

Clifton R. Mahon Sr.

Obituary



Guest Book

"I am sure sorry to hear about Mr. Mahons passing. I have..."

- Jim McDonald

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NEWPORT NEWS - Clifton R. Mahon, Sr., went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Monday, June 15, 2015, surrounded by his loving family. Clif was born in Highland Springs, Virginia on February 8, 1927 and resided in Highland

Springs and Richmond, during the first part of his life. He was a member of the All Saints Boys' Choir and in 1937 was awarded a gold watch at the age of 10 for attendance, singing and deportment. Clif enjoyed a close relationship with his sister, Phyllis Marshall. He went to work at Richmond Orthotics Lab where he learned the Orthotics & Prosthetics trade. Clif was a [WWII](#) veteran. Although he received the highest scores for marksmanship in his platoon and wanted to serve overseas, he never saw combat. When the Army discovered his field of expertise, they stationed him at the Army Hospital at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. There he worked with wounded veterans, hand crafting artificial limbs and braces which gave injured veterans a second chance at self sufficiency in their lives. In 1953 he married his lifelong sweetheart, Jean Pollard, and in 1956 Clif and his wife Jean moved to Newport News to open Clifton R. Mahon Company as a Certified Orthotist/Prosthetist. He also had satellite businesses in Norfolk and Portsmouth for about 15 years. In 1971, he joined the VA Hospital staff in Hampton where he worked with doctors, physical therapists and psychologists to help veterans return to normalcy after the traumatic loss of limbs. Clif was also contracted to do special projects for [NASA](#), where he custom made collars for monitoring the astronauts in outer space. Clif retired in 1996 after 51 years in the same profession and was one of five people in the nation certified at his level of expertise. Clif was a resident of Newport News for over 60 years. He was a member of The Exchange Club and in 1966 was presented the "Award of Merit for Outstanding Service" and also served as President for several years. Clif was a member of Morrison United Methodist Church in Newport News for 50 years. During his years at Morrison United Methodist Church he sang in the choir and was the Choir Director for many years. He was also a member of the District United Methodist Men's ministry and the District United Methodist Men's Chorus group, where he served as District President of both at times. After the closing of Morrison United Methodist Church, Clif and his wife, Jean, transferred to Chestnut Memorial United Methodist Church, where Clif continued to sing in their choir until his passing. He was also a member of the senior choir group, Swinging Singers, at First Baptist Church. As a member of the Swinging Singers, he went to several nursing homes singing for the elderly. He loved singing and music was a great joy in his life! Clif spent his life serving others in many volunteer programs, including helping building homes with his church family with Habitat for Humanity. Clif was President of the Deer Park Little League during the time his son played baseball. He was adopted by many as a "Father" figure and was beloved by all who knew him. Clif enjoyed cooking and was known for his famous "Lemon Blossoms". He loved spending time with his family and going out to eat! His wife, Jean, was the love of his life; his children and grandchildren were his pride and joy! Clif is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Jean Sharman Pollard Mahon; his daughter Sharman Rae Allen (her husband Jim Allen); his son, Clifton Rae Mahon, Jr. (his wife Lynn Mahon); his grandchildren, Jordan and Daniel Allen, Jeanie and Simon Mahon; his sister, Phyllis Marshall; his goddaughter, Lynn Young; and many nephews and nieces who love him dearly. Clif was preceded in death by his parents, Chester R. Mahon and Francis Mahon, and his eldest sister, Norma Sprouse. The family would like to give special thanks to the Mennowood Retirement Community for all the love and care they gave Clif and continue to give his wife, Jean. There aren't enough words to express how much we appreciate all you have done for us, especially during Clif's last precious days! Special thanks to Chestnut Memorial Methodist Church and Sheena Banks. The family would also like to thank their loved ones and the many friends for all the support, care and help during this difficult time -we love you all! The family will receive friends from 7 to 8 pm on Sunday, June 21st, at W. J. Smith & Son Funeral Home. A celebration of Clif's life will be held on Monday, June 22nd, at 2 pm at Chestnut Memorial United Methodist Church in Newport News, Virginia. The family is asking any donations in Clif's honor be made to The [Mennowood Foundation](#) c/o The Mennowood Retirement Community, 13030 Warwick Blvd., Newport News, Virginia, 23602. Arrangements by W. J. Smith & Son Funeral Home.