

Moore Funeral Service

Dr. Harold V. Knight

(May 13, 1932 - July 13, 2016)

Dr. Harold V. Knight, 84, of Hattiesburg, died July 13, 2016, at his home. Services will be at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, July 16, 2016, at Hardy Street Baptist Church, followed by a private family burial in Highland Cemetery. Dr. Knight was a two sport star at Meridian High School, where he was All Big 8 in basketball and a stalwart pitcher on the baseball team. It was during this time he met the love of his life, Anne Miller. The two high school sweethearts were married almost 64 years. In 1950 he played for the Meridian Millers professional baseball team while attending Livingston State where he played basketball. He was signed by the New York Yankees in 1951 and was an ace relief pitcher in their farm system, until an arm injury ended his baseball career and he turned to coaching. Knight coached at Greenwood High and Meridian High, leading the Wildcats to the state baseball championship in 1957. In 1958 he became head basketball and assistant football coach at Louisiana College. The next year he was named head football coach and athletic director. He was inducted into the Louisiana College Hall of Fame in 1996. His overall record as a head football coach was 70-19-1. Dr. Knight worked at Louisiana Tech and earned a master's degree from Northwestern LA University before moving the family to Hattiesburg where he obtained a Doctorate in Education from the Univ. of Southern Mississippi. He taught at USM for 30 years, teaching graduate level statistics in the Ed Psych Dept. He was known as a tough but fair teacher, who also kept his students entertained with his wry wit. He was published many times during his academic career and was utilized as a consultant with numerous school systems in Louisiana and Mississippi. He was recognized as an Outstanding Educator in America (1973), an International Man of Achievement (1974), and Who's Who in American Education (1994). Many of his former players remember him as Coach "Jug" Knight, and everyone that knew him enjoyed his keen sense of humor, his love of his family, a lifelong love of sports which he passed on to his five sons, and his intelligent mind which amazed us all. "Pops", to his grand and great grandchildren, considered his greatest legacy to be his five boys and their families. Dr. Knight was preceded in death by his parents, Elbert and Bessie Knight and seven brothers and



sisters. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Anne Miller Knight of Hattiesburg; five sons, Chuck Knight (Cindy), Steve Knight (Regina) and Larry Knight (Pam), all of Hattiesburg, David Knight (Jennifer) of Ft. Walton Beach and Don Knight (Debbie) of Atlanta; 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to Gideon's International, or the charity of your choice. Visitation will be Friday from 5-8 p.m. at Moore Funeral Home in Hattiesburg.

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