



## Henry Greenough Thorndike Jr.

June 27, 1946 - December 23, 2018

Henry Greenough "Hank" Thorndike Jr, died peacefully but unexpectedly on December 22, 2018. He is survived by his beloved wife, Janice; and his daughters Olivia and Catherine, who were the center of his world. He is also survived by his sisters Sue, Evie, Anne (Bill) and Sally (Tony); his brother Andy (Nancy); sisters-in-law Gail and Jo; brother-in-law Bert (Betty) and the many, many nieces, nephews, and cousins that he adored. Hank was preceded in death by his parents, Henry Greenough "Harry" Thorndike and Carolyn Fredrika "Freda" Thorndike, and his sisters Alice and Olivia.

Hank was born on June 27, 1946 in Richmond, VA and grew up on his family farm, Magnolia, in Wicomico Church, VA. He graduated from Staunton Military Academy and attended West Virginia University and Clemson University, where he was a member of the rugby team. Always someone who loved the outdoors, Hank started his work life on the family farm and was a farrier in western Virginia and West Virginia for 10 years. In 1987, Hank opened his marine construction business, Dockmasters, and spent the next 30 years serving many wonderful clients (many who became dear friends) and happily mentoring his young crew. Hank was a faith filled man and a longtime member of Providence Forge Presbyterian Church.

Hank was known for his huge heart, warm hugs, and the mischievous twinkle in his eye. He was always taking care of others, quick to lend a hand to those in need. Hank was happiest surrounded by his girls, pets, and his boisterous extended family. He loved working on his daily crossword puzzle, having friends and neighbors over to pick crabs or roast oysters, and sailing his boat, the Vokka Lokka, on the Chesapeake Bay.

Visitation will be on Friday, December 28, at Vincent Funeral Home, 417 11th St, West Point, VA 23181 from 2 to 5 p.m. A memorial service will be held 11 a.m., Saturday, December 29, also at Vincent's West Point location, with a reception immediately following at Wallace Manor 3821 N. Courthouse Rd, Providence Forge, VA 23140. In lieu of flowers, a donation to the King William Regional Animal Shelter, Box 215, King William, VA 23086 or Providence Forge Presbyterian Church, PO Box 239, Providence Forge, VA 23140 would be welcome.

# Events

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**DEC**   **Visitation**   02:00PM - 05:00PM

**28**

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Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel  
417 11th St, West Point, VA, US, 23181

**DEC**   **Memorial Service**   11:00AM

**29**

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Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel  
417 11th St, West Point, VA, US, 23181

# Comments

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“ Hank always had a smile and he will be missed by all. Dave and Marilyn South

**Marilyn South** - December 31, 2018 at 11:41 AM

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“ Hank was big part of my life growing up. He would come up the Quailhill and we went to camp Waradaca(?) together I would go down to Wicomico church and visit him, generally take the greyhound bus down. We were always getting in trouble together, fortunately we only got caught for about 10% of what we did. I remember one time at camp we rigged all the toilets so when somebody flushed them they would get squirted with the fill pipe, we thought that was great fun. I remember we were around 14 or 15 down at the farm smoking and drinking Uncle Harry's liquor, great fun until the next morning. Anyway, Hank I'll miss you.

Josiah Austin



**Josiah Austin** - December 30, 2018 at 11:22 AM

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“ Janice, So sorry hear about Hank, he was a great guy, always had a smile for everyone you could ride up any river a tell which dock Hank had done, so his work will live a long time, he put two for our family, Grace and I will miss him, Bill & Grace Wills

**william e wills,sr** - December 29, 2018 at 08:47 AM

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“ Dear Janice, Our family sends heartfelt condolences to your family.I am so sorry for your loss. You all are in our prayers. Lots of love Beth Kappus

**Beth Kappus** - December 28, 2018 at 06:58 PM

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“ Mrs. Thorndike,  
My heart is so sad for you and your girls. I feel as if I know your family through all of the wonderful stories that you have shared with me. Prayers are with you all today and the days ahead.  
Love, Susan Vick

**Susan Vick** - December 28, 2018 at 06:08 PM

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“ Janice, our thoughts and prayers and are with you and your family during this difficult time. Hank always had a warming smile and just his presence would bring smiles to everyone around him. He will be greatly missed! Chris Dunn and Family

**Chris Dunn** - December 28, 2018 at 04:41 PM

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“ Janice, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Hank was a special person and will be deeply missed. His smile always made me feel special and loved.  
Link & Jo White

**Jo White** - December 28, 2018 at 01:52 PM

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“ Janice, Olivia and Catherine, You all have been in my prayers since Sunday. What a blessing Hank was to you and all he came in contact with. He is smiling from heaven today looking down at all of us and that's how I will always remember him with that sweet smile. Peace of Christ to you three! Ruth

**Ruth Adams** - December 28, 2018 at 01:49 PM

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“ Janice, My deepest sympathies go out to you and your girls. Hank was a wonderful guy. He will be missed by all.

**Nancy Turner** - December 28, 2018 at 08:38 AM

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“ Dear Janice

I am so sorry to hear about Hank. He was truly a warm welcoming soul. I loved visiting you all at your house or on his boat . You are in my thoughts and prayers

**Elaine O'Keefe** - December 27, 2018 at 08:18 PM

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“ Dear Janice,

Though we only recently met your darling Hank, we've known for years what a wonderful man he was through your lovely daughters and many others who had the pleasure to know and love him too. For Ken and me, we felt his warmth immediately and share in your grief. Our thoughts are with you, Olivia and Catherine, With love and sympathy

**Vikkie and Ken White** - December 27, 2018 at 06:03 PM

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“ Mrs.Throndike

Sorry for the lost of your love one my prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.

