



Paul L. "Moose" Mason

August 15, 1931 - January 13, 2023

Former Morgan County Sheriff and pillar of the community, Paul L. "Moose" Mason, 91, of Monrovia, passed peacefully from this life and was reunited with his beloved wife Carolyn, in the early morning hours of Friday, January 13, 2023. He was born in Glens Valley, IN, on August 15, 1931, to the late Virgil and Bessie (Skaggs) Mason.

The youngest of eight children, Paul's father was a farmer who rented farmland, requiring the family to move often. He attended Mooresville High School before being drafted into the United States Army in 1952, proudly serving his country as a Field Communications Chief, a Light Weapons Infantry Man, as well as Radio and Rifle Man during the Korean War. Upon his discharge, his craving for ice cream led him to the old Dairy Queen in Mooresville, where he spontaneously asked a pretty, young lady named Carolyn to accompany him on a date. She accepted and the happy couple were joyously united in marriage on September 26, 1954, spending 58 years together before her passing in 2012.

Early on and driven by the aspiration to be released from a life of poverty, Paul opened Mason's Pure Oil in Mooresville, where the local Town Marshall stopped in the shop one day, offering him a job as a dispatcher. After being told by his doctor that he needed a less stressful job, he graciously accepted, beginning his career in Law Enforcement. Three months in, he was promoted

to Deputy Marshall, and a year later, in 1963, he was hired by the Morgan County Sheriff's Department. In 1970 he was elected as the new Sheriff, serving for eight years, then as County Clerk for four years, Sheriff for four more years, as well as serving eight years on the Morgan County Council, all while volunteering on the Mooresville Fire Department. During his time on the police force, and as the entity grew, he initiated the Sheriff's Department Merit System, the purchase of patrol cars, launched the Horse and Motorcycle Patrols, in addition being the Chief Investigator on approximately forty homicide investigations. Along with diligently serving his community, he also began Mason & Mason Auctioneering as well as Mason Excavating and was a Bail Bondsman. He was a member of the Gasburg Baptist Church, Mooresville Masonic Lodge #78 F&AM, The Indiana Auctioneering Association, Indiana Sheriff's Association and the Scottish Rite Cathedral. Truly a man of many talents, and one not to let grass grow under his feet, his list of accomplishments is held second to none.

In his free time, he continued to farm with his favorite Farmall tractor, raised cattle, horses, and pigs, plus took the family camping in their Motorhome. Although he had a stubborn side and was known to be stern, he was sincerely a great husband, father, and grandfather. Without a prejudice bone in his body, he continuously saw the good in people acknowledging that people aren't bad, they just sometimes make mistakes. With an immense sense of humor, he thoroughly enjoyed making people laugh, flashing his big, adorable grin while doing so. In an interview, Paul was asked how he would like to be remembered. His response was, "I'd like to be remembered as a good Sheriff who tried to do his best for the community." That goal was met, but he will also be remembered as a kind, sweet, generous man who left an indelible mark on his community, leaving behind a legacy of what a true man should be.

Along with his parents, Paul was preceded in death by his wife, Carolyn L. (Bean) Mason; brothers, Arthur, Harry, Floyd, and Maurice Mason, and sisters,

Martha Pauley, Mary (Mag) Cherry, and Dorothy Lane.

He leaves behind his daughter, Deborah “Jo” Fraker (Tim) of Martinsville and son, Paul L. “Butch” Mason (Julie) of Monrovia; grandsons, Aaron Fraker (Ashley) of Martinsville, Charlie Fraker (Torie) of Martinsville, and Austin Mason (Katy) of Cloverdale; great grandchildren, Brayden Fraker (Maddy) of Morgantown, Trent Fraker, Jake Fraker, Kaylee Fraker, A.J. Fraker, Virgil & Leonard Storm, Caroline Mason, Michael Fleener, and Lizzy Owen.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, from 2pm to 6:45pm at the funeral home, with a Masonic Rite Service beginning promptly at 6:45pm. On Wednesday an additional hour of calling will be held from Noon to 1pm, with a Celebration of Life Funeral Service starting at 1pm. Pastors Jack Elliot and Luke Jackson will officiate, and burial will follow at White Lick Cemetery with full Military and Law Enforcement Honors. Memorial Contributions may be made in Paul’s memory by mail to Indy Honor Flight, PO Box 10, Plainfield, IN 46168, or online at <https://indyhonorflight.org/donate/>. To share a favorite story, send an online condolence to the family, or light a candle in Paul’s memory, please visit his tribute page at www.lightmemorial.com.

Cemetery Details

White Lick Cemetery

13326 N. White Lick Road
Mooresville, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Masonic Rites

JAN 17. 6:45 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 18. 1:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Tribute Wall

BV

“ So sorry to hear this. He was a good friend to my father Clifford Jackson. Rest in peace prayers for the family.
Beverly Vanke (Jackson)

Beverly Vanke - January 29, 2023 at 01:04 PM

MS

“ I graduated with Butch, and spent many days over at his house, while I was growing up. When you were at his house you were treated like another one of his kids. They were always welcoming.

Michael Sutton - January 18, 2023 at 06:46 PM



“ I will never forget him coming to our door ask me if I knew anything about the car up on the power lines I thought he had lost his mind ..I opened the door and there was a car half way up the ground wire. Went to school no one believed me. It came out in the paper next day. Sorry to the family for their loss He was a good man.

