



Wayne Sparks

April 26, 1935 - April 29, 2020

Virgil Wayne Sparks, 85, of New London, North Carolina, died Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at the Saturn Healthcare – W Sugar Creek Campus in Charlotte.

Wayne, as he was more commonly called, was born in Spruce Pine, NC, on April 26, 1935, the son of Milton “Preacher” and Mabel Brinkley Sparks. He grew up in Spruce Pine and enjoyed playing sports during his high school career. He was also very outgoing, being voted “Most Popular” his Junior and Senior years. Wayne not only enjoyed sports, he was also very intelligent and graduated near the top of his class. After high school, he enjoyed playing fast pitch softball, and Wayne was a talented pitcher. Three championships later for the American Thread softball team where Wayne worked, it was surmised that one of the reasons he got the job there was because of his anticipated contributions to the company softball team. He met and married the mother of his four children, Sybil Seagle, and they moved to Connecticut. They eventually decided to move back to North Carolina and Wayne packed up, moved to Charlotte, and found a job within a day. Wayne went on to work for Mitchell Distributing, a provider of mining equipment. To this day, nobody is really sure where the heavy machinery came from when building his house, but they have a good idea. He could even transplant Dogwood trees with it. Wayne’s intelligence and personality led him to wear many hats for Mitchell. From engineering to sales to on-site delivery and setup, Wayne was involved in most facets of the operation. Wayne could tell how things worked one time,

and you never needed to be told again. He also had a very dry sense of humor. Wayne and Sybil eventually divorced in 1981 and she preceded him in death in 2017. On December 30, 1991, Wayne married Sandra Kendall in York, South Carolina.

When not working, Wayne enjoyed fishing, golfing, basketball (which along with softball, he continued to play at Robinson Presbyterian Church until he was 55 and decided that the “kids” were a bit rougher and he didn’t heal as fast anymore), corn hole, shooting pool, cards and most recently, competing in the Horseshoe Tournaments at Baden Lake. He also enjoyed his favorite beverages: water, coffee, beer and ‘shine. Surely there was a pot of coffee waiting for him at the Gates of Heaven because Wayne would drink coffee from the time he woke up until the time he went to bed.

Most of all, Wayne loved time spent with family and friends. From dealing with people at work to joining the Masonic Lodge to his church family, Wayne was most at home around others. His dry humor, intelligence, quick wit and constant activity were a blessing to those he knew.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Sandra; his three children: Jeffrey Wayne Sparks, Richard Alan (fiancé Kelly) Sparks, and Kristen Michele Sparks; two stepchildren: Doug (Lisa) Henry and Cindy (Richard) Elmore; a sister, Beverly (John) Butler; a grandson, Thomas Dale (Courtney) Belk; a niece, Robin (Dane) Garrett; and an aunt, Maxine Sparks. He is further survived by his cousin, Terry (Jan) Sparks as well as numerous other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Kim Sparks Belk on May 30, 2014.

Wayne’s family has given the family of Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home the privilege of caring for them and for him. A gathering of friends and family at 1 pm followed by a service to celebrate the life, love and blessing of Wayne at 2 pm will be Saturday, May 9, 2020, at the funeral home, 4715 Margaret Wallace Road, Matthews, NC 28105. To share photos, memories and condolences, please visit Wayne’s online memorial at www.LoweNeddoFuneralHome.com or call 704-545-3553 for more details.

Previous Events

Gathering of Friends and Family

MAY 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home
4715 Margaret Wallace Road
Matthews, NC 28105
(866) 682-4043
info@loweneddo.com
<https://www.loweneddofuneralhome.com>

Celebration of Life Service

MAY 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Wayne Sparks*



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - May 09, 2020 at 09:45 PM



“ *Wayne Sparks*

October 05, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Wayne Sparks*

October 24, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jeff, Richard , Chris and the rest of the family during this difficult time. We have a lot of fond memories of times spent together Maxine and Gene Page*

Maxine and Gene Page - May 05, 2020 at 08:19 PM

BB

“ *Bob and Jane Burton purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Wayne Sparks.*



Bob and Jane Burton - May 05, 2020 at 07:34 PM

RB

“ *Worked with Wayne for many years and enjoyed a friendship that I will always cherish. Wayne was a hard worker and his relationship with the customers and vendors was always excellent. I will truly miss Wayne Sparks, his phone calls and his sense of humor. I enjoyed soliciting his opinion on world events. He did not hesitate to express his opinion.*
Bob Burton

Robert Burton - May 05, 2020 at 07:22 PM

DG

“ *Dianne Goodman purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Wayne Sparks.*



Dianne Goodman - May 05, 2020 at 10:50 AM

NO

“ *So sorry for your loss, Wayne was a good guy, loved by all who knew him.*



NormaMckinney - May 04, 2020 at 07:32 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wayne Sparks.*



May 04, 2020 at 03:51 PM



“ *Gerry And Faye Leonard lit a candle in memory of Wayne Sparks*



Gerry and Faye Leonard - May 04, 2020 at 11:45 AM



“ *Sandra, and family we are so sorry for your loss. All that new Wayne will miss him so much. The family will be in our thoughts and prayers.* 🙏🙏🙏



Jennings & Judy Wise - May 04, 2020 at 08:38 AM