



Robert E. Hilt, Sr.

September 20, 2020

Robert E. “Dusty” Hilt, Sr., 92, of Lancaster, PA, died Sunday, September 20, 2020 at the Lancaster General Hospital. Born July 15, 1928, he was the son of the late Eleanor Hinkel Hilt and Paul Hilt. He was the loving husband of Betty G. Hilt who died July 30, 2009. They were married 63 years. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Paul J. Hilt and Vernon G. Hilt.

Dusty retired from Armstrong World Industries in 1988. He served his country in the US Army during the Korean War. He was a lifelong member of Redeemer Lutheran Church, serving on the Church Council.

Dusty graduated from JP McCaskey High School in 1947. He was very proud of his school, playing football, basketball, and supporting his school’s sports program until the end. His love for baseball was evident throughout his life, as a player in Lancaster County and later as a coach. He was a member of the Lancaster County Baseball Hall of Fame. After his retirement, Dusty enjoyed ushering for the Lancaster Barnstormers for 14 years and chauffeuring for Armstrong World Industries. He had many interests in his life; gardening, landscaping, arts and crafts, he created life size Wizard of Oz characters, and woodcarving. His devoted love for his family stood out most of all. Dusty did his best at giving someone a smile every day. Surviving is his son, Robert E. Hilt, Jr., and his wife, Jill S. Hilt, his daughter, Debra A. Brown and her husband, David T. Brown, five grandchildren: Jason, Melanie, Chelsea,

Lindsey, and Jordan, six great-grandchildren; Dylan, Natalie, Molly, Morgan, Nathan and William and last, but never forgotten, his sidekick, Ozzy, his dog.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Funeral Service at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 500 Pearl Street, Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. The family will receive friends from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service. Interment will be held with services rendered by the Red Rose Veterans Honor Guard in Conestoga Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Redeemer Lutheran Church, 500 Pearl Street, Lancaster, PA, 17603.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Redeemer Lutheran Church
500 Pearl Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Service

SEP **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Redeemer Lutheran Church
500 Pearl Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall



“ *The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert E. Hilt, Sr.*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - September 28, 2020 at 12:51 PM



“ *Robert E. Hilt, Sr.*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *I have so many fond memories of Dusty starting with him discovering my name was Deb (while working at Armstrong).....because “He and Betty also have a Deb”. He loved his Betty so very much as evidenced by the Angel worn on his shoulder every time I saw him. I still chuckle about the first meal he told me he prepared for himself.....a grilled cheese.....prepared in the “Microwave.” While he and I worked together, I’d hear many stories about Ozzy, his basketball size tomatoes, his family, and how if anyone ever needed him he was willing “To Bust Out Of His Outer Garments” to protect them with his Superman physique! Dusty brought so much kindness and laughter just by making an appearance. I will truly miss this special man. And I’ll conclude with my favorite Valentine phrase heard often....”As Sure As Rats Run The Rafters, You’re The One I’m After”. God Bless.*

Deb Torborg - September 30, 2020 at 10:23 AM

TN

“ We were so sorry to read about Bob's passing. Over the years we always looked forward to seeing Bob at Redeemer Lutheran, and listening to his latest stories. He truly was an ambassador for joy and hope, and always uplifted the spirits of everyone with whom he came in contact.

Every time we enter the church lobby we think of Bob and Betty when we see the inspiring sculpture that Bob created in her honor.

Fond memories of Bob will live forever in our hearts.

*Sincerely,
Ted & Carol Nichols*

Ted Nichols - September 28, 2020 at 07:37 PM

KA

“ *Bob's Family,
Joyce and I wish to express our sincere condolences to all of you. Bob was a very kind person who always had good words about anyone. Yes, he liked to talk. He will be remembered for a very long time by his "Friends from Baseball." His Halloween arrangements were special to many kids. The artistry was special.*

*Ken and Joyce Adams
840 South Pearl Street
1969-1991*

Kenneth Adams - September 28, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ 24 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - September 28, 2020 at 12:39 PM

DB

“ *Bob was a breath of fresh air. I will miss seeing him walking with his best friend, Ozzie. Bob always stopped to chat and never failed to bring a smile. Deepest condolences to the Hilt family. Know he is resting in peace with his beloved wife.*

Dolores Segro Biedenkapp

Dolores Biedenkapp - September 28, 2020 at 08:41 AM

JH

“ I first met Dusty in 1973 as a recent college graduate starting my career with Armstrong at Product Styling and Design. Not being from the area, I knew no one. But it was Dusty’s smile, great gift of storytelling and immense sense of humor that made me feel so welcomed. Our friendship continued over the decades, most recently including lunches together at the Styling Christmas parties and enjoying breakfasts at Valentino’s with other Armstrong friends. He always had a story or joke that could easily crack me up. I will certainly miss his big personality.

Due to COVID, I will not be attending his service. But I did want the family to know what joy he brought to so many people. I will miss him greatly.

Fondly,

Janice Olsen Henry

Janice Olsen Henry - September 27, 2020 at 12:52 PM

LP

“ Bob's sunny disposition was such a joy! He always had a kind word, and usually a joke as well, for all he met. He loved the music at Redeemer, and would comment on it whenever our paths crossed. But ask him to sing with the choir and he said he only sang solo, "so low you can't hear me!" I will think of Bob every time I hear a harmonica, and hope that he now plays with the heavenly orchestra - as Redeemer's orchestra has been waiting patiently for the addition of his musical tones.

