



Walter "Ed" Edward Hearthway

February 8, 1947 - May 14, 2017

Mardela Springs- Walter "Ed" Edward Hearthway, a resident of Mardela Springs, MD, passed away on Sunday, May 14, 2017 at his residence at the age of 70.

Ed was born in Snow Hill, MD to the late Mildred Ellen (Shockley) and Lester Vincent Hearthway. At the time of his death, Ed was married to Frances Layton Walker.

He graduated from Snow Hill High School in 1965 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps from 1966 to 1970. Duty stations included Okinawa, Vietnam and Japan. Following an honorable discharge in 1970, he enrolled at Mt. St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, formerly Mt. St. Mary's College. Following graduation from Mt. St. Mary's College, Ed received his master's degree in social work administration in 1975 from the University of MD School of Social Work. He was employed for 35 years by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Developmental Disabilities Administration. During this time Ed also worked as a private consultant with the Accreditation Council and the Columbus Organization.

Ed was an active member of various veterans' organizations including the Wicomico County War Memorial Committee, American Legion Post 218 Sharptown, Sons of the American Legion, Heroes Haven, and a life member of the Marine Corps League, Military Order of the Devil Dogs, and Veterans of the Foreign Wars Meuse Post 194 Maryland. In addition, Ed was the Coordinator for the Toys for Tots campaign in the lower eastern shore of MD

from 2000 until 2016. Additional memberships included the Galestown Ruritan Club and Salisbury Elks.

He is survived by his wife, Fran; his daughter, Megan Lesley Hearthway Palmer and husband, Aaron; a granddaughter, Celia; a grandson, Beckett, all of Baltimore; a nephew, Jonathan Vincent Johnson and wife, Jennifer, and their sons, Tyler and Peyton, all of Bishopville; step-daughters, Kelli Lewis and husband, Jason, and their children, Karly and Kameryn, all of Mardela Springs, and Kimberly Wheatley and husband, Hank of Galestown; and special friends, Merle and Tom Wheatley and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Ed's dad preceded him in death in January 1977, his sister Mary Ann died in November 2004, and his mom died in November 2015.

Relatives and friends are invited to a visitation on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Short Funeral Home in Delmar, where a memorial service will be held on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Ed's name may be made to: Heroes Haven, c/o Mr. Hank Wheatley, 5832 Wheatley Church Road, Seaford, DE 19973 or to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Meuse Post 194, 821 E. Williams Street, Salisbury, MD 21804.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.shortfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **17**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Short Funeral Home
13 East Grove Street
Delmar, DE 19940
(302) 846-2525
info@shortfh.com

Service

MAY **18**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Short Funeral Home
13 East Grove Street
Delmar, DE 19940
(302) 846-2525
info@shortfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Short Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Walter "Ed" Edward Hearthway*



Short Funeral Home - May 17, 2017 at 04:35 PM

MW

“ *Had the privilege of working with Ed over 25 yrs. with DDA and can honestly say he taught me professionalism in the field. All who knew him will remember he "gave the shirt off his back" for family, friends, Country and community, but also for those he met who often had no one else caring about them.*
Mike Wool

Mike Wool - May 23, 2017 at 10:39 AM

JR

“Mrs. Hearthway and family, I worked with Ed at The Council and by far he was my favorite Surveyor/Reviewer. We had a special bond as my husband was also a U.S. Marine and my father's family is from the Eastern Shore, MD. Ed was extremely meticulous and I often told him how much I enjoyed his reports as it made my job easier. He was a joy to work with and I have thought about him often over the years and just learned today of his passing. I know God has received a beautiful Angel for Ed was truly an Angel here on Earth. He is the epitome of Hebrews 13:2. I send you my deepest prayers during this time of grief and reflection. Until we meet again, Rest in Paradise Ed, Semper Fidelis.



Jenise Ross

Jenise Ross - May 18, 2017 at 03:19 PM

JH

“Fran because of our friendship I got to know Ed. It was a privilege. He was a true gentleman. I loved the talks him and I used to have when he came to see you at work. He was one of a kind. But you know that. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.



judy hummel - May 18, 2017 at 11:07 AM

BR

“Bob and Nancy Rinda purchased the Sapphire S kies Bouquet for the family of Walter "Ed" Edward Hearthway.



Bob and Nancy Rinda - May 17, 2017 at 05:46 PM

CH

“Ed and I had a friendly rivalry.

At least as friendly as any rivalry between a Ravens fan and a Steeler fan could be. Game day texting became a serious battle of “the purple and black are back!”, “say your prayers” and “you need more than Big Ben!”, ending usually with “good game”!