Sandra Berkley

**Sandra Berkley** - December 27, 2018 at 10:55 AM

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“ Janice, Catherine & Olivia - Our hearts are broken as we know yours are. There is comfort in knowing where he is & that we'll all see him again! Love & prayers,  
Carolyn & Hutch

**Carolyn Hutchinson** - December 27, 2018 at 10:50 AM

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“ Dearest Janice, Catherine and Olivia, there are no words to describe the loss of such a special, funny and loving soul as Hank. He was always quick with a hug and a smile and you could see in his eyes he enjoyed both. Love and prayers to each of you, Donnie and Sherrill

**Donnie and Sherrill Smith** - December 27, 2018 at 09:46 AM

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“ Janice,  
I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Our family sends prayers of comfort for you and the girls during this difficult time.  
Love,  
The Beasleys



**Kim Beasley** - December 27, 2018 at 09:39 AM

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“ Janice, Catherine and Olivia,  
We send our deepest sympathy to you all in the loss of Hank. Hugs and prayers ....  
Howard & Charlene Cook

**Charlene R Cook** - December 27, 2018 at 09:15 AM

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“ Harriet Ammons lit a candle in memory of Henry Greenough Thorndike Jr.



**Harriet Ammons** - December 27, 2018 at 12:09 AM

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“ I'm incredibly saddened to hear of this great loss. I love to hear Janice talk about Hank. Their love story is so inspiring. It breaks my heart to imagine the pain felt by the family. Find comfort in the wonderful memories you've made.

I'll never forget the "planks" that Hank so generously made for my daughter's pirate-themed birthday party. They were perfect and he was so good to us.

**Remle Sherman** - December 26, 2018 at 08:44 PM



“ Mrs. Thorndike, I am so sorry to hear this! Hank was an awesome and hard-working man. I worked at York Supply and we always enjoyed our visits. Hugs to you and the girls...

**Faith Guthrie Silva** - December 26, 2018 at 08:20 PM

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“ Janice, please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.

**C. Anderson** - December 26, 2018 at 08:06 PM

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“ Hank, There are so many things to say, so many memories to remember, so many tears to shed. You and Janice have been such a part of our lives. We have shared many laughs, conversations on the street, and promises of more times to share. Billy and I will miss you so much. Love to Janice, Olivia, and Catherine.

**Dianne Pillsbury** - December 25, 2018 at 05:48 AM



“ Janice and girls, we are so sorry to hear about Hank. He was such a friendly and funny gentleman. Please know y'all are in our prayers . Love to you and the girls!

**Jeanne Ashworth** - December 26, 2018 at 10:21 PM

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“ Hank, I am so grateful to have had that long talk with you up on the farm at the river last week. You told me then how blessed you were to share such a good life with Janice. Lee and I send our sincerest thoughts and prayers to Janice and her girls. Lee and John Davis

**John Davis** - December 24, 2018 at 06:31 PM



“ Janice, Catherine, and Olivia: Desi and I are praying for you and your family. Please hold onto your memories and each other. I shared many interesting Post Office talks with Hank over the years . He will be missed by many.

**Tina Gulley** - December 25, 2018 at 11:29 AM

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“ Hank, I'm not sure where to start, buddy. You helped to mold so many of us as kids into hard working young men. I have known you for as long as I can remember, yet your lessons about work ethic are my fondest memories that I carry. They helped mold me into the man I am today. I love and miss you, you will always hold a place in my heart. My deepest sympathies to Janice, Catherine and Olivia. Words cannot express my sorrow for your loss.

**Richard Sturtz III** - December 24, 2018 at 03:31 PM



“ Hank, we have been best buddies since the 60's. More great times with you and Andy than I can remember. Love all your siblings and the magical times at Magnolia. I love you man. I never saw you happier than your years with Janice Marie. I will miss you every day. RIP my friend

**Bill Mitchell** - December 24, 2018 at 11:25 PM



“ Janice, Olivia, and Catherine, My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of sadness and sorrow. HankieHank was one of my favorite folks he touch everyone in a kind way and for that he will live on through all of us. Celebrate his wonderful life and thank you for sharing him. Love, light and prayers. Connie Hogan

**connie** - December 25, 2018 at 09:04 AM



“ Janice, Olivia and Catherine, Our thoughts are with you during this painful and sorrowful time. Hank was the quintessential husband and father and so very kind and gentle. We will really miss him. We hope the many wonderful memories you have will help you through this difficult time. Love, Bertie and Scott

**Bertie Fife** - December 26, 2018 at 09:47 PM



“ Andy: Hank was a brother to me too.  
Condolences, Hutch

**Hutch** - December 27, 2018 at 11:33 AM



“ I've been thinking about Hank a lot these last few days, remembering many wonderful times we had at Quailhill and Magnolia. One in particular stands out as typical of Hank's joy of life. I was down at Magnolia for my annual visit and it was during hay season. At the time they were using a baler that would throw the bales into the wagon and we would stack the bales. Hank's idea was for me to catch the bales in the air then hand the bale to him. It sounded like a good idea to a 12 year old so I tried it, oh yeah, it knocked me on by butt big time. Nonetheless, good old big brother Hank persuaded me to try again. Yup, same result and laughed about it all summer and brings a chuckle to me now. Rest in peace my friend/cousin/brother.

Markle Austin

**J Markle Austin** - December 28, 2018 at 08:47 AM



“ Hank, It is so terribly hard to tell you and your girls how much I will miss you through the coming weeks and years. We did not sail together enough or eat enough crabs and oysters together or drink enough beer together. Now you are gone and we will have to wait until we join our spirits together in the heavens. I will miss you every day until that day arrives. Bon Voyage my spiritual brother...til then, Ken

**Ken Parsons** - December 28, 2018 at 10:51 AM