



Joseph Downey Parriott

February 15, 1933 - April 14, 2024

Joseph Downey Parriott, age 91, of Moundsville, West Virginia - a Loving Husband, Industrial Engineer, U.S. Navy Veteran, Home Builder, Landlord, Humanitarian, Politician, Historian, Author, Community Activist - went to be with the Lord on April 14, 2024.

Joe was born on February 15, 1933, in Marshall County, West Virginia to Raymond Walton Parriott, a farmer, and Flora Leah Downey, a teacher. Joe attended Park View, 1st Ward Grade School, and Moundsville High School. Joe graduated from West Virginia University in 1956 with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering. In 1956 he was inducted into the U.S. Navy where he proudly served for 19 months. Joe returned to Marshall County following his service to his country, where he met the love of his life, Nellie L. Byrd. The two were married on June 29, 1968. After their marriage, Joe and Nellie traveled the world together side-by-side and with family. When they were not traveling, the two spent every day together at their home in Moundsville, West Virginia. Joe was employed at Wheeling Steel Corporation, Continental Can Company and Ormet Corporation, serving as an Industrial Engineer. For decades, Joe has built and purchased dozens of homes which made him most known as the local Landlord. Joe prided himself in public service, including the Salvation Army Advisory Board, CHANGE, Inc Board of Directors and served one term in the West Virginia House of Delegates.

Joe's family, the Parriott family, one of the oldest in Marshall County, participated in the formation of the county. Joe's great-great-great-

grandmother, Martha (Clarke) Parrott, settled in Moundsville with her five children, following the death of her husband, Christopher Parrott, in 1820. He was a Revolutionary War Sergeant and died in Hampshire County (later Mineral County), (West) Virginia. Joe's parents, Raymond and Flora, managed the Marshall County Infirmary, commonly called the "Poor House," from April 1939 until October 1946. As such, Joe devoted a large part of his life to recording local history. Joe believed that all Americans, particularly students, need to cultivate a thorough understanding of American history and believed that each generation learns and builds upon the wisdom of preceding generations. Joe wrote many books dedicated to Marshall County history and local Veterans, detailing the history of those 6,467 Marshall County, West Virginia men and women who served in World War II. Joe's major service was that of the local Veterans, spending years of time, money and effort to have the Veteran's Memorial erected at the Marshall County Courthouse. Joe was highly regarded in Marshall County for his major contributions to the preservation of the county history.

Along with his loving wife (Nellie) of 55 wonderful years together, Joe is survived by his beloved family members including David W. Byrd of South Charleston, West Virginia; David, Virginia and Trevor Flick of State College, Pennsylvania; Margaret Cullings of Crofton, Maryland; and Andrew and Christina Byrd, along with their children, Connor and Charlotte of South Charleston, West Virginia. Joe is also survived by his special friends Colette Trader and her partner Matthew Lydick; Jodie Whitlatch and his partner Kerensa Walker; Linda Cunningham Fluharty; Thomas James and James Stultz. Joe also has numerous cousins, friends, colleagues and tenants (past and present) that will surely miss Joe's presence.

A Celebration of Life service for Joe will be held on Friday, April 19, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Grisell's Funeral Home, 400 Jefferson Ave., Moundsville, West Virginia.

The family will receive friends one (1) hour prior to service at the funeral home from 12:00 p.m. – 1 p.m. A luncheon will be held at Simpson United Methodist

in Moundsville, West Virginia immediately following the service. Graveside services are reserved for family members only.

Cemetery Details

Limestone Cemetery

Moundsville, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home
400 Jefferson Ave.
Moundsville, WV 26041

Celebration of Life

APR 19. 1:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home
400 Jefferson Ave.
Moundsville, WV 26041

Tribute Wall

HF

“ Joe and I collaborated on a few Moundsville history project and in doing so I greatly enjoyed the time and conversations, I know he will be missed by all that knew him. Harry Forrester

Harry Forrester - May 30 at 06:58 PM

BP

“ Cuz Joe will always be remembered for his Parriott family research that led to our forefather Christopher Parriott who was a Sgt. under General Washington. Christopher moved to New Creek, Virginia after the war and after his death the family moved to Moundsville, West Virginia.



BUD PARRIOTT - April 20, 2024 at 11:41 AM

CM

“ Cuz Gary & Children Yvonne And Michael lit a candle in memory of Joseph Downey Parriott



Cuz Gary & children Yvonne and Michael - April 20, 2024 at 12:17 AM

MM

“ Joe was my cousin through his father’s family. Despite a 15 year age gap, there are many memories of his taking time to share family stories and history with me. His memory was prodigious, interests varied, and sense of humor quiet but sharp. I will miss him.

Martha Wise McCarthy - April 18, 2024 at 04:59 PM

BB

“ Beverly Baker lit a candle in memory of Joseph Downey Parriott



Beverly Baker - April 18, 2024 at 05:39 AM

BB

I have very good memories of Joe as a wonderful landlord and a great person to talk with. Blessings and prayers to family and friends, Bev Baker

Beverly Baker - April 18, 2024 at 05:41 AM

LF

“ Love,Angela and Jeff Arnett and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Downey Parriott.

Love,Angela and Jeff Arnett and family - April 17, 2024 at 09:58 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph Downey Parriott.*



April 17, 2024 at 09:58 PM



“ *Nancy Roeder, Arvada, Colorado planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Downey Parriott.*

Nancy Roeder, Arvada, Colorado - April 17, 2024 at 08:01 PM



“ *Nancy Roeder, Arvada, Colorado purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joseph Downey Parriott.*



Nancy Roeder, Arvada, Colorado - April 17, 2024 at 08:01 PM



“ *Dear Parriott family,
We did not know your loved one, but are moved to write a note of condolence to you all. Joseph Parriott served the Lord, the World, the USA, West Virginia, Marshall County, Moundsville, and his Loved ones well. He leaves a legacy behind that will not be forgotten. God bless you all as celebrate his life and lay your dear one to rest.*

Bart & Joyce Wiggins - April 17, 2024 at 09:40 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of Joseph Downey Parriott, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.
My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Navy Veteran, Joseph Downey Parriott, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †*

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - April 17, 2024 at 09:33 AM

JK

“ *To the family and friends of Mr. Parriott,

Very sorry about Mr. Parriott. He was a community activist before it became a negative term, and a Republican before it was "cool" in West Virginia. No matter what someone's politics are, the world needs more "Joe Parriotts". Hopefully he left this world knowing he made this small part of it a better place. My thoughts and sympathy go out to Mrs. Parriott and the rest of his family and friends If there is a heaven, I'm sure my father and others are asking him by now "What the heck is going on down there?"*

Jay Knapp - April 17, 2024 at 12:04 AM

RB

“ Ron Bowman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Downey Parriott.

Ron Bowman - April 16, 2024 at 06:14 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Downey Parriott.



April 16, 2024 at 06:14 PM

MF

“ Much Love from Linda Cunningham Fluharty planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph Downey Parriott.

Much Love from Linda Cunningham Fluharty - April 16, 2024 at 12:41 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Downey Parriott.



April 16, 2024 at 12:41 PM