



Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III

April 6, 1947 - March 11, 2019

Frank James Pearson, III
"Sonny"

Sonny was born April 6, 1947 in Leesburg, Virginia to Frank and Flora Mae Pearson. He was raised in the Aldie/Arcola area and graduated from Loudoun County High School in 1965 where he excelled in football, basketball, and baseball. He played football at Bridgewater College before serving in the US Army from 1967-1970. In July of 1967 he married his high school sweetheart, Jo Ann Atwell. After his military service he returned to school and graduated from George Washington University and returned to teach in Loudoun County. He taught and coached for thirty-four years. He was the head football coach at both Loudoun County and Loudoun Valley as well as the head baseball coach at Loudoun Valley. He also coached track, tennis, and girls' volleyball. He was a mentor to countless students, athletes, and other coaches. He coached not only athletics, but also life. He also served as dean and athletic director at Park View High School. He ended his career back on the football field at Heritage High School. He took pride in the accomplishments of his students and players and kept close tabs on many as they pursued their own goals in life.

In his retirement years his greatest joy was his two grandsons. He is survived by Jo Ann, his wife of almost 52 years, his son, Duffy Pearson, his daughter, Beth Williams and her husband, Scott, and his two grandsons, Garrett Pearson and Franklin Williams. He will also be missed by his friends who became family, Jerry and Pam Smith and Sommer Crawford as well as his faithful companion Tank.

The family will receive friends for a memorial visitation on Sunday, March 17, 2019 from 2 to 5 at the Loudoun Funeral Chapel, 158 Catoctin Circle, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175.

A memorial service will be held to celebrate Sonny's' life at Leesburg Community Church at 835 Lee Avenue, SW, Leesburg, VA 20175 on Monday, March 18, 2019 at 1 pm.

Interment will be held privately by the family at a later date in Union Cemetery, Leesburg, VA.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to “Sonny’s Extra Point Fund” which will help football players at Loudoun County High School. Donations may be sent to the Athletic Director, LCHS Athletics - Sonny's Extra Point Fund Loudoun County High School, 415 Dry Mill Road, SW, Leesburg, VA 20175.

Please share condolences with the family <http://www.LoudounFuneralChapel.com>

Events

MAR **Visitation** 02:00PM - 05:00PM

17

Loudoun Funeral Chapel

158 Catoctin Circle, S.E., Leesburg, VA, US, 20175

MAR **Celebration of Life** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

18

Leesburg Community Church

835 Lee Ave SW, Leesburg, ,, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Loudoun Funeral Chapels - March 14, 2019 at 04:41 PM



“ Coach Pearson was a true man of honor and courage and he always believed in us and wanted the best for us. He made my senior year baseball experience a great one. God Bless you Coach! We will meet again one day and I know you are already telling baseball stories to the angels!

Mike Woodall - March 15, 2019 at 09:46 AM



“ Well said Mike. Thank you for everything Coach! You were a kind a generous man who stood behind his players both on the field and off. You made all of us strive to be better. May God bless you and may He bless your family.

Joseph Testa - March 15, 2019 at 10:54 PM



“ Audrey (Sissy) Allison-Maddox lit a candle in memory of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III



Audrey (Sissy) Allison-Maddox - March 27, 2019 at 07:14 PM



“ Coach Pearson,
You always had a kind word and great advice for me in 12th grade. You were shocked to the core when I told you I had gotten married, but you didn't say anything negative, instead, you gave me advice on how to make the marriage work. I have kept them words with me for 35 years and counting. You have a wonderful heart and God is gaining a great person. You will be missed by many.
Prayers to your family, keep coach Pearson's memories alive and he will always be with you. God bless each of you.

Audrey (Sissy)

Audrey (Sissy) Allison-Maddox - March 27, 2019 at 07:14 PM



“ My Sincere Sympathy To Joanne And Family At The Passing Of Sonny.

I Attended Loudoun County High School With Sonny And Joanne. He Was A Great Friend And Classmate. He Always Had A Smile On His Face And A Kind Word For Everyone. He Was An Excellent Athlete Excelling In Every Sport He Competed. I Will Always Remember Sonny As A Good Friend; A Great Educator And Caring Husband, Father And Grandfather

May God Bless You During This Difficult Time And Give You His Peace That Passeth All Understanding.

Mary Ellen Havener
Luzerne, Pennsylvania

Mary E. Havener - March 24, 2019 at 07:08 PM



“ Thanks Coach Pearson for an amazing 1986 LCHS football team and season. So many good memories! God Bless.

Jimmy Corkrey - March 22, 2019 at 07:07 PM



“ To the family of Sonny "Coach" Pearson. We may be sad and hurting at his passing, but, rest assured, he is coaching and helping players on God's team. Just remember this to lighten your load.

