



## Madison "Hugh" Hubert Fruit

December 24, 1939 - October 25, 2019

Madison Hubert "Hugh" Fruit of Fairfax, Virginia, passed away on Friday, October 25, 2019 at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital in Fairfax. Known as Hugh to his friends, and Hubert to family, he was born at home on Christmas eve 1939. The sixth of Lester and Myrtle (Haines) Fruit's ten children, Hubert graduated from Richland Center High School in 1957, where he participated in music and public speaking. He truly enjoyed debate. Hubert also graduated from the Richland County Normal School, a two-year school for elementary school teacher preparation. He taught at a one room elementary school one year and at a two room elementary school the next year. Then he enrolled in Platteville State College, majoring in math and physics. With that degree in hand, he taught at the Platteville High School. Next, Hubert attended the University of Illinois, in Champaign-Urbana where he earned a masters in mathematics. He taught at the University of Minnesota in Mankato for three years. From Mankato, he attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison studying the theory of computers. After a few semesters, he took a job with the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1974, and stayed with that for the next three decades. He worked as a system analyst, and the job took him from one end of the country to the other, working in Chicago, then Los Angeles, then Austin Texas, and finally Washington D.C. He was a database designer involved in the development of many projects, including a major rewrite of the Department's payroll system, known in the agency as "Pay VA". He was diligent, reliable, and respected by his coworkers. Hubert retired in 2003.

Hubert loved woodworking, singing, playing guitar and piano, and drawing. Family was a big part of his life, and he brought a smile or a laugh to those in it. Hubert had a strong interest in genealogy, and was ready with family stories and funny bits of history for anyone who was interested. He loved the many occasions when his family sang around the piano. He loved nature and was always willing to help anyone in need.

Hubert is survived by his siblings Avis (Allen) Unbehaun, Clinton (Vergene) Fruit, Carol (Charles) Dieter, Gordon Fruit, Sandra (Randy) Scott, by his sister-in-law Laura Fruit, and by his brother-in-law Harold Emerson, as well as by many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Hubert was preceded in death by his parents, by his brother Garland Fruit, by his sisters Marilyn Williams, Wyvonne Merry, Emmogene Emerson, and by brothers-in-law Ernest Williams and Merlyn Merry.

The family wants to thank Charles, Pat, and Marc Baker of Fairfax, VA, for their friendship and caring that the Baker family provided Hubert over the years.

Visitation will be held at Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service in Richland Center on November 23, 2019 from 10 a.m. until the time of service at 11 a.m. Ron Fruit will officiate.

Memorials can be made to the Leukemia Foundation. [www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

NOV **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service, LLC  
26777 Jelland Drive  
Richland Center, WI 53581  
(608) 647-6390  
josh@clarymemorial.com  
<https://clarymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

## Celebration of Life

NOV **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

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# Tribute Wall

MH

“ *Mr Fruit was my fourth grade teacher in that one room school house mentioned in his obituary, probably his first teaching position. We had grades 1-8, so it was a big job. I remember him as being kind and fair, and focused on communication skills, including excellent penmanship. I am so glad I met this wonderful person, and also so pleased he had such a great life. Marianne Hanson*

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**Marianne Hanson** - January 11, 2022 at 06:15 PM

LM

“ *Condolences to all who knew and loved Hugh. My name is Lloyd Morris and I knew Hugh, and both his parents, from around 1980 in Austin, Texas. Hugh and I met when he ran an ad in the Austin American Statesman indicating that he would like to teach someone to play classical guitar. I responded and Hugh taught me to read music and become a much better guitarist.*

*We became good friends as a result of our mutual interest in guitar and got together once or twice a week for the next few years. We joined the Austin Classical Guitar Association and played a duet one evening for a rather large audience hosted by that organization. We were both extremely nervous to begin with and, just before we began playing, a music stand got turned over and made a big gouge in the face of Hugh's guitar. This didn't help at all with our nerves, however, our duet went very well and gave us both a fun, lasting memory. I would be curious to know from whoever has Hugh's guitar, if there is a gouge in the face? If I remember correctly, it's just above the hole? If so, you now know the whole story. LOL*

*I met both of Hugh's parents a couple of times when they were visiting in Austin and just thought they were a couple of lovely people. Really enjoyed the time I got to spend with them.*

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**Lloyd Morris** - November 10, 2020 at 02:15 PM



“ 368 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Clary Memorial Funeral Home** - November 21, 2019 at 03:03 PM

WM

“ *Our sympathy in your loss. Hubert was a fellow graduate of the class of '57. Hugh was always smiling no matter what. Loretta and Walt McCarthy*

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**Walt/Loretta McCarthy** - November 15, 2019 at 08:19 AM

VW

“ *My sympathy to the Fruit family I rode the school bus with Hubert, Clint and Carol Probably had only seen Hubert once or twice since he graduated*

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**Virginia Kenyon Wiedenfeld** - November 14, 2019 at 05:03 PM

CB

“ *Dearest Hugh,  
In life, you were my best friend, always by my side sharing good times and bad.  
Now, you are my brother, forever by my side in spirit.  
In life, you were Marc's mentor, landlord and ice-cream buddy.  
Now, you are his uncle, forever by his side in spirit.  
You have long been a part of our family and there will always be a place at our table for you in spirit.  
We all miss you so much.  
May you rest in peace.  
With love,  
Chuck, Pat and Marc Baker*

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**Charles Baker** - November 13, 2019 at 01:05 PM