Barry Parmerlee - January 18, 2023 at 11:50 AM

DF

“ Uncle Paul has always been a somewhat silent mentor to me in my early years. and in later years when I actually got to spend time with him & all of the Mason family I knew how truly blessed I was and am. Unfortunately due to my father Harry's (Paul's older brother), passing when I was barely 5 years old, I knew of him and what he stood for. He was always a man that I admired as I was growing up and helped me to know what integrity, character and being there to help without being judgmental to all others was about! I am sure there has been a lot of long awaited welcomes since he has arrived in Heaven! RIP Uncle Paul! I love u ❤️ Darlene



Darlene Mason Fyffe - January 18, 2023 at 10:05 AM

GS

“ From the Swinney/Johnson family
A very fine man and a great friend to our family. He is now resting with Carolyn by his side. REST IN PEACE MY FRIEND

Greg Swinney - January 18, 2023 at 09:13 AM

SC

“ Paul , was one of the finest man I know. The love he had for his family and others through the years. One of a kind loving memories ,
Rest in peace Paul



Sandra Arleen Chitwood - January 17, 2023 at 08:25 PM



“ 29 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - January 17, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes* was purchased for the family of Paul L. "Moose" Mason.



January 17, 2023 at 07:16 AM



“ 102 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - January 16, 2023 at 07:02 PM

JM

“ Jeannie McCloud-Stephens lit a candle in memory of Paul L. "Moose" Mason



Jeannie McCloud-Stephens - January 16, 2023 at 04:38 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Paul L. "Moose" Mason.



January 16, 2023 at 02:12 PM

MF

“ A great sheriff, community servant and friend. Always a smile and always made people feel comfortable in his presence. He was always a pleasure to work with. RIP good and faithful servant!



Minnie Finchum - January 16, 2023 at 08:25 AM

RF

“ Butch and Debbie and all the family we send our heartfelt condolences. Paul was bigger than life and never seemed to know how admired he was. He encouraged me to run as a state rep but, the joke was, he didn't even vote for me (didn't live in the district then)! Always encouraging and compassionate as well as strict. One good man! He'll always be missed. Sincerely Ralph and Ann Foley

Ralph and Ann Foley - January 15, 2023 at 11:18 PM

DA

“ *Condolences to the families. He will never be forgotten.* ”



Doug Allen - January 15, 2023 at 08:30 PM

SF

“ *You were a Beautiful Light in this World!! We will Miss you Terribly. Till we meet again...* ”



Shari, Mark & Family - January 15, 2023 at 07:16 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul L. "Moose" Mason.* ”



January 15, 2023 at 06:53 PM

JR

“ *Jackie Royal lit a candle in memory of Paul L. "Moose" Mason* ”



Jackie Royal - January 15, 2023 at 06:39 PM

OF

“ On behalf of Lilly Fire/Rescue purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Paul L. "Moose" Mason.



On behalf of Lilly Fire/Rescue - January 15, 2023 at 04:49 PM

SB

“ Butch, Debbie and family, we are so sorry for your loss. As a young officer I learned a great deal from your father. I loved to stop at the old jail and visit with Moose and Carolyn both. He was a great officer. He will be sorely missed. May God be with all of you.

Shannon and Vickie Buskirk

shannon buskirk - January 15, 2023 at 12:08 PM

SS

“ We extend our condolences to Paul's family and feel blessed that we got to know him. He was a wonderful person and it was a special time when Mick would get Paul laughing about something silly.

Sue Sigler - January 15, 2023 at 11:36 AM

DL

Great man great sheriff! Lucky to have known him!

David Lee - January 15, 2023 at 04:29 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Paul L. "Moose" Mason.*



January 15, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ *What can We say ? He was the nicest , kind, down to earth guy we could have known. But always done his job fairly So glad he was in our life. He made it better, and what a laugh he had. He will be missed but not forgotten !!Gene and Darlene Atkinson.*

atkinson - January 15, 2023 at 04:13 AM



“ *A great man, thoughts and prayers are with the family*

Danny Allen - January 14, 2023 at 09:08 PM



“ *to the absolute best great grandpa I could ever ask for.rest easy up there papaw,love you more (babe)❤️*



Kaylee Fraker - January 14, 2023 at 09:06 PM

TA

“ Tammy lit a candle in memory of Paul L.
"Moose" Mason



Tammy - January 14, 2023 at 06:10 PM

TA

“ You are going to be missed

Tammy - January 14, 2023 at 06:09 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the
family of Paul L. "Moose" Mason.



January 14, 2023 at 06:06 PM

BM

“ Betty Mattox lit a candle in memory of Paul L.
"Moose" Mason



Betty Mattox - January 14, 2023 at 04:57 PM

RT

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family.*



Roy (Face) & Stacy Thompson - January 14, 2023 at 04:50 PM

LI

“ *Lindsays lit a candle in memory of Paul L. "Moose" Mason*



Lindsays - January 14, 2023 at 02:48 PM

VA

“ *Virginia Austermiller lit a candle in memory of Paul L. "Moose" Mason*



Virginia Austermiller - January 14, 2023 at 04:07 AM

CB

“ *RIP Moose. As a young deputy prosecutor, you lived the life that showed me what it meant to be a dedicated public servant. I thank you for that always. Godspeed. C. Burnham, Retired Indiana trial court judge.*

Chris Burnham - January 13, 2023 at 07:53 PM

JC

“ *Jan Holcomb Cummick lit a candle in memory of Paul L. "Moose" Mason*



Jan Holcomb Cummick - January 13, 2023 at 06:55 PM