



Gordon "Gordy" Dean Pope

May 9, 1939 - August 18, 2015

GREENFIELD – Gordon “Gordy” Dean Pope, age 76, of Greenfield, passed away on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at his residence. He was born on May 9, 1939 in Indianapolis as the son of Ralph C. and Florence Loretta (Collins) Pope. He graduated from Greenfield High School in 1957. Mr. Pope received his bachelors in education from Butler University in 1963 and then earned his master’s in health, physical, education and recreation from Indiana University. Gordy married Joyce “Joy” (Fischer) on February 10, 1962 in Greensburg.

Gordon was a sales representative for Jostens for 48 years and a member of the Jostens Chairman’s Club. As of August 2015 Gordy and his sons have worked for a total of 100 years for Jostens. He was the head boys’ basketball and baseball coach at Dover High School, the assistant boys’ basketball coach at Crawfordsville, and the boys’ basketball head coach for Triton Central. Mr. Pope was a 50 year member of both the Masonic Lodge #101 and the Elks Club, where he was the past Exalted Ruler. Gordy was also a member of the Scottish Rite and past president of the Greenfield Country Club. He was the president of the Butler B Mens and Hancock County Boys and Girls Club. Gordy was very active with sports all of his lifetime. While in high school he received five varsity letters in basketball, football, golf, track, and baseball and even won the city tennis tournament. Gordy was honored to be in Butler’s Hall of Fame and Greenfield Central Athletic Hall of Fame. He was also a past board member of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. He played basketball at Purdue for two years during his college years and then transferred to Butler. He played for the AAU Master’s Basketball for 45 years where he was a champion for many years. Mr. Pope enjoyed fishing, golf, basketball, hunting, and was an avid outdoorsman.

Gordy is survived by his wife, Joy Pope of Greenfield; two sons, Jeff (Tammy Vangundy) Pope of Greenfield and Jason (Jan) Pope of McCordsville; sister, Cheryl (Curt) Eldridge; three grandchildren, Conner Pope, Calyn Pope, and Justin Pope. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph C. and Florence Loretta (Collins) Pope.

Visitation will be held on Friday, August 21, 2015, from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory, 1484 W. US Hwy. 40, Greenfield, IN 46140. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. at the mortuary with viewing one hour prior to the service. Pastor Dave Galbraith will be officiating. Burial will follow at Park Cemetery in Greenfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent directly to Boys & Girls Club of Hancock County, 715 East Lincoln Street, Greenfield, IN 46140 or envelopes will be available at the mortuary. Friends may share a memory or send a condolence at www.erleweinmortuary.com or email condolences to sympathy@erleweinmortuary.com.

Cemetery

Events

Park Cemetery

621 South State Street
Greenfield, IN, 46140

AUG **Visitation** 03:00PM - 08:00PM

21

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

AUG **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

22

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

AUG **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

22

Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory - Greenfield
1484 West US Highway 40, Greenfield, IN, US, 46140

Comments



“ As the (retired) WHS Principal's secretary I had the pleasure of knowing and working with the "Pope guys" for over 20 years - and am so sorry to hear of Gordy's passing. He was truly one of the nicest guys I have ever known and I so enjoyed working with him. He always had a good fishing, golf and/or basketball story to share. I am so happy I was back at work (temporarily) this past year and had the opportunity to see him and visit several times. I share your sorrow - I know his passing is such a loss for all of you. Joy - I only met you once or twice, but talked to you several times every year about caps/gowns and such I am so sorry for you loss - hugs to all of you - Jeff & Jason. I know you will miss him terribly.....

Carolyn Campbell - August 21, 2015 at 03:44 PM



“ Gordon “Gordy” Dean Pope
May 9, 1939 - August 18, 2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxsHis2jZc4>

Erlewein Mortuary - August 21, 2015 at 11:31 AM



“ I got acquainted with Gordy Pope in more recent years, through basketball of course. What a great man; what a great life; what a great contributor to the lives of so many - - who have such a treasure chest of super memories. May God bless and heal all who mourn this loss.
Gordon Wise, Piqua, Ohio

Gordon Wise - August 20, 2015 at 10:44 PM



“ The Pope family has always been a great partner with Covington Schools. A smiling Gordy Pope was always a welcome site at our door. His passion for developing relationships before business made him unique and successful. Thank you for your friendship and service to our school.
Our deepest sympathy is extended to all family and friends.

Kirk Booe - August 20, 2015 at 06:15 PM



“ Gordy, I was so happy to be able to talk with you a few weeks ago. We spoke of old times and families! My prayers, thoughts, and condolences to Joy, Jeff, Jason and family.

Your Long Lost Cousin,
Sharon (Sheri) Oliver
Ft. Lauderdale, Fl.