Coach helped me much and told me not to give up. Between my dad and coach, I finally didn't give up and made it through some of the toughest training in the world to become a Naval Aviator.

I'll never forget him taking time out of his weekend and running windsprints up a steep hill and telling me not to quit it's going to make you better. Thanks, Coach, it did.

Mark Frost "The Moose"



Mark Frost - March 18, 2019 at 10:10 PM



“ I'm sorry I'm just hearing about this now.. I was really fond of Coach Pearson, someone I could always go to for advice or information. Kind, intelligent, knew his stuff... I'm very shocked and saddened to hear of his passing. My deepest condolences to the family.

Marrett M Ceo - March 18, 2019 at 08:08 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III.



March 17, 2019 at 09:52 PM



“ JoAnn and family, our thoughts are with you all, Sonny is a role model for everyone. His positive impact will continue to comfort many.
The Spages



David Spage - March 17, 2019 at 12:20 PM



“ Kathy and I were just talking, and she said that she didn't know if she would still be teaching today if not for Sonny's kindness and support when he was an administrator her first year. I said that I was just thinking the exact same thing. I really don't know if I would still be coaching without Sonny guiding and advising me early on. He coached with passion and love, and I always admired him for that. I remember finding parent complaint letters in a drawer many years later and he said, "I took care of it. You didn't need to be dealing with that." Sonny touched so many lives. Kathy and I are just two people whose lives he impacted, and we are grateful to have known him. Our hearts go out to JoAnn, Duffy, and Beth.
Mickey

Mickey Thompson - March 16, 2019 at 11:20 PM



“ Mickey and Kathy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III.



Mickey and Kathy - March 16, 2019 at 10:40 PM



“ Sonny was a wonderful, caring man. I remember a time when there was some difficulty he was dealing with and he was reading a book about bad things happening to good people. I have always remembered our conversation about that book. He was a man who searched for answers and was willing to spend time helping those who needed it. I don't think you could find a better person. I enjoyed the year we worked together and wish there had been more. My sympathy to JoAnn, Beth and Duffy!

kathleen Dugger - March 16, 2019 at 06:00 PM



“ Sonny gave me my first Coaching job at Loudoun Valley HS. Learned from the best! RIP Sonny... thanks for touching so many lives. Coach Sam Plank

Sam Plank - March 16, 2019 at 10:51 PM



“ Sonny made all of us better by his example. Deepest condolences to JoAnn and the entire family. Another beautiful soul has passed on. -Stacey Bornarth Collins

Stacey Collins - March 16, 2019 at 10:29 AM



“ Sonny was a man of great character and one you could count on. We have enjoyed our relationship with the Pearson family since before our kids were born, but we were almost the same family when Duffy and our daughter, Micki, were three and in preschool and decided they were going to get married! We would have been honored to be part of Sonny's family and we will always remember him with great affection! We hope that JoAnn, Duffy and Beth will treasure the memories of Sonny and know that he was loved by so many people.

Patti Laycock - March 15, 2019 at 08:14 PM



“ Dear JoAnn, Beth and Duffy

We join in expressing our sadness for your devastating loss. Sonny was a true gentleman. He had class and dignity His life is a model for all to follow.

Ed and Kathy Markley

ed markley - March 15, 2019 at 09:06 AM



“ I will miss seeing him at our First Friday shows. That gang of people is very special to the band. Great guy! Our deepest condolences...

Andy Hawk - March 15, 2019 at 08:02 AM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III.



March 14, 2019 at 09:37 PM



“ We are so sorry for your loss of this memorable man! We know that he connected with so many people over the years of his life. Sending many caring thoughts from Terry and Gerri Hill

Gerri Hill - March 14, 2019 at 09:04 PM



“ For all of us who were at Loudoun Valley when Sonny was there will always remember what a wonderful addition he was to our faculty as well as our coaching staff. He was great roll model who was always positive with kids and players he worked with. When he came to Valley he just fit like a finger in a glove. You will always be remembered in our hearts. RIP
Scott Douglas

ScotDouglas - March 14, 2019 at 11:21 PM



“ Sonny touched so many lives in so many ways. I am so honored to have known him and call him my friend. My heart goes out to Jo Ann and the rest of his family. He will be missed.

Pamela Sullivan - March 14, 2019 at 06:52 PM



“ Pam and Kevin Sullivan purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III.