But what I will remember most about Ed was his caring and true concern for people with special needs. His kindness towards my sister with special needs and more recently his concern for my aged mother, showed his deep compassion for people who may be overlooked by some. Caring for his own mother gave Ed a personal insight into the challenges of love and family that he shared with me as I made family decisions of my own. His encouragement in my caregiving journey, even while he was ill himself, was a gift, and I thank him for it.

Now I wonder if they wear purple in heaven.

Christine Harkins

Christine Harkins - May 17, 2017 at 10:37 AM

BP

“I worked with Ed over 30 years ago at the Developmental Disabilities Administration. He was a great man and a wonderful advocate for those who need support. His kind heart and ability to lead through complicated issues were much needed and appreciated by those he served.

Boyd Pusey - May 17, 2017 at 09:55 AM

VF

“To Megan, Jennifer and Jill, I am so sorry for your loss. Ed was one of the first people I saw after I lost my Dad and he had made our family a meatloaf. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Vicki W. Fenoglietto

vicki fenoglietto - May 17, 2017 at 09:32 AM

TK

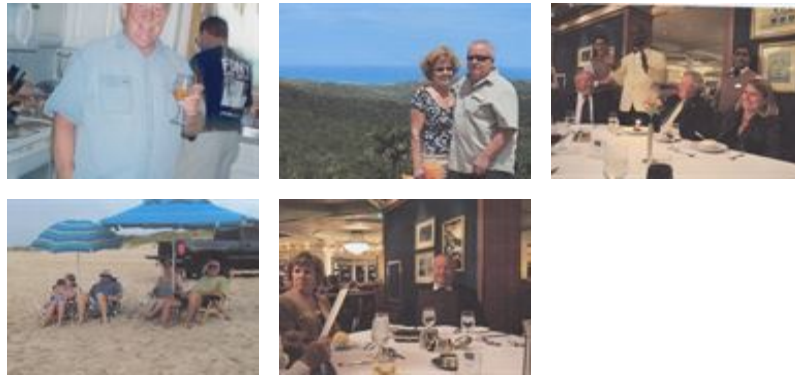
“ Tom Kelman purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Walter "Ed" Edward Hearthway.



Tom Kelman - May 16, 2017 at 04:18 PM



“ 64 files added to the album Life Tributes



Short Funeral Home - May 16, 2017 at 01:38 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Walter "Ed" Edward Hearthway.



May 16, 2017 at 08:12 AM

KG

“ I met Ed when he interviewed me for a position at The Developmental Disabilities Administration. The gratitude I felt for the job turned into respect and affection for the man who advocated diligently for people with disabilities. I could always be honest and upfront with Ed and knew he would respect my opinion. It was an honor Ed. Truly missed by Kathy Graham.

Kathy Graham - May 16, 2017 at 06:26 AM

HH

“to Fran and Ed's family
thanks to a young kid (Dan) who claimed to have no money, Ed and i where introduced and became friends. Over the 43 years of friendship, and lifes ebbs and flows ,Ed has always been there to talk, lend an ear and be with.
The Chinese say that "grey haired friends are worth more than all the yellow gold in the world" How very true. If you have 5 people you can call a friend you are the richest person in the world... I became poorer on Sunday."
Thank you Ed..
Semper Fi

harry hagan - May 15, 2017 at 11:00 PM

DE

“ *In recognition of Ed Hearthway's Honorable Service in the United States Marine Corps, the members of the SSgt Walter F. 'Trae' Cohee III Detachment # 115, Salisbury, MD as of well as the members the Tri-Cities Detachment # 969, Gray, TN of the Marine Corps League would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude for his service to God, Country and Corps as well as our sincere condolences to his family.*



SEMPER FIDELIS

*Don Elseroad
Staff Sergeant USMC (Ret)
MCL Detachment # 115 & # 969*

Don Elseroad - May 15, 2017 at 04:34 PM

DH

“ To Fran and all of Ed' family,
I met Ed in the fall of 1971 as a first semester freshman at Mount Saint Mary's College, hitching a ride to the laundromat in Emmitsburg.
Ed, a marine veteran and junior at the Mount, picked me up in his Champagne Gold 1970 Chevelle Super Sport 396, also on his way to the laundromat. It turned out to be one of the most blessed days of my life as we became friends as the laundry cycles spun.
In my life, I have met many people and have made many acquaintances but true friends like Ed are difficult to find, hard to leave and impossible to forget. Always the consummate Christian gentleman; kind, giving, loyal, courageous, considerate and respectful to all. For those who knew Ed well, no further explanation of his spirit is needed. For those who did not, no explanation is possible.
I will sadly miss Ed's earthly presence but I will patiently wait for the promise of heavenly friendship in our joyful reunion with Ed in God's eternal kingdom through Jesus Christ.

Dan Harkins

Dan Harkins - May 15, 2017 at 01:16 PM