



SALEM *Funerals & Cremations*
OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE VOGLER FAMILY

120 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Phone: 336.722.6122 Fax: 336.722.6922

Se habla español

Why Choose Us

Our Services

Pre-planning

Obituaries



Visitation information

Salem Funeral Home
120 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Sunday, Nov 20, 2016
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
[map](#)

Service information

Salem Funeral Home Chapel
120 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Sunday, Nov 20, 2016
1:30 p.m.
[map](#)

Marvin Gray Crater

May 15, 1925 - Nov 17, 2016
Forsyth County

Marvin Gray Crater died peacefully Thursday, November 17, 2016, in his 91st year, following a long decline in health. His family appreciates the tender and professional care provided by Winston-Salem Nursing/Rehabilitation Center and Hospice.

Whether we knew Marvin as "Skip," "Coach," "Sergeant," "PeePaw," or "Pa," many of us will remember his impact on our lives.

Marvin was born on May 15, 1925, and grew up in a family of ten children raised by James Monroe and Jesse Kimel Crater in the Moravian community of West Salem. He is survived by his oldest sister, Evelyn Crater Vickers, and a brother, M. Douglas (Sandy) Crater.

Other loved ones who grieve his passing are his wife, Janet Jones Crater, his children Dale Crater (John) Mitchell and Michael (Sheila) Crater (son Jayme Crater died in 1991), his stepchildren Karen Brunt Tips and Steve (Karen) Brunt. He was PeePaw or Pa to seven grandchildren who all made him proud, ten precious great-grandchildren, and many of their young friends. Several dear nieces and nephews remained close to him, as did many colleagues and young people he coached and mentored.

Skip Crater's years at R. J. Reynolds Senior High School provided a great foundation for his adult life. He loved baseball and he played well enough to be recruited by the New York Yankees farm team, the Norfolk Tars.

World War II interrupted his professional career, but didn't keep him out of baseball. As a PFC Medical Aidman, he also played for the 10th Replacement Depot at Litchfield, near Birmingham, England, a team that clinched championships in 1944 and 1945. Returning to Norfolk in 1946, Skip played for the New York Yankees organization for nine seasons and remained as a manager for four more seasons.

On October 16, 1956, Skip joined the Winston-Salem Police Department, serving the community for 26 years and retiring as Sergeant Crater from the S. Division Midnight Squad #2 in 1982.

In 1976, while still with the police department, Sergeant Crater took on the Wake Forest University baseball team, and in 1977, the team won the ACC Championship. In 1982, Coach Crater was honored as ACC coach of the year. He guided the WFU team for 12 years, posting a 269-203-7 record. Remembered by Winston-Salem kids for the many summer baseball camps he held at WFU as well as by the baseball teams he coached, Coach Crater was honored with the Winston-Salem/Bill Slack Community Service Award in 1999 and inducted into the R. J. Reynolds High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2012.

Throughout his long life, he remained a good police officer and a great coach for all of us.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 20, 2016, at Salem Funeral and Cremations, 120 South Main Street in Winston-Salem, with a visitation before the service at 12:30 p.m.

Donations in remembrance may be made to the charitable organization of choice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.salemfh.com.

Condolences

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Donnie Bobbitt | Skip gave me the opportunity to play baseball at Wake Forest and it was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Coach Crater was a great person to be around and will be missed. |
| Ken Gerrity | I had the honor of playing for "Skip" for 4 years and was a part of his 1977 ACC Championship team. He was a great coach and an even greater person. You taught me things that I didn't even realize until later in life. Thank you Coach-you will be missed. |

[Click to send a condolence](#)

[Why Choose Us](#)

[About Us](#)

[Meet the Staff](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Funeral Services](#)

[Grief Resources](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Mobile site \(phones only\)](#)

[Pre-planning](#)

[Pre-planning Forms](#)

[Helpful documents](#)

[Obituaries](#)

[Search Obituaries](#)

[Subscribe](#)

120 South Main Street

Winston-Salem, NC 27101

(336) 722-6122

Fax (336) 722-6922



We are not affiliated with Dignity memorial providers or Vogler and Son's Funeral Home located at Reynolda, Clemmons, and Forsyth Memorial Park

Copyright © Salem Funerals & Cremations. Web services provided by Radiant Web, Raleigh, NC.