



Theodore M. Ayres, Jr.

November 20, 2016

Theodore M. Ayres, Jr., a Lancaster builder, completed his life's journey of 73 years on Sunday, November 20, 2016, succumbing to cancer. A builder of relationships, Ted was a devoted son, a loving husband and father, a doting grandfather, and a loyal friend to many.

A builder also of structures with a strong work ethic and sense of fairness, he exercised these attributes in his construction career as VP of Toews, Ayres, and Huber, Inc.; as a self-employed consultant; and as a project manager for companies like Horst Realty.

Ted was a leader on the Hempfield High School basketball court, baseball and football fields, and on the student council serving as Class President for 4 years and recently Reunion Chairperson. His leadership skills were also displayed on the Holy Spirit Lutheran Church Council and committees, and as secretary on the Municipal Authority of East Hempfield Township Water Authority Board for 26 years. Ted was a tireless worker on his Christmas tree farm, and used his skills as a father figure in the Shared Holiday Program. A champion of those who experienced an uphill climb, he supported them emotionally and with his resources.

Ted derived pleasure from the simple things in life: deer and cardinals in his woods, sunsets on island beaches, the majesty of the Grand Tetons and the Matterhorn, whacking a golf ball, riding a horse, traveling to global destinations to learn of new cultures and histories, theatre and dinners with good friends, and especially family gatherings and celebrations.

He was the son of the late Theodore M. Ayres, Sr. and Viola K. Ayres. Ted will be lovingly missed by his wife, Terry Ayres of Lancaster with whom he celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 18, 2016. Other family members are son, Antony Ayres and wife Susan; daughter, Amy Sherman and husband Christopher. Ted was a doting Paw Paw to AJ and Lauren Ayres and to Olive Sherman. Ted's life journey was enriched by the love of family and good friends.

The family extends their deepest appreciation to all of the many persons who offered so many acts of kindness during Ted's illness. If these innumerable acts of kindness could have cured Ted's cancer, he would not have been on an exit journey. Special commendations to the 8 Lime staff and medical personnel at Lancaster General Hospital and at the Suburban Campus, Emergency responders, the staff at Luther Acres Manor Care Facility, and the staff of Hospice of Lancaster County..... what caring gems we have in this community!!!

A visitation with the family and with Ted at peace will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, 3131 Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17601. The visitation will be followed by a funeral service conducted by The Rev. Clifton Eshbach at 11:00 a.m. at the same location. A luncheon in the church social area will immediately follow the Funeral Service at 12 noon. Those who wish may support the family for the Interment at Conestoga Memorial Park leaving the church at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ted's memory to : INQUIRY Charter School, Attention: The Ted Ayres' Memorial Fund, C/O Mrs. Amy Sherman, 1301 Belmont Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Cemetery Details

Conestoga Memorial Park

95 2nd Lock Rd
Lancaster, PA 17603

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
3131 Columbia Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601

Service

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
3131 Columbia Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601

Tribute Wall



“ Theodore M. Ayres, Jr.

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ Terry, I am so sorry we were away over Thanksgiving. I did not know Ted was so ill, The last time we saw you was at dinner at Conestoga CC, and I missed the last reunion this year. It is such a shock. I have many fond memories from high school, mostly the carrying on. Ted was a great guy.

Julie (Hempfield H.S. '61) and Marvin Shearer

Julie Shearer - December 03, 2016 at 05:34 AM



“ I worked with Ted years ago on projects when he was with TAH. He was a pleasure to work with, and I always enjoyed running into him occasionally in more recent years.
My condolences to your family on your loss.

*Bob Hess
(formerly of Lancaster Malleable Castings Co.)*

Bob Hess - November 28, 2016 at 03:33 PM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Theodore M. Ayres, Jr..



November 23, 2016 at 10:39 AM

“ Dear Terry, Anthony, Susan, Amy, Christopher,

Ted was an extraordinary man, kind, generous of heart and spirit, and an all around great guy.

As we read the beautiful obituary we realize he was a humble man, that elusive and so very treasured quality in a person. He never boasted of any of his remarkable achievements, and he had plenty he could have bragged about! What an accomplished life he had. He was a true civil servant, selflessly giving of time, energy and talent.

