



John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland

December 17, 1953 - February 17, 2015

John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland, Jr., 61, a lifetime farmer of Charles City, VA passed away suddenly February 17, 2015. His helpful spirit, tender patience, caring smile and genuine concern for others will be deeply missed. His heartfelt love for his family and friends was without equal, especially for his children and grandchildren. Johnny loved dancing, country music, driving a truck, hunting, and tilling the soil alongside his family. He was a joy to all who knew him.

Johnny was preceded in death by his father, John A. Copland.

He is survived by his mother, Ethel Copland; two devoted daughters, Candace Copland Dolan (Nathan) and Lori Copland Rainier (Jamie), and their mother, Kim Carter; his fiancée, Nancy Bayne; a brother and best friend, George Copland (Jane); and two grandchildren, Nate and Hunter.

A funeral service will be held 1 p.m., Monday at Westover Episcopal Church, 6401 John Tyler Memorial Highway, Charles City, VA 23030. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday at Vincent Funeral Home, 9923 Pocahontas Trail, Providence Forge, VA 23140.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, www.heart.org/ or to Westover Episcopal Church, (address above).

Cemetery Details

Westover Episcopal Church Cemetery

6401 John Tyler Memorial Hwy.
Charles City, VA 23030

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 22. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, Providence Forge Chapel
9923 Pocahontas Trail
Providence Forge, VA 23140
(804) 966-7075

Service

FEB 23. 1:00 PM (ET)

Westover Episcopal Church
6401 John Tyler Memorial Hwy
Charles City, VA 23030
<http://westoverepiscopalchurch.org/>

Tribute Wall

CO

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this sad, sad, time. Please accept our prayers and support. The Corbin Family*

Corbin - February 26, 2015 at 01:39 PM

MM

“ *dear friends - my deepest sorrow for the loss of Nonny. I have many fond memories of all of you and our wonderful days at York Academy. George and Mrs Copland, I know you will remain strong - you must. Nonny does not want you to cry. Thank you all for being a very important part of my life. Love, Mike Murray YA teacher 1970-1973.*

Mike Murray - February 23, 2015 at 08:39 AM

AS

“ *I remember carrying Johnny and George on my back around the church yard when we were younger. He always had a smile. I didn't get to see him much after I moved away from Charles City but was always glad to when I did. I know he was a good steward of the land intrusted to him by God. Sorry I cannot get down to the service but the family will be in my prayers. Love, Albert Smith*

albert Smith - February 23, 2015 at 05:53 AM

JH

“ When we were kids, Nonny and I played little league and also pony league ball in the summer. Although we played on opposite teams we got along well. Nonny was very competitive and had the talent to back it up! I hated to see him come to bat because you knew that he was either going to knock it out of the park or when he got on base he would steal his way to home plate in short order. Nonny would crowd a plate sometimes i think just to get hit and take a walk just so he could steal the rest of the bases ! He definitely had a reputation for stealing bases! I don't think it bothered him a bit to get hit! I think he might have even liked it! Nonny was a hard nut! We all took the ball games very seriously, but win or lose we always remained friends.

After our formative years, Nonny stayed on the farm and I got into long distance truckin. Needless to say we got to see each other maybe 1/2 dozen times in about forty plus years. When we saw each other, baseball was always one of the first thing's that was brought up. We would always ask each other about family and friends, and in later years talked about truckin since he had gotten involved in that also. We always met as long lost friends, each glad to see the other. The funny thing is we only interacted with each other as kids playing ball, but at the same time formed a relationship that lasted up till his death. Nonny and I had a few things in common. We were both lucky enough to be raised by loving parents that pointed us in the right direction. We were raised in the church, taught to work, taught to respect others and also of course family values.

I ran into Nonny last week at Harvey Roach's funeral and as always we picked up where we had left off years before. When we met it was if we had seen each other only days before. We talked about family, friends, farming and truckin and yes it all started off with a grin from each and yes again, it started off with summer ball!! Nonny will be missed dearly by family and lot of friends but will never be forgotten.

