



Chester Truman Houghton

November 18, 1918 - February 27, 2018

Chester Truman Chet Houghton, 99, of McPherson, Kansas, passed away at 7:10 a.m., Tuesday, February 27th, 2018 while in the company of family members, at the Cedars House.

Chet was born in Rural Roxbury near Twin Mounds on his parents homestead on the kitchen table, on November 18, 1918, the son of Martina (Holmberg) and Truman Hulbert Houghton, Jr.

Chet attended the Roxbury schools and graduated from Roxbury High School in 1936. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, Chet chose to be a member of the Army Air Corps later to become known as the Air Force. Chet was an airplane mechanic and he was the group leader of a squadron that rebuilt airplanes used in the war effort.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church McPherson, Kansas.

He served in the U.S. Army Air Corp as a Tec Sargent.

Chet was an employee of the McPherson Board of Public Utilities and worked there until 1968. Always an entrepreneur, Chet with two friends, Robert (Roy) Swick and Virgil Anderson founded a company, Central Plastics, Inc. At this time not knowing the company would succeed, Fred Diehl, the general manager of the BPU had the BPU employee manual changed to include a statement that if in one year if the new company would not survive, Chet would regain his job at the BPU. For this kindness, Chet was forever grateful to Fred Diehl, his boss that he admired.

Chet was a past treasurer of Troop 133 and in 2000, he was selected as Kansas Small Business Person of the year 2000 by the Small Business Administration. Chet for most of his life was a hobby farmer with his land being part of his old home place. He was an excellent mechanic and could fix anything, as well as having a knowledge of low and high voltage electricity. Chet was a member of the American Legion Post 24, McPherson,

Kansas. Chet enjoyed his work, spending time outside especially at his farm, working in his yard and spending time with his boys and his family. He always had a smile, and never met a stranger. He lived his last seven years and two days at the Cedars. While at the Cedars, he entertained many residents with his singing. He had tremendously good care by the staff and the family appreciates his time there.

Chester T. Houghton was united in marriage to Betty Jane Peterson on December 1, 1946 at Lindsborg, Kansas. The young couple established their first home together in McPherson, Kansas. His wife Betty, died on January 13, 1987 while on vacation in Silver City, New Mexico. Chet was united in marriage to Fern (Anderson) Crowther on February 14, 1990. Fern passed away May 30, 2008

He is survived by his sons, Dennis C. Houghton and wife Betty L, Mark C. Houghton, and Kent J. Houghton and wife Mary Kay, all of McPherson, Kansas; his 10 grandchildren - Eric Houghton(Carrie), John Houghton(LiQiu), Timothy Houghton, James Houghton, Allison Houghton, Marcus Houghton(Corbin), Hannah Nesbitt(Dan), Drew Hoffman(Danyel), Paige Moore(Matt), and Caleb Houghton
10 great-grandchildren Jake Houghton, Jack Houghton, Julia Houghton, Kamy MacBeth, Kenzy MacBeth, Krosby MacBeth, Kruze Nesbitt, Addison Chapman, Colt Chapman, and Brody Hoffman. other relatives and a host of friends.

Chet was preceded in death by his parents, his wives Betty J. and Fern Houghton, and his twin brother Leonard Houghton who was born minutes after Chester and his older brother Martin, who died at the age of 18 from appendicitis.

Friends are invited to call on Thursday March 1, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, McPherson.

The funeral service will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, McPherson, Kansas, at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 1st, with The Reverend Tim Leaf officiating.

Burial service will follow the service at the Elmwood Cemetery Lindsborg, Kansas with military honors presented by members of the American Legion Post 24 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2715 McPherson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church and they can be sent in care of The Glidden - Ediger Funeral Home; 222 West Euclid Street; McPherson, Kansas 67460.

