



Rod Jackson

January 6, 1956 - June 30, 2021

Rod Jackson, 65, of Hurricane lost his battle with cancer, Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Rod was born in Dayton, Washington, to Roderick Coles Jackson Sr. and Marcella Sue Pearson on January 6, 1956. He was an alumnus of Washington State University, where he studied journalism. His career in news took him across the country and all over the world. Rod is currently the News Director of WOWK-TV, which was his pride and joy. A job he chose to do until the day he passed. He loved his career, and the innumerable people he impacted through the years are a testament to his dedication to, and love for, others.

He is survived by his daughters, Alexandra Stewart (Ian Stewart) and Stephanie Jackson-Beeson, sisters, Janie Kainrath (Frank Kainrath) and Diane Lind, five grandchildren, two nieces and one nephew. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him, and deeply mourned by all he loved.

A celebration of his life will be held from Noon until 2pm Friday, July 16, 2021 at the Museum of Radio and Technology, 1640 Florence Avenue, Huntington. You may visit his tribute page at ChapmanFuneralHomes.com to share memories and offer condolences to the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in his honor should be directed to a local pet shelter, the Red Cross or any charitable organization that serves veterans.

Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane is honored to serve the Jackson family.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL **16**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Museum of Radio and Technology
1640 Florence Avenue
Huntington, WV

Tribute Wall

RL

“ A lost story : I shared the stage with Rod when we both acquired our Eagle Scout award in 1974. Before that however, he joined me and one other scout, Craig, on a 50 mile hike across the central cascade mountain range in Washington state from Cooper Lake on the east side of the state to Taylor River campground on the west side. Rod and I were 14 years old and the Craig 15. It was a week long adventure and Rod had just cut his big toe on a lawnmower a couple days before the hike. We looked at his festering, painfull big toe daily and all he could do was laugh about it. We forded the Waptus River and once we arrived at Lake Ivanhoe and Dutch Miller gap , ended up hiking in snow covered forest for hours zig-zagging back and forth looking for the trail through avalanche strew trees and rubble. Rod was part of one of the greatest adventures of my youth. Ask yourself, would you let your 14 year old hike through the wilderness alone? For Rod and us it was a joy.



Ralph Leitner - June 17, 2024 at 06:11 PM



“ Rod Jackson

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM

WW

“ ... Though I haven't seen Rod in well over a decade, I still have many fond memories of him from our college days at Washington State University (Pullman, WA). Rod had a terrific sense of humor, and kept us laughing for much of our senior year. His cat named "Switch" was our 5th "roommate" in our 4-bedroom apartment, and also kept us entertained begging for food and chasing toys on a string during study breaks. When I first met Rod, he wasn't just introduced as Rod, but as "Roderick Coles Jackson Jr", so I knew right then this guy would lead his life with panache!



While Rod could cut a joke with the best of them, he also had a serious side of him in which he took his craft in the TV broadcast industry very seriously, and from what I can tell worked tirelessly to excel at his "calling". I'm glad to read that he was successful in accomplishing much in the news and broadcast fields.

Surely Rod will be missed by his extended family, and I'm quite glad he could continue to bring a smile to so many people during his life. Rest In Peace Rod!

W. Scott Wilson - December 20, 2021 at 10:09 PM

BS

“ Rod was my WSU roomie for one semester and a broadcast colleague. I remember his zest for life and love of friends and family. Will never forget the time he showed me the shoreline fish restaurant where he worked. To Rod's family my deep condolences and fond memories of a fine man!

Bill swartz - December 19, 2021 at 05:52 PM

RB

“ My condolences to the Jackson Family. I was blessed to work with Rod in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Rod had a positive impact on all that worked with him and around him. His energy and passion for the business were uncompromising. He will be missed by those that had the privilege to work with him. The local television news industry was better for having Rod as a member and leader. He will be missed.

Robert Bee - July 12, 2021 at 09:18 AM

JM

“ I was truly saddened of the passing of my friend. You have to go all the way back to the 80's where we met. Rod and I both worked at KTNV in Las Vegas. I was his photojournalist and he the reporter/anchor OT the 15 minute newscast on Sunday nights. Only reporters and photojournalists know how close that bond truly is. Rod and I were more than just co-workers we were friends. I know I can speak for most, whether Rod was your co-worker or supervisor he made you feel he cared about you and your work. Rod and I went our separate ways after Las Vegas, but soon we were back together at KTVX in Salt Lake City. We again shooting stories that made a difference. Rod and his young family and me with my young family. We as families had dinners together and basically just great friends. I remember Rod and I working the 1988 Democratic National Convention. Rod and I had worked many projects together, but I had this idea we should do like they did in the old days and instead of flying let's go back to SLC by Amtrak. So Rod and I left Atlanta and went to Washington then back across the country by train. We got shot several stories along the way. You see with Rod no idea was outlandish. Later on Rod moved on to a more supervisory position of which he could pass on his great knowledge of journalism and bigger and greater things. I on the other hand moved onto my second calling of law enforcement. Through the years Rod and I found each other through social media. I was great to hear he was doing well and I hoped someday we could meet up again. Then I get got the news of his cancer diagnosis. It hit me hard but if anyone could beat that beast Rod was the guy. I was thrilled to see the news Rod's doctors felt he had beat it or at the very least had fought it off for now. After retirement from law enforcement, I started working with a company that teaches law enforcement personnel how to use the software I used during my time in that career. I signed up to work on a project with the fine men and women of the WVSP. Knowing I would have the opportunity to see my old friend again. Sadly that moment with Rod will never happen. I will miss you my friend. But to his daughters, family, co-workers and friends, please understand one thing he made a difference.

Jeff Maglish - July 09, 2021 at 05:37 PM

AW

“ To the family of Mr. Jackson, and his WOWK-TV Family:

I am very sorry about the loss of Mr. Jackson. I did not know him, but I watch WOWK-TV, everyday and he has some awesome work family members, along with his blood family. Praying for the healing of the Jackson family.

A W - July 07, 2021 at 09:52 PM

Ian
Stewart

“ In 2005 I eloped with Rod's daughter. I never asked his blessing, and that is one of my few regrets. Over the last sixteen years I really came to view him with admiration, respect, and love.

After my own father died in 2011 Rod truly became another father to me. We were very opposite in a lot of ways, but we always managed to find some common ground. We shared a love of US and military history, historical places, books, and cats. Rod was constantly giving me book recommendations or loans, but I was never able to keep up.

I miss you, Rod. I really hope I've earned your blessing.

Ian Stewart - July 03, 2021 at 04:25 PM

AS

“ My dad was an incredible person, I miss him so much. I'm overwhelmed with all of the love and support he received during his fight with cancer, and now after he's gone. I love you dad.

Alexis Stewart - July 03, 2021 at 03:34 PM