"PLAY BALL"

Nonny....."I'LL SEE YOU ON THE DIAMOND"

GOD BLESS US ALL

Jim Hockaday - February 21, 2015 at 09:55 PM

LK

“ *You will be missed by so many. I have many memories of you, and each one I will treasure. I am praying for you girls & the entire family. If I can be of any help during this most difficult time, please don't hesitate to call on me. Laura Adams Key*



Laura Key - February 21, 2015 at 08:40 PM

RC

“ If I was sitting in a pickup truck having a conversation with Nonny right now, we would be smiling and laughing at the incredible memories of Little League Baseball in Charles City. High fivin thinking about Arthur Adams telling us all to "give me 25 cents worth skip" and Archie Crowe encouraging us after every play (good or bad). We would both be silent for awhile and wander off in our memories of a time well lived in Charles City as young boys. We would remember our parents turning a junk yard into a ball field (thank you Mr. Washburn) and we are both still proud to say we were "Yankees" for years on end. We both missed Robert Burrough's and the Roadrunners, but our little brothers didn't and we would talk for awhile about that. We would get quiet again and then one or the other of us would bring up how much we wished the "freedom of choice" had not taken away our freedom of choice. Nobody asked Nonny or me how we wanted to continue to be schooled. I am sure that all of the right decisions were made for our nation but for two sixty one year olds sitting in a pickup remembering what it was like to be eight year olds and have your world turned upside down, we would probably sit quietly for a while longer. Without a doubt, we would start talking about the girls in our lives, loves, losses, regrets. Then we would get on to what is most important in both of our lives. Candace and Carol Lea, Lori and Jon Michael and grandchildren and missing our Dad's and all of that would get us to exactly where we were today, sitting in a pick up truck talking about everything of importance in our pasts that brings us to our now. It is hard to be sixty one and not have taken time to reflect. Nonnie on a tractor, me in a pickup going from job to job. It is about this time that one or the other of us would tear up. Mistakes, sure; wish I hadn't's, yes; glad I didn't get caught, you bet. Thank God HE loves me; without a doubt!!! Praise God for HIS grace and Praise Him for wanting us both. (Nonnie, please don't steal home in heaven until I get there) Your brother, Randy Caldwell

Randy Caldwell - February 21, 2015 at 05:56 PM

NM

“ Nancy & Dick Harris, Estelle, David and Warren Mountcastle purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland.



Nancy & Dick Harris, Estelle, David and Warren Mountcastle
- February 21, 2015 at 09:27 AM

PS

“ For John's family, A farmer is a great American, and John was that and more. I have know the Coplands for 50 years, country neighbors for over 35 years. I remember them coming to Weyanoke and borrowing from dad a tool or getting a couple bags of seed to finish the field, and Dad (Dennis Overman) doing the same. He is working the fields in heaven now. May you find comfort and peace in celebrating his life. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you now and for the days to follow.

love

Peggy Overman Sullivan
Charles Sullivan

Peggy Sullivan - February 20, 2015 at 09:02 AM

CD

“ So sorry to read about Nonny this morning. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. While we did not keep in touch through the years I still remember the good times that the "group from York" had. If the family needs anything that I can assist with please let me know. God has another angel in his house.

Connie Marston Denby

Connie Marston Denby - February 20, 2015 at 08:53 AM

CL

“ I remember when the Copland boys "invaded" YA. Both Nonny and George were always dressed impeccable with every hair in place- their sheepish grins would melt your heart- and then- to find out how athletic they were - the complete package...Having graduated with Nonny this is so hard to grasp- He was so special- always kind, considerate and genuine. He will be remembered with smiles and Love and I'm forever grateful that I was able to call him friend. Love and prayers to the family.

Cindy Cornwell Lynn
YA Class of '72

Cindy Lynn - February 20, 2015 at 08:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland.



February 20, 2015 at 08:06 AM

AP

“ Johnny's friends and family at Westover Episcopal Church will miss him a great deal. But, we know that he is with his Lord who loves him more than we can even imagine. You will always be remembered as one who cherished God's wonderful creation. This Irish Blessing came to mind, as I prayed for you today.
May the roads rise to meet you,
May the sun shine warmly on your face and the rains fall softly on your fields.
Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His Hand.



April - February 19, 2015 at 11:52 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland.



February 19, 2015 at 08:08 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland.



February 19, 2015 at 04:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of John "Nonny", "Johnny" Augustine Ruffin Copland.



February 19, 2015 at 03:20 PM



“ *Just can't believe he is gone. Seems like yesterday he was standing at the window looking at his beautiful 2nd daughter Lori. He loved his family so very much. Please hold on to your memories girls, as your Father may be gone from this life he will always be with you both and just a thought away. Mary Golden*

mary golden - February 19, 2015 at 12:39 PM