



Larry Rex Hale

May 2, 1935 - February 14, 2020

Larry Rex Hale, 84 of New Castle, went to rest on February 14, 2020. Rex taught sixth grade in Craig County Public Schools, was a musician in multiple bands from the 1950's on, but is probably best known as a paramedic and founding member of Craig County Rescue & EMS.

Rex was preceded in death by his parents, Bill & Bernice Hale; and by his sister & brother-in-law Joy & Walton Paxton. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Betty (Switzer) Hale; and brother, Leslie (Lanelle) Fisher. He leaves behind his son, Shayne (Pam) Hale; his daughter Lynne Hale; his son-in-law, E.B. Obenshain III; his grandchildren, Josh Hale (Leah), Sarah (Jack) Sieloff, Emily (Sean) Obenshain, Gavin Shires, Katie Brickey (Andrew), Cody (Joy) McCarty, and Andrew McCarty. He also leaves numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, students, and friends.

A Celebration of Rex's Life will be held 7:00 PM Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at Paitsel Funeral Home . The family will receive friends at 6:00 PM. Please join us and share your experiences.

Arrangments by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **19**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Paitself Funeral Home
286 Main Street
PO Box 326
New Castle, VA 24127
(540) 864-5142
paitselfuneral@aol.com
<https://www.paitselfh.com>

Celebration of Life

FEB **19**. 7:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

JD

“ Dear Betty, Shayne, and Lynne,
Please accept my sincere condolences on the
loss of Rex. Please call on me if I can help
in anyway. Also, to my dear friends, Sandra
and Rhonda, I am so sorry about the loss of
your uncle Rex. I love you both.
Fondly,
Janice Damewood



Janice Damewood - February 25, 2020 at 12:33 AM

Greg
Elmore

“ Greg Elmore lit a candle in memory of Larry
Rex Hale



Greg Elmore - February 23, 2020 at 07:50 PM

CB

“ Charlene Blassingham lit a candle in memory
of Larry Rex Hale



Charlene Blassingham - February 23, 2020 at 05:10 PM

JS

“ To Betty and family, I am sorry for your loss. I have lots of fond memories of Rex working with him at McCleary and at Maywood. He often brought a little humor to an otherwise frustrating day. Rex will be missed. Janice Smith

janice smith - February 19, 2020 at 02:20 PM

MS

“ Mark Shires lit a candle in memory of Larry Rex Hale



Mark Shires - February 19, 2020 at 07:38 AM

PC

“ Pat Crawford lit a candle in memory of Larry Rex Hale



Pat Crawford - February 18, 2020 at 06:18 PM

PC

Thank you, Rex, for all you did for our family and Craig County.

Pat Crawford - February 18, 2020 at 06:19 PM

NB

Rex was a special person and will be truly missed. He and Betty took care of me through many family illnesses. I enjoyed teaching with Rex for several years at McCleary. God bless you all! Nancy Bostic

Nancy Bostic - February 18, 2020 at 07:03 PM

JD

“ *Judy Doughty lit a candle in memory of Larry Rex Hale*



Judy Doughty - February 18, 2020 at 02:23 PM

JD

“ *To Betty, Shayne , Lynne and family,
So sorry to hear of your loss. Rex Hale will be remembered for so many things. A husband, father, grandfather, as a friend, as a teacher, as someone who helped save lives and as someone who played music that entertained so many of us. Rex Hale touched so many lives in many different ways. He will will be remembered as always joking around and smiling. Thoughts and prayers go out to The Hale family for their loss.*

Judy Doughty - February 18, 2020 at 02:22 PM

DB

“ *Deepest sympathies to the Hale Family
I am sorry for your loss. I am grateful for all the things that Rex Hale has done for our community and the many times that he took care of people in my own family. I don't know anybody from Craig who's life Rex didn't touch in some way. May God give you strength and comfort.*

Donna Birtsch - February 18, 2020 at 09:20 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Larry Rex Hale.*



February 18, 2020 at 07:07 AM



“ *From helping me as an EMT when I was a kid, to being my 6th grade teacher, I have always had much respect for Rex. My thoughts and prayers are with his family... he will be missed.*

Michelle Young - February 17, 2020 at 01:55 PM



“ *Rex was one of a kind...great friend to all! He was my instructor for EMT B classes at GE and became a friend and inspiration to all of us. He will be greatly missed....*



Judy Baker - February 17, 2020 at 12:47 PM



“ *Godspeed to Betty and family. I had some great time in the LionsClub with him, especially riding in the NC Christmas Parade in his old jeep that was made to look like Santas' sleigh. There was a period when Craig had no MD and Rex was a great substitute. Will miss my ole buddy!*

Mike Horn - February 17, 2020 at 12:36 PM

SR

“ All of us at Carilion Clinic Life-Guard are thankful for not only Rex's contributions t as one of our first flight paramedics but also to the community as a whole. He has clearly left a legacy of caring for his community.