And an athlete! Basketball, football, baseball; not many are gifted in such versatility.

We have many memories of Ted.

A simple story to share: Ted and Terry were bound for the lovely Sanctuary resort on Kiawah island. To get there, you go over Johns Island where we live. They took the time from their trip to stop and visit us. For a small and fairly rural island we have the luck to have two wonderful restaurants, destination eateries for foodies! So we had planned to have lunch at one of them, the Fat Hen. We knew Terry and Ted would love this restaurant. So off we go: restaurant closed Saturday afternoon! Who would think? But no problem, we went to plan B and headed for Wild Olive. (A name we particularly love now...) Also closed. Now, we really have no plan C but we did know of a bakery that sold pre-made sandwiches and coffee and such. So we headed there and thankfully it at least was open. Let me stress this was a very casual place. Picnic tables, self service and by that point not much to choose from for lunch.

We had a great time. It was the people, not the place. Ted never wavered in maintaining good humor, a gracious attitude and a thankfulness that we were able to get together. I am sure he was anxious to get to the Sanctuary, a five star resort that lives every bit up to its name, but I never saw a hint of impatience. He was indeed a "good egg" about the afternoon.

(Terry, I could stand to learn some of your organization skills... A phone call to confirm the restaurant was open would have been a good idea.)

It was an honor to know Ted. We know he will be missed so dearly by his beloved family, and all who knew him. But in missing one so loved you are keeping his memory alive and holding him in your heart forever.

We look forward to seeing you all soon and sharing and hearing more Ted stories.

With much love,

Max and Mary

Max and Mary Sherman - November 23, 2016 at 10:32 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Theodore M. Ayres, Jr..*



November 23, 2016 at 10:28 AM



“ *Dear Mrs. Ayres,
We were so sorry to hear the news. We're praying that the Lord may comfort and console you, and Antony and Amy, and their families, too. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help anytime in any way.*

Your neighbors over the fence, -- Joel and Diane Mumma

Joel and Diane Mumma - November 23, 2016 at 05:12 AM

JG

“ Dear Terry,
Although I did not know Ted or your family, you and I went to high school together and shared similar positions at local colleges which we always spoke of at our high school reunions.
My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family as you mourn your husband's, father's and grandfather's passing.
Judy (Nauss) Gazzana

Judy (Nauss) Gazzana - November 22, 2016 at 03:14 PM

RH

“ Terry and family,
I'm so sorry to hear of Ted's passing. We were classmates and friends for many years. Gwen and I send our sincerest condolences to you all.
Ric and Gwen Horst

Ric Horst - November 22, 2016 at 01:05 PM


Shanna
Ouhida

“ Ted was such a funny guy! I knew him when he worked at Horst and did business with my employer - Scenic Ridge Co. He always made me laugh when I answered the phone and he was on the line, or when he would stop in at our office. I am very sorry to hear of his passing and want to offer my condolences to his family.

Shanna (Myer) Ouhida

Shanna Ouhida - November 22, 2016 at 11:01 AM

CM

“ Terry and family,

I was saddened to hear of Ted's death. You have my deepest condolences.

Carol A. Wingate-Myers

Carol Myers - November 22, 2016 at 07:53 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Theodore M. Ayres, Jr..*



November 21, 2016 at 08:22 PM

KA

“ *I only have wonderful memories of Ted, he was full of great stories, loved his family and brought a smile to your face when you were lucky enough to be in his company! We are so sad for your loss and love you all.*

Katie - November 21, 2016 at 07:25 PM

JH

“ *A good friend from first grade til now. Remember good times at the Ayers house with Ted and his parents, a fishing trip to the shore as kids, countless classes, football games, dances, locker room antics, reunion planning and more. Ted, we'll miss you.*

John Holtzapple - November 21, 2016 at 07:19 PM

DM

“ *Ted was a leader from first grade at Rohrerstown Elementary through Hempfield graduation and beyond. Many fond memories of times spent in Rohrerstown and on Farmingdale Rd. Bless All, James D (Don) Miller*

Don Miller - November 21, 2016 at 05:48 PM