Sheri Oliver - August 20, 2015 at 04:21 PM



“ Gordy and I started our relationship in 1972. Gordy worked with me as I was the junior class president at Madison-Grant. In those days the class selected one basic style for all. I still have that ring today. Mr. Gordy Pope and as time went on his boys have continued to call on me in my role as building administrator. His laugh was still the same, his kind smile the same, and his genuine interest in students still the same throughout our 40 plus year relationship. Next fall will not be the same for me without having an uplifting visit from my Jostens friend.

Mark Childs
Principal
Hagerstown Junior Senior High

Mark Childs - August 20, 2015 at 10:05 AM



“ Gordy (I knew him as Mr. Pope) was one of my teachers and my basketball coach while at Triton Central. He loved kids and lived a rich, full life. I will never forget the time, because of poor behavior on the part of some members of the basketball team, we had to go to Coach Pope's house where we all received "buzz" haircuts! I know he will be missed by members of his family and many friends. My prayers are with you in this time of loss.

Rev. Mike Beck
Franklin. IN



Mike Beck - August 20, 2015 at 08:27 AM



“ Always looked forward to and enjoyed Gordy's golf outing every summer at the Greenfield golf course. Great fellowship, golf, and a great meal at the end. Have not seen Gordy for some time but will always remember that friendly hello and big smile.
He will be missed by many.

Marlin Craig
Former Athletic Director
Centerville High School

Marlin Craig - August 21, 2015 at 01:34 PM



“ Lapel High School lit a candle in memory of Gordy Pope today. Thoughts and condolences to his many family and friends.



Chad Kemerly - August 20, 2015 at 08:05 AM



“ Some of my favorite memories are the times spent at the Little League diamonds with Gordy and our sons. Greenfield and the world lost a fine man. Mike Trueblood

Mike Trueblood - August 20, 2015 at 07:24 AM



“ Leadership is service and Gordy was a great leader. Whether in business, community, or family, Gordy was always there to serve in anyway that he could. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joy, Jeff, Jason and the entire Pope family.

Charles Willis

Charles Willis - August 20, 2015 at 07:16 AM



“ I first met Gordy, face to face, more than fifty years go when his Butler Bulldogs played my Evansville Aces in basketball. We next met years later when he joined my Clearwater Aces basketball team. We played together through countless games in local, state, and national competition throughout the country. I remember remarking after his first games with us that he was "the man among men" playing basketball. It appears that that same comment would apply equally well in the rest of his life affairs. Gordy, you will never know how much you will be missed. Actually, I hope somehow you will know! We love you! And, Joy, don't be a stranger!

Love,

Walt And Peggy Deal

Peggy and Walt Deal - August 21, 2015 at 11:31 AM

“ 3 files added to the album Photos of Gordy



Carol Thomas - August 19, 2015 at 09:54 PM

“ Luci and I are so very sad to hear the news about Gordy. He, Jeff and Jason were true Jostens partners for us while we were in Indiana. He was our welcoming committee to Jostens and Indiana. Shortly after we landed in Indiana for the new job, I get a phone call from Gordy introducing himself and offering to help in any way I needed. I thanked him THEN he said, "son, just do the best job possible and don't get ME fired in a school!" He truly helped me learn how to treat everyone the right way and run a solid business while keeping everything in perspective. We will miss Gordy tremendously. Our prayers go out to Joy, Jeff, Jason and the rest of the Pope family.

Mike & Luci Conlon - August 19, 2015 at 07:55 PM

“ My friend, teammate, and coworker for over 40 years. He was the best at all three. Jostens owes me big time for recommending him. Gary Long.



gary long - August 19, 2015 at 06:03 PM



“ Gordy....Gordy...Gordy.....so many fun memories with you and Joy.....so much laughter.....thanks for sharing your life with myself.....and all the friends of Sugar Hills Lake.....You will definitely be missed! Sincere condolences to Joy, the boys and all your family!.....Peace.....Penny Ricks :)



Penny Ricks - August 19, 2015 at 05:07 PM



“ Jeff & Tammy - so very sorry for your loss !! Hugs and Prayers - Diane Linsley



Diane Linsley - August 19, 2015 at 04:21 PM



“ We send our best wishes from Attica HS. Gordy and Team Pope have always been most helpful to the students and staff of AHS. We will greatly miss you.

J.T. Hoke
Attica Jr.-Sr. H.S.

J.T. Hoke - August 19, 2015 at 03:14 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers go out to your family. Gordy served our students well at Attica High School.

Sarah Mattern
Attica High School

Sarah Mattern - August 19, 2015 at 02:32 PM



“Gordy and "his boys" have been our Jostens reps since 1976. Always gentlemen, never in a hurry, taking care of details so we don't have to. Always looked forward to the fall phone call when he would say, "I'm calling you for a date.”

Sandy Sigo
Heritage Hall Christian School, Muncie

Sandy Sigo - August 19, 2015 at 02:32 PM



“I send my heartfelt sympathies to all of Gordy's family; you all are in my prayers.”

