



John Wesley Mason

April 13, 1934 - June 29, 2012

Frankfort " Services for John Wesley Mason, 78 yrs., will be conducted from Good Shepherd Church at 9:30am Tuesday, July 3, 2012, with Reverend Don Karsner officiating. Burial with military honors will follow at Camp Nelson National Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 5-8pm at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home.

Mr. Mason passed away Friday, June 29, 2012, at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington.

John was born in Lexington, Kentucky to Mary and John Mason Sr. on April 13, 1934. He played football as running back at Dunbar High School then enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1954.

He served with honor and distinction in the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. He was a member of the 311th Air Commando Special Forces team, received a medal of valor, was a defense social actions instructor, and retired from the military in 1975 with 25 years of services.

John Mason earned a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and graduated Cum Laude with a Master's degree in Counseling and Education from the University of New Hampshire.

After the military, John dedicated the next 30 years of his life to public service and police work. He concluded his service as Chief of Police at Kentucky State University. He also served the Commonwealth of Kentucky as a community organizer where he contributed to those in need and youth services.

During his military experience, John Mason became an expert in the Martial Arts. In 1975 he created the CHE-LU Martial Arts system where he gained national and international success as an instructor and trainer. He was a member of Camp Pleasant Baptist Church in Frankfort where he worshiped with his beautiful voice in song. Mr. Mason is loved by many and touched lives with his strength and honorable spirit.

John was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, Kappa Alpha Psi, a Kentucky Colonel, and Mason.

His wife of 50 years, Roberta B. Mason, and two adult children, John W. Mason III and Sherry R. Mason, survive him.

Delvin Hickerson, Brian Charry, Charles Montgomery, Timothy Hurt, Craig Sandborn, James Cunningham, and George Barnette will serve as Pallbearers. John W. Mason III and Sherry R. Mason will serve as their father's Honorary Pallbearers.

Flowers are welcome, or expressions of sympathy may be made in John's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home

Tribute Wall



“ *John Wesley Mason*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Roberta, you have my deepest condolences in your time of loss. May God's grace and mercy be a comfort you.*

Rebecca Buckner - July 04, 2012 at 02:39 AM



“ *I have had the pleasure of knowing Chief Mason for 30 years and always admired his love for you Roberta and his children John and Sherry. May God wrap his arms around you and you find comfort there. I am here for you and with you. Always.*

Paula Murphy - July 03, 2012 at 11:00 PM



“ *Roberta, Sherri and John, I am so sorry for your loss. O'Sensei was one of a kind and a blessing to all he met. I know he is in Heaven now. He will be sorely missed by all who were fortunate enough to have known him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Tammy Lacy - July 03, 2012 at 01:24 PM

BC

“ Sensei Roberta, my heart aches for you and your family. I learned so much from O'Sensei and will cherish the time that I spent with you and O'Sensei. There are no words that will make you feel better now, but know that we all loved him and will carry on his Art in loving memory of a great man with a big heart and so much humbleness.

Brenda Cravens - July 03, 2012 at 12:40 PM

JB

“ John,
Deepest sympathy on your father's passing from all of your friends at UHG.

Josh Byrne - July 03, 2012 at 02:45 AM

DG

“ Roberta, I was so sorry to hear of Chief Mason's passing. He was such a special man with a heart of gold. He was always there for anyone and really was good at providing guidance and counseling to those who needed it. Jamie and Derek will be saddened to learn of this. Our condolences to you, Sherri, and Little John. You are in our hearts and prayers. We love you all! God bless.

Debbie Michael Gillispie - July 02, 2012 at 11:44 PM

LS

“ Heaven has received another angel. I appreciate you for sharing Chief Mason with us while I was a student at Kentucky State. His presence and personality was near and dear to all of us. Blessings Abundant and be surrounded by peace.

Leah Johnson Sledge - July 02, 2012 at 08:02 PM

VD

“ Rest In Peace my Brother, Mentor, and Dear Friend. A man among men..thank you for the multitude of lives that you've touched, including my own. I will miss you my friend...

Virgil Davis - July 02, 2012 at 05:47 PM

AM

“ Mrs. Roberta, Sherri, and Lil John, I'm so sorry to hear of Mr. John's passing. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. May God bless you, keep you, and sustain you during this time and in the days ahead. With Heartfelt Sympathy, Augusta

Augusta Mason - July 02, 2012 at 05:00 PM

DR

“ I have known him my entire life, and I am deeply sadden for every one in the World. Especially so for those who never had the pleasure and gift of his guidance. He is truly immortal in spirit, as he was in life and no one can ever take that from this Earth!

Derek Rayborn - July 02, 2012 at 03:26 PM

KH

“ Mrs. Mason, I'm so sorry to hear of your husband's passing. You have my deepest condolences. I luv u dearly and I pray that you cast your burdens on the Lord.

KaTrina Harris - July 02, 2012 at 01:39 PM

LM

“ I had the honor of knowing Sensei Mason and the honor of being part of the Che-Lu family. Sensei Mason was truly a great man who always put others before himself.

Louis Mitchell - July 02, 2012 at 07:38 AM

DB

“ *My deepest sympathy to your family. Big John was a light in so many peoples lives I knew him for a short time in Somersworth N.H. He will be missed greatly. His voice was a true blessing. May he rest in peace.*

Debbie Brewster - July 01, 2012 at 11:10 PM

PM

“ *Please accept our deepest sympathies on the loss of Chief Mason. May God comfort you as only he can during this difficult time. God bless you.*

Priscilla and Mavis McCowan - July 01, 2012 at 09:45 PM

GS

“ *For the short period of time I had the pleasure of studying Che Lu under Sensai Mason at KSU, it didn't take long to realize how special he was. He was someone who would stand up for what is right, and defend those who couldn't defend themselves. He was a genius at using his sense of humor to teach and discipline. I pray that you find peace and comfort at what must be a difficult time. May Sensei Mason rest in peace.*

Gilletta Stevenson - July 01, 2012 at 11:25 AM

DE

“ *Our sincere condolences. A brother to soldiers, a brothers to martial artists, a friend in life.*
Dev Dometrich and Dometrich Family

Devorah - July 01, 2012 at 11:13 AM

JT

“ *A wonderful man and Gods right hand. He will be dearly missed. He was a blessing to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He helped many people and never judged them. He was a one of a kind.*

Jeff Trent - July 01, 2012 at 10:52 AM

DS

“ *My deepest sympathies to Grand Master's family. He was a WONDERFUL person and will be sorely missed. God be with you.*

Debbie Sauber - June 30, 2012 at 11:17 PM