*Susan Rivers
Program Director, Carilion Clinic Life-Guard*

Susan Rivers - February 17, 2020 at 11:44 AM

LI

“ When I was a child, Rex helped me and my family immediately following a bad car accident. He stayed by my side to comfort me until we made it to the hospital. I'll forever carry that memory of him being a great source of comfort in one of my most terrifying moments. At school, Rex always had a smile on his face and a wave for each kid. His consistent presence and positive attitude had an immeasurable impact on all of us as students.

Lisa - February 17, 2020 at 10:07 AM

BL

“ Betty, Shane and Lynn,
Praying for each of you during your time of mourning. Rex was a legend and he will be greatly missed . I remember since we were kin he was always Rex to me and when I was in Kindergarten I went down the hall and said hi Rex . He got on me and said in school you call me Mr. Hale but I said but your are Rex. It took me a little time to understand I could not call him Rex. Next is the Western Auto parking lot dances he use to play and his red guitar and in later year his little red sports car. But the memory that sticks out the strongest is the old yellow house on the corner of main street and it caught on fire. I remember REX borrowing a fire coat and going inside that burning building to see if the man that lived there was alive. Rex and Betty were always helping people out and they each served Craig County in many ways the EMS was I believed started by their dictation to our community. Rex will be missed by many. Praying God wraps his hands around the family and gives them strength and comfort in the day and weeks ahead.

Love to you all,
Brenda Dudding Lipes

Brenda Lipes - February 17, 2020 at 09:50 AM

CS

“ Betty, Shane and Family,

So sorry to hear of Rex's passing. I know he is in a better place now. May God comfort and sustain you through this difficult time of loss.

Clint Switzer (Bedford, VA)

Clint Switzer - February 17, 2020 at 08:53 AM

RM

“ My deepest sympathies to each one of you during this most difficult time. May you find comfort in memories shared together.

Rhonda Dee Moore - February 17, 2020 at 12:29 AM

CP

“ Betty and family, my condolences for your loss. Loved me some Rex! Could always count on getting a big bear hug and kiss on the cheek when I saw him. He truly was a blessing to all that knew him.

Cindy Puffenbarger

Cindy Puffenbarger - February 16, 2020 at 11:00 PM

ML

“ To many fond memories to share seeing Rex coming in to the old LGH ER. He was one of a kind.

Melissa Lee - February 16, 2020 at 09:06 PM

DL

“ He was kind and sweet. Very smart and good at what he did. He feed me turtle soup one time and told me if I was to go into labor almost 34 years ago to call him if I needed anything. Good bless RIP💜



Dana Keith Lawfield - February 16, 2020 at 07:26 PM

SF

“ *Sharon Frango lit a candle in memory of Larry Rex Hale*



Sharon Frango - February 16, 2020 at 06:19 PM

SF

Rex u made everyone smile

Sharon Frango - February 16, 2020 at 06:20 PM



“ *Rex was the most kind hearted and funny guy I have had the pleasure to learn and work with. His commitment and dedication to the citizens of Craig County were immense. It was an honor to have known him and Betty.*

Jackie Guilliams

Jack Guilliams - February 16, 2020 at 06:11 PM

EP

Rex was a legend in the EMS world in the day. I always enjoyed his classes and his his unique teaching style. He possessed an awesome sense of humor. I feel so fortunate that my husband and I had the privilege of knowing, Rex. Charles & Liz Provost

Elizabeth Provost - February 16, 2020 at 07:53 PM

JW

“ Thank you for your service to the citizens of Craig County & also the Commonwealth of Virginia

*June Ann Wilkes
Life Member Roanoke Life Saving Crew*



June Ann Wilkes - February 16, 2020 at 06:01 PM

JD

“ My best wishes going out to Rex's family. I always enjoyed bumping in to him and/or Betty at the hospital. He was truly an asset to Craig Co and will be missed.

Jen Divers - February 16, 2020 at 05:50 PM

TH

“ Betty Shane Lynn Sorry to hear about Rex . He was the EMS in the County if you where in trouble he"s the man you wanted Turman & Linda .Dollie .Les & Tammy .Jojo Henderson

Turman Henderson - February 16, 2020 at 05:14 PM

MS

I had all the respect in the world for Rex's knowledge and skills. He will be greatly missed by the Yokohama Industrial Rescue Squad. Rex, Than you for your service.

Mike Shorter - February 17, 2020 at 04:05 PM

CB

I remember Rex back in the day when he would play music with my brother and others and of course his dedication to EMS and the care and comfort he gave to so many through the years. He came to our house several times to care for my mother and I will never forget the relief I felt when he came through the door. He was truly one of a kind and a blessing to all who knew him. May all the memories comfort his family now.

Cathy Myers Bostic

Cathy Bostic - February 21, 2020 at 12:10 PM