Kathy Terrell
Shenandoah High School



Kathy Terrell - August 19, 2015 at 02:16 PM



“Joy, Jeff, Jason and family - I am so sorry to hear of Gordy's passing. Thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Nancy Watson, Southmont High School

Nancy Watson - August 19, 2015 at 01:42 PM



“Almost 25 years ago, when I was a new rep, I met Gordy through Mike Long. I was in the product room looking at all of the stuff before me thinking about what I needed to buy to improve my business. Gordy told me that I didn't really need to buy anything, that if my business was going to grow, it was going to be because of me and my hard work. He also told me that Jostens had a real large markup on everything and to be very careful how I spent my money. That was great advice for a new rep who was in overdraft and just starting out. I've only seen him at Jostens meetings, but he was already very friendly to me. He will be missed.

Larry DeWitt
Syracuse, New York

Larry DeWitt - August 19, 2015 at 01:32 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers for all who knew and loved him. Special thoughts and prayers for Gordy's family. Gordy and all those associated with Jostens always treated me and my family members right. You will be missed.

Mary Kelsheimer
South Vermillion High School
Clinton, Indiana

Mary Kelsheimer - August 19, 2015 at 12:39 PM



“ My heart, prayers, and wishes go out to Joy, Jeff , Jason and all of Gordy's family and friends. He will truly be missed by all who was graced by knowing him.

Judy Scott
Yorktown High School

Judy Scott - August 19, 2015 at 12:23 PM



“ Judy Scott lit a candle in memory of Gordon "Gordy" Dean Pope



Judy Scott - August 19, 2015 at 12:20 PM



“ Tasha Nelson lit a candle in memory of Gordon "Gordy" Dean Pope



Tasha Nelson - August 19, 2015 at 11:57 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family. Sorry for your loss.
Carol Reed Sanquenetti, South Vermillion High School

Carol J Sanquenetti - August 19, 2015 at 11:37 AM



“ Gordy was a true gentleman...A class act and will be missed by all of us. Our prayers to the Pope family during this sad time.

Danny Hutchinson - August 19, 2015 at 11:21 AM



“ My heart goes out to you and your family. You all will be in my prayers.



Janine Green - August 19, 2015 at 11:14 AM



“ Gordy was such a gentleman. The respect that his sons felt for him was evident; not only in how they spoke about him, but how they spoke to him. It was so much fun to see them interact when they came to our school. He wanted the best for our students and always went above and beyond in meeting their needs. We will be praying for Joy, Jeff, Jason and the family. May God bring you peace and comfort in this difficult time.

Kimberly Hanson
Horizon Christian School

Kimberly Hanson - August 19, 2015 at 11:10 AM



“ Fond memories of playing ball with Gordy. God Bless



Greg Curtis - August 19, 2015 at 11:06 AM



“ Centerville Senior High School lit a candle in memory of Gordon "Gordy" Dean Pope



Centerville Senior High School - August 19, 2015 at 10:55 AM



“ The Masters Basketball community celebrates the life of our friend and teammate, Gordy Pope. Gordy played masters basketball for many years with the Indiana Masters team, competing for over 25 years in the May tournament in south Florida.

The Jostens MVP ring has become a very special part of our tournament and Gordy always made certain they were well done and arrived on time for the presentation.

On behalf of the Masters Basketball Association Board of Directors, Staff, Team Organizers, and Players across the country who knew Gordy, we send our deepest condolences to Gordy's family.

On behalf of the Masters Basketball Association
David L. Hulett - Chief Operating Officer
Coral Springs, Florida

David L. Hulett - August 19, 2015 at 10:53 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Gordy's passing. I have some very fond memories of many, many Jostens meetings, dinners, and just times where we sat and talked. The one thing that stands out about Gordy to me was his honesty and sincerity. Gordy wouldn't hesitate to give me his opinion on anything Jostens, or as far as that goes, anything period. I will forever remember that hook shot! He was shooting that shot when it was "out of style," but NOT FOR HIM! He used to tell me, "Those young guys think I'm too old for this game, but I can make them humble." He was so proud of his family. He was so complimentary when he talked about the boys, and he was so respectful of you Joy. My heart goes out to your whole family. God Bless You All.
Kirby & Jana Warren

Kirby Warren - August 19, 2015 at 10:50 AM



“ A true Legend in every aspect of his life. From the love he shared with his Family to his love of working with Students, he showed Reps everyday how to do things the right way. Gordy was always there to help a new Rep learn the ropes, share ideas with his fellow Reps and laugh at the daily events we all encounter. The best memory with be the smile he displayed watching his boys - Jeff & Jason - become top notch members of the Jostens Family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Pope Family.