Cemetery

Elmwood Cemetery

Lindsborg, KS,

Events

MAR **Visitation** 08:30AM - 10:00AM

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Trinity Lutheran Church

119 North Elm Street, McPherson, KS, US

MAR **Celebration of Life** 10:00AM

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Trinity Lutheran Church

119 North Elm Street, McPherson, KS, US

Comments



“ Bion And Vicki Beebe lit a candle in memory of Chester Truman Houghton



Bion and Vicki Beebe - March 06, 2018 at 10:18 AM



“ Dear Dennis and all of Chet's family,

I got to know Chet when my mom, Betty Gibson, was in the same Cedar's house as your dad. What fun memories we have of him. He always seemed to be so cheerful and happy. I miss his singing and his talking in Swedish and telling me stories. He was quite the character. I wish I'd have known that he served in the Army Air Corp during WWII. We would have had even more to talk about. He was a very nice man and a character that everyone there enjoyed.

Larry and I send our condolences to you all and we hope that you cherish all the grand memories of his very, long and accomplished life. He was a walking history book.

Thinking of you all at this sad time,
Bev and Larry Kavouras

Bev Kavouras - March 01, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ We at Peerless were saddened to hear the news of Chester passing. But what a wonderful and long life he lived. We are not able to attend the funeral, we also had a long time employee pass and his funeral is the same day as Chester's. But our prayers go out to you Mark and the family. Great family to work with. Mark holds a special place with me. I have known him for over 30 years working with him. Your dad was very proud of you as well as the other brothers.

Friendship and prayers
Pat & Don from Peerless Products, Inc

Pat Rogers - March 01, 2018 at 11:27 AM



“ Eagan Manufacturing purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Chester Truman Houghton.



Eagan Manufacturing - March 01, 2018 at 09:01 AM



“ Dick and Tracy Henry purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Chester Truman Houghton.



Dick and Tracy Henry - February 28, 2018 at 05:33 PM



“ Memories of Chet make smile. I loved his humor. He reminded me often that I shared his mother's name. Sending my condolences to the family. He will be missed. Tina Lyne, Ryan Clark, Brandon Clark and Leah Oakes.

Tina lyne - February 28, 2018 at 04:58 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Chester Truman Houghton.



February 28, 2018 at 01:19 PM



“ Where do you start? Chet was like a second father to me. I had many get moments with him. Some were funny in Chet's English humor, working many days at the plant and apartments and in the last years of my employment being fired one day and hired back the next and many hours just listening to him talk about what ever came

to his mind while drinking coffee.
Prayers to all the family,
Rick and Debbie Swick

Rick Swick - February 28, 2018 at 11:17 AM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Chester Truman Houghton.



February 28, 2018 at 10:33 AM



“ Tina Western lit a candle in memory of Chester Truman Houghton



Tina Western - February 28, 2018 at 09:49 AM



“ For many years I attended business meetings at Central Plastics and Chet and I would always have a brief chat if he was there. I wonderful man that definitely lived a full life. He and his family know how to build a business and treat all people with dignity and respect. Chet's legacy will live on through a truly wonderful Family.

Alan DeMello

Alan DeMello - February 28, 2018 at 09:47 AM



“ Chester liked to sit and visit with me at the reception desk at Central Plastics. He always had a cup of coffee and a joke, and told me stories of his growing up years in Roxbury. He taught me a few words in Swedish (Hur mår du idag :)). CPI was his baby and he was devoted to its management and well-being. I enjoyed being acquainted with him. My condolences to the family.

Susan Shepard - February 28, 2018 at 09:28 AM



“ My dad, Virgil Ediger, knew Chet from working at BPU. He let our family enjoy some time at the lake, where I learned to waterski. I remember Dennis and Mark being there. Hope I got the names right. Fun remembering those times. Super nice people.
Lori McMurray

Lori McMurray - February 28, 2018 at 12:03 AM



“ Rex, Mariel & Chris; Karin, Kristi and Mark; Becky purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Chester Truman Houghton.



Rex, Mariel & Chris; Karin, Kristi and Mark; Becky - February 27, 2018 at 07:04 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Chester Truman Houghton.



February 27, 2018 at 05:55 PM



“ Wishing we could be with you all. I know there's a wonderful round of coffee going on in heaven today. Love & hugs!

Ryan, Mark & Brendan

Ryan Chambers - February 27, 2018 at 05:44 PM