the Rose Hill Historical Society meeting, an endeavor close to his heart.

Jack spent several hours in my office pouring over the old achieve books for sports articles. Cataloging the team's victories was his passion as well as tracking down the old trophies and having them refurbished at his expense. They are a part of the museum as are all the sport's history books he compiled.

Scott Carr also spoke of his father to whom family meant everything. And many were included in that family. A teacher, a coach, he shaped the lives of many young people including his own grandchildren.

A humble man with a smile who ambled along lending a helping hand to anyone who needed it including myself.

A Military Honor Guard performed the flag folding ceremony as I had not seen it before. With precision care, the two soldiers in full military uniform, unfolded the flag and snapped it open to full colors before using the same precision to refold and present it to his daughter Rhonda Cooper with thanks from a grateful country. I had held up ok until that moment. One day I will have to go thru that ceremony too.

Pastor John Martin made it a beautiful Celebration of Life as he spoke directly to the family asking for blessings on them and assuring them of the everlasting life of which Jack is now a part.

Friends surrounded the family with love and support following the service and shared memories and stories over a luncheon served by the ladies of the church to which many members of the senior center had added offerings of food and drink.

Jack, you carved your own niche here. You are loved, missed and your memory will live in the environs of our town as long as it stands.

Batter Up Coach in that big team in the sky!