Jeff & Emy Heethuis
Lyle & Nancy Wilson

Jeff Heethuis - August 19, 2015 at 10:06 AM



“ The only thing bigger than Gordy's post game was his heart. A fine and passionate man, whose love of hoops, golf, and Jostens was surpassed only by his love for his family. When I first came to Jostens, Gordy always made time for me, for whatever I needed; as the years rolled by, he was always there for support and encouragement. Loved to watch his love and pride for Jason and Jeff at every meeting. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Brian Walter

Brian Walter - August 19, 2015 at 08:25 AM



“ I remember playing basketball with Gordy about 8-10 years ago at a Jostens meeting. Most people give up playing when they get older--not Gordy! Not only did he not give up at his age, he game with some game. There was not a single Jostens meeting that went by where I didn't connect with Jeff, Jason, and Gordy. What an amazing family with an amazing dad! We will be praying for the Pope family. Gordy will be missed!

Jason Morgan

Jason Morgan - August 18, 2015 at 11:33 PM



“ Gordy was a special man. We shared a love and a passion for the game of basketball - he always set up a game at the Jostens meetings. I will never forget his unstoppable hook shot!!! I always admired him. His love for his family was unmatched. He was a great role model for all of us. My thoughts and prayers go out to the whole Pope family.

- Scott Fitch

Scott Fitch - August 18, 2015 at 09:26 PM



“ We were saddened to hear of Gordy's passing, we have fond memories of him. Our prayers are with your family in this time of sorrow. Brenda, Cory, and Donnette Johnson

cory johnson - August 18, 2015 at 07:07 PM



“ Gordon was a great coach and my drivers ed teacher back in 1969- he will be missed

Ralph Armstrong - August 18, 2015 at 06:57 PM



“ Very sad news. He was a super guy! He was always available to talk hoops, work, etc. I always looked forward to seeing him at meetings. He will greatly be missed. My family sends their heartfelt condolences.

Craig Orness - August 18, 2015 at 06:47 PM



“ Gordy was such a nice honorable guy, a true gem!! he will be greatly missed! Prayers to the rest of the family.

Jill Pelovsky - August 19, 2015 at 10:55 AM



“ Gordy will always be a Top Shelf Legend within Jostens. Thank you for being a friend. Your impeccable integrity will continue to inspire all of us who knew you Gordy. God Bless.

joe Grossi - August 18, 2015 at 06:20 PM



“ Gordy was a great man and there will be a hole in the Jostens family that cannot be filled. So many memories of motor home trips to the sales meetings-solving the company problems and the work's for that matter on the way there. Gordy was always there for his family and was a great role model for Jeff and Jason. Loved Joy with all his heart and was a doting grandfather. I will miss him and this world won't be same without him

brad long - August 18, 2015 at 03:22 PM



“ It was an honor to know him.
Years of national meetings at Jostens sharing his knowledge.
I wish you the best for Jeff, Jason and everyone of Gordy's families and friends.
Alfredo Martin
Toluca Lake
California

Alfredo Martin - August 19, 2015 at 03:01 AM



“ Jeff and Jason, our thoughts are with you and your family at this time. Your Dad was a wonderful and loving man who truly made a difference in the world! There are very few who grace the world that way and even fewer that we have the opportunity to meet and get to say, "I am lucky to have met him!". I am lucky to have met your Dad. Your Dad's love for all of you was obvious. I am very sad and my heart is heavy for all of you right now. He will be missed by many very much.

Keri Casey - August 19, 2015 at 08:41 AM



“ I always enjoyed seeing Mr. Pope here at North Vermillion Jr./Sr. High School when it was time to order class rings and Senior announcements. He was a very likeable guy!! My thoughts and prayers go out to his Family. Roxanna Dunavan, custodian

Roxanna Dunavan - August 19, 2015 at 09:52 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
Maconaquah High School

Kathi Greene - August 19, 2015 at 11:33 AM



“ To the Pope family. We are saddened by the passing of Gordy. He had the heart of a giant. We have many great memories together . He was the most positive person you would ever meet. He loved basketball & golf. His favorite club was the 2 iron, I think he slept with it. He was "Mr Josten" to everyone. He was the "rock" of the Pope family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Pope family. Stay strong.

Gary & Susan Muncy

Gary Muncy - August 19, 2015 at 11:34 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Jeff and Jason. I will miss seeing your Dad at all the meetings. He was one of the Indiana legends when I came to work for Jostens. Peace be with the whole Pope family.

Todd Lawrence

Todd Lawrence - August 21, 2015 at 03:39 PM



“ Dear Joy and Family,

Gordon and I were on the Butler Basketball team together. Our fraternities were next door to each other Phi Delt/ Tke. My wife and I saw the two of you at many Butler Basketball games. We considered Gordon a good friend and we will miss him.

Joel and Tina Leaman

Joel and Tina Leaman - August 27, 2015 at 04:34 PM