



Joseph Clinton Hale

September 20, 1925 - March 2, 2019

Joseph Clinton Hale Jr., 93, of Greeley, Colorado, passed away on March 2nd, 2019, surrounded by his family.

Born in Altoona, Pennsylvania in 1925, he was the son of Joseph and Phoebe Hale. He is survived by his two daughters, Kathy Hale of Greeley, and Linda Shockley (Jesse) of Greeley, his two granddaughters, Kimberly Shultz (Jake) of Greeley, and Kyle Shockley of Waipahu, Hawaii, and by his great grandson, Nathaniel Kuponon Donnell of Waipahu. Joe was preceded in death by his wife, Laurene, his parents, and four brothers.

Joe joined the Navy at age 17 and served 4 years. He was a 40 millimeter gunner on the light cruiser, USS Mobile, and fought in the Pacific Theater during WWII. While in the Navy he earned his GED. After the Navy, he moved to Greeley, where he met his wife, Laurene Sjoberg. They were married on April 2, 1949, and enjoyed 64 wonderful years together. Joe worked as a mechanic until he joined the Greeley Fire Department in 1957, and retired in 1979, as Captain. If there was something needing fixing, Joe could do it. He was a locksmith, fixed bikes, and worked on lawnmowers and other small machinery. At his passing, he was the oldest retired firefighter in Greeley.

Joe was a wonderful father and grandfather and had a great sense of humor. He liked fishing and camping and took his family on many fun trips. He played guitar and harmonica and devoted much of his time playing at the hospital and at nursing homes. He was a member of The Sunshine Band of Greeley. Joe was always helping others and gave of his time freely.

Joe will be missed by all who knew him. Family and friends are invited to celebrate Joe's life at the State Armory Event Center, 614 8th Avenue (Greeley), on Saturday, March 16th, from 2 to 5 pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to the Greeley Firefighters Benevolent Fund. If you'd like to make a donation, please make check to: Greeley Firefighters Local 888, PO Box 62, Greeley, CO 80632, or drop by any Greeley fire station and drop it off in a sealed envelope directed to Local 888.

An online guestbook and obituary available at www.moserfuneralservice.com.

Events

MAR **Celebration of Life Open House** 02:00PM - 05:00PM

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State Armory Event Center

614 8th Avenue, Greeley, CO, US, 80631

Comments



“ Chief Bill Martin, Retired purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Joseph Clinton Hale.



Chief Bill Martin, Retired - March 15, 2019 at 11:45 AM



“ I hired on with the Greeley Fire Department in September 1987 about the time Joe was retiring. Although I never got to work with Joe, I served during the time the stories of Joe were still being told and I learned of him through those old stories. They called him Handsome Joe. I asked one of the old timers why he was called that and I was told it was because Joe told everyone that he would be happy to give out handsome lessons to anyone who needed them. Joe would occasionally stop by a fire station now and then and look for a familiar face and a cup of hot coffee. I tried to give him both. Joe stopped by the fire stations fairly regular until he couldn't do it any more. I retired almost 2 years ago and last time I visited a fire station one of the firefighters asked me if I was Joe Hale's replacement. What an honor to be referred to as Joe's replacement. I would never try to fill those boots but I was sad to think what life at the fire station would be like without looking forward to Joe's visits. Rest in Gods arms my friend. I'll miss you.

David Hedstrom - March 11, 2019 at 06:40 PM



“ I was brought to tears by your remembrance. Thank you. I am "Handsome" Joe's granddaughter and your words mean more than you will ever know. Thank you, Handsome David! You have some big boots to fill but I have no doubt, based on your kind words and big heart, you will get the job done. Thank you. From the bottom of my heart.

Kimberly Shultz - March 16, 2019 at 12:58 AM



“ Oh dear! You have touched my heart! I am Joe's granddaughter and believe me, the handsome lessons stretched far beyond the firehouse and to his own family! Boy, did he know how to make me laugh! I will miss him so very much. But I can't thank you enough, David, for sharing the memories to keep him alive. We will love and miss him always. Rest easy, Pops! I mean Handsome Joe!!

Kimberly Shultz - March 16, 2019 at 01:50 AM



“ Always looked forward to Joe stopping by the fire station for a cup of coffee. We loved his stories, guitar playing, and his great sense of humor. He always offered “handsome lessons” to anyone who was willing. We miss you, Joe.

JimBarco - March 11, 2019 at 04:54 PM



“ We will always remember Joe, aka Jose, for his sense of humor. He loved his JoJo so much! He welcomed and loved his buddy Jake to his family and we're grateful for that. Just a great man! He will be missed. Our love and prayers are with the family.

Love,
Sonny & Teresa King

Teresa King - March 10, 2019 at 05:30 PM



“ Kathy and Linda, I will miss Joe a lot. We shared many good times together on the GFD. Many wonderful years at Fire Station no, 2 (new at the time) when I was just 'kid'. He lead the way for my days and years on the Department. We served over ten years as two of the three Captains...also new at that time. He always had me believe he was an Ohio State Buckeye. I loved Joe as much as a person can love someone. Am so sorry I will miss his services but you all will be in our hearts and prayers. Arnold & Donna Hoffman, Surprise, Arizona

Arnold C. Hoffman - March 09, 2019 at 02:03 PM



“ To Joe Family,
Don't know where to start my grandfather trained Joe when he first started on the fire Dept. And he stayed friends all the years. We would come to Toddy's to pick up groceries for the dept I got to know him. We came to family events over the years. What a great person he was. Prayers and thoughts are with you.
The Sanders Demmel Family.

Debbie Demmel - March 11, 2019 at 04:39 PM



“ Kathy, Linda and Family, Joe was quite a character, always loved the times my family would go to your house. Joe always had something to tell you to make you laugh. I'm so honored that I knew Joe. May my prayers and your fond memories get you through this difficult time. Take care and may God bless.

Karen Leis-Warr - March 16, 2019 at 07:11 PM