



Jack Walker Kibler

October 26, 2013

JACK WALKER KIBLER, Appalachia VA

Jack Walker Kibler, 89, died Saturday, October 26, at his home. He was born June 8, 1924, in Appalachia, VA, the son of the late Frank and Cora Kibler, and lived in Appalachia all his life. After returning from service in World War II, he graduated from Appalachia High School in 1947, and married Johnnie Chloe Walker, a marriage that endured for 65 years.

He joined the Army Air Corps in 1943 and later served as tail gunner on the B-17 Vonnie Gal, flying bombing missions over Germany. In July 1944, after being disabled by enemy fire, his plane was able to land in Switzerland, where he and his crew were interned until the end of the war. He returned to Appalachia and soon became involved in the insurance business where he remained for his entire career. He retired as president and manager of the Appalachia Insurance Agency in 1991.

He was actively involved in his community his entire adult life. He served for many years on the Appalachia Town Council, several of those as mayor, and returned to Council for further service in his later years. He was a member of the Lions Club, the American Legion, and was a founding member of the Appalachia Rescue Squad. He served on the Wise County School Board Selection Committee and for 20 years on the LENOWISCO Planning District Commission Board of Directors.

For more than 50 years, he was also the "Voice of the Bulldogs," in the Riggs

Stadium press box announcing home football games for Appalachia High School.

He was raised in the Appalachia Methodist Church, but found himself a Presbyterian- by-marriage for the remainder of his life. He was an elder, deacon, and treasurer of the Appalachia Presbyterian Church until it closed in 2000. At that time, he became a member of the Big Stone Gap Presbyterian Church, where he served as elder and on the pastor nominating committee. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Johnnie Chloe, who died in February. He was also preceded in death by six siblings among those lovingly known as The Big Eight. He is survived by his last remaining sibling, William F. Kibler of Newport News, VA.

He is also survived by his daughter, Linda Kibler Smith, and her husband, Ray, of Hampton, VA, and his son, Frank Walker Kibler, and his wife, Judy, of Kingsport, TN; four grandsons, Justin Kibler Smith, and his wife, Tammy, Alexander Kibler, Jeffrey Gold, and Brett Smith; and two great-grandchildren, Madeline Smith and Colton Gold. In addition, he is survived by a large, loving family of in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, November 9, at the First Presbyterian Church in Big Stone Gap, VA. Visitation will be from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., followed by a service at 3:00. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes memorial contributions to the Food Bank of Appalachia, P.O. Box 613, Appalachia, VA 24216, or the First Presbyterian Church, 304 Clinton Ave., Big Stone Gap, VA 24219. Roy A. Green Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 9. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Big Stone Gap Presbyterian Church

Service

NOV 9. 3:00 PM (ET)

Big Stone Gap Presbyterian Church

Tribute Wall

RB

“ Jack was a bit older than me, but always treated me as an equal. When he crossed your path, you remembered him for the gentleman he was.

My heart goes out to his family.

Ronald Bowers

Ronald Bowers - July 30, 2015 at 05:24 PM

TH

“ Many prayers for your family during this time. He truly had a blessed life and touched those around him.



Tammy Hulsey - October 31, 2013 at 10:48 AM

GL

“ Gina Lee lit a candle in memory of Jack Walker Kibler



Gina Lee - October 30, 2013 at 02:52 AM

JM

“ *Janice Rogers Mohn lit a candle in memory of Jack Walker Kibler*



janice rogers mohn - October 29, 2013 at 08:08 PM

BH

“ *Billie Hobbs lit a candle in memory of Jack Walker Kibler*



Billie Hobbs - October 29, 2013 at 05:35 PM