Leigh-Ann and Bill Powers - September 26, 2020 at 09:16 AM

GG

“ *To the Hilt family:
We send our condolences to your family on the passing of your Dad. I remember all the good times I had working together at Armstrong and the wood projects. We will remember those good times. He was a great guy. Never a dull moment when Dusty was around. May the good memories you have of him give you peace. God bless you all.*

Glenn and Nora Good

Glenn Good - September 25, 2020 at 10:00 PM

KV

“ *Redeemer Lutheran Church will surely miss Bob's kindness, his laughter and his sense of humor. He was blessed with the gift of making each person feel special, and his enthusiasm at our softball games(when Bobby & Dave played) was always infectious! Extending our prayers and sympathies to you & yours, Deb and Bob, with every confidence that your father is finally home.*

Kathy Vahaly - September 25, 2020 at 12:48 PM

SV

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Dusty's passing. My boyfriend , Clint Slonaker, and I always enjoyed seeing Dusty at the Barnstormers. We marveled at how well Dusty performed his usher duties, easily climbing the steps and talking with everyone! I will miss Dusty's smile and jokes! May Dusty and Clint both Rest In Peace, telling lots of jokes! May lots of good memories comfort Dusty's family and friends! Sue Valentino*

Sue Valentino - September 25, 2020 at 09:45 AM

SS

“ Sorry to hear of the passing of Dusty. I will always remember his smile and talks at the Barnstormers. He would always come to our section seats and he and Leo Noble could talk for hours just reminiscing about everything and nothing. I will miss Dusty at the ballpark.. Good man with a great heart and smile.. Thoughts and prayers to the entire family.. Keep the memories dear to your hearts.. Warmly Sue Stoltzfus

Susan Stoltzfus - September 25, 2020 at 03:27 AM

CK

“ I am so sorry for your loss. What an amazing person who will be so missed. He always made me smile.

Carole Kirchner - September 24, 2020 at 07:21 PM



“ 58 files added to the album Life Tributes



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - September 24, 2020 at 03:14 PM

DH

“ A great guy: Mr. Hilt. I knew him because of his visits to Dr. Office where I worked. He was always pleasant and brought us good stories about growing his garden or other things in his life. I am sure he will be missed by all who knew him. Rest In Peace... you were a joy to know.

Diane Habecker - September 24, 2020 at 12:05 PM

JG

“ Bob Hilt was a friend of the family since living on 6th street. He was my brother Kenneth Goss friend from little up. He was good at visiting my Mother and Verla and Frank Phillips. He had many stories to tell about the Coe's and my parents. Prayers for peace and comfort for the family. Joanne Goss Grim

Joanne B Grim - September 24, 2020 at 11:53 AM

DR

“ Deb, Bob and family, So very sorry to hear of Dusty's passing. I have known him since 1975. working in the design department at Armstrong. I have so many happy and precious memories of him. He brought much joy to everyone around him. I will always treasure his hand painted gourds he gave me. What a loss for everyone who knew him. May your memories bring you comfort. With love and deepest sympathy, Diane Ritchey

Diane Ritchey - September 24, 2020 at 10:32 AM

LM

“ Dear Bob and Jill and family.
WE send our love and sorrow of sympathy in the passing of Bobs father, may you feel Gods love and care during this time.
with love and prayers
Harlan and Linda Martin

linda martin martin - September 24, 2020 at 09:08 AM

JW

“ So sorry to hear of Dusty's passing. What a wonderful man he was. He always had a smile and a cheery personality. He put a smile on my face every time I saw him. I enjoyed knowing him for the past 16 years. He certainly will be missed by me.

*John Witwer
Public Address Announcer
Lancaster Barnstormers*

John Witwer - September 24, 2020 at 08:23 AM

FC

“ When bought our house 5 years ago, Bob was the first neighbor to say hello with a warm smile, a corny joke and a wink of the the eye. He would always ring your bell if you forgot to move your car for street cleaning. Always had a smile and a joke whenever you saw him and Ozzy. Bob, you will be missed. You will always be the **MAYOR OF EMERALD DRIVE!** Your neighbors Frank and Jackie Cassarino, #716. RIP

Frank and Jackie Cassarino - September 24, 2020 at 07:08 AM

KG

“ What a wonderful man Dusty was! I loved his smile and humor. He will be missed. His joy was infectious and I always looked forward to seeing him at the Lancaster Barnstormers. Sincere sympathy to his family.

Kelly Gerhart - September 24, 2020 at 06:54 AM

EF

Bob will be truly missed by everyone at Redeemer Lutheran Church. He had a warm welcome for everyone and had many friend at the church. May he rest in peace with his beloved wife Betty.

Ellie Flickinger - September 24, 2020 at 04:27 PM

RR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Randall Rhodes - September 23, 2020 at 03:34 PM

BR

“ My family and I remember him with such love, and are so grateful to have known him. He used his sense of humor to lift up and give joy. It was always appropriate. Often his cane would be used as a prop(microphone) to make us laugh. Or,he'd say, " I taught my dog to cook",or , ""This sweater is almost paid for" Despite a hearing loss he always was able to communicate and connect. His personality was so dear and appealing it is hard to believe he is gone. So, so sorry. Love to all his family.Barb and Bill Roberts

Barbara Roberts - September 22, 2020 at 07:25 PM

JK

I always enjoyed Bob's visits to the Church office with his jokes and stories about his dog. He always brightened my day. He is now together with Betty who he truly missed. My sincere sympathy to the family. Jane Kelec

Jane Kelec - September 27, 2020 at 12:51 PM

LG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Lisa Groff - September 22, 2020 at 04:52 PM