Pam and Kevin Sullivan - March 14, 2019 at 06:46 PM



“ Dear JoAnn, Beth, and Duffy,
May God comfort you in this time of terrible loss. In everything Sonny did he excelled and served as a model for others. Loudoun has lost a great citizen, and you have lost a loving husband, father, and grandfather. These posts give a glimpse into the life of this remarkable friend and man. We all share your loss. Ed Hatrick

Edgar Hatrick - March 14, 2019 at 05:34 PM



“ Joann and family,. My deepest sympathy in Sonny's passing. He was such a good man and he will be missed. Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sincerely,

Ellen Fein

Ellen Fein - March 14, 2019 at 04:22 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Sonny was such a sweet man. He made my first years of teaching at Heritage High School so much better. He always had a wise word and a way of helping me keep things in perspective. I know that he impacted many, many people/ I hope you can find some comfort in the memories you shared.

Amanda O'Hare - March 14, 2019 at 04:02 PM



“ 59 files added to the album LifeTributes



Loudoun Funeral Chapels - March 14, 2019 at 03:37 PM



“ Mrs. Pearson, Duffy and family - We are very sorry for your loss. Sending prayers to all

Michael Furr and the staff of F & L Plumbing & Heating, Inc.



Michael Furr - March 14, 2019 at 01:52 PM



“ Shirley and Bob Hall purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III.



Shirley and Bob Hall - March 14, 2019 at 01:20 PM



“ Joann, Duffy & Beth, My heart truly aches for each of you! My sincerest & deepest sympathy to all of his family & friends. Please know you are in our thoughts & prayers. What an AMAZING, KIND & CARING man Sonny was! We feel soo BLESSED to have known him. What an AWESOME coach & friend, who had a REMARKABLE life, but gone far too soon! May GOD wrap his loving arms around his family & many, many friends & COMFORT each of you & give you PEACE at this extremely difficult time. May your MEMORIES of this WONDERFUL man make you smile & sustain you in the the coming days. Sending much LOVE & many HUGS to ALL! Rest in Peace, Sonny! We LOVE you & you will be in our HEARTS forever!!
Jimmy, Judy & the Carroll Family



Judy Carroll - March 14, 2019 at 11:54 AM



“ I hadn't seen Sonny in years but he came to see me while I was in rehab and it was like I just saw him. Thoroughly enjoyed seeing him.
Sorry for the family's loss.
Bob Hummer

Bob Hummer - March 14, 2019 at 10:05 AM



“ So sorry for your loss.

Alyce Phillips

alyce phillips - March 14, 2019 at 09:41 AM



“ We were so saddened to learn of Sonny's passing. No doubt he is up in Heaven, giving pointers to many who have gone before him. Ed has shared many happy early memories with me about things that happened "back in the days" of young teachers and coaches in Loudoun County Public Schools. May all your memories be sweet and we pray that God holds you closely during these difficult days. We are with you in thought and prayer.

Ed and Roberta Pifer - March 14, 2019 at 09:27 AM



“ Coach,

The number of lives you've touched is immeasurable, from coach, administrator, teacher, parent, colleague and friend. Loudoun County has lost one of its best. Thanks for being the coach and mentor all young people deserve !!
You will be missed.

Kevin Seekford - March 14, 2019 at 09:19 AM



“ John & I were so honored to have known Sonny! He was a great a great Father-In-Law to Scott. he will be very missed in the family. Lots of love & prayers for all.



Laura Polacek - March 14, 2019 at 09:04 AM



“ JoAnn and family, Bruce and I are so saddened to hear of Sonny's passing . . .please know that you are in our prayers. Sending much love and hugs your way. Bruce and Sharon Bornarth

Sharon Bornarth - March 14, 2019 at 05:57 AM



“ My thoughts are with the family. Sending much love. Loudoun County lost a hero.

Betty Mar Little - March 14, 2019 at 09:28 AM



“ Joann, I am so sorry to learn of Sonny's passing. We lost a good one that is for sure. Sorry I missed his memorial but I will always remember him and smile.

kelly burk - March 18, 2019 at 08:43 AM



“ One of a kind that is for sure!! Truly loved this man! Praying hard for the family and friends! I am so very sorry for your loss!

Julie Skinner - March 14, 2019 at 04:44 AM



“ God Bless and may your light shine bright in Heaven!!!
The McClure's



Robet McClure - March 13, 2019 at 11:39 PM



“ Sara Ballenger lit a candle in memory of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III



Sara Ballenger - March 13, 2019 at 11:37 PM

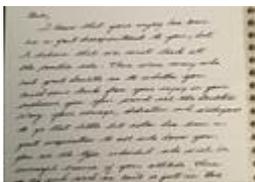


“ Dear JoAnn, Beth and Duffy,

I can not even begin to tell you how sadden my heart is for you and your family. This world has lost a truly great man! He has touched the lives of so many in such a positive way. I would like to share a short story to let you know how much he loved the kids he taught and coached. I was a student at Loudoun County and a graduate of the class of 1981. Coach Pearson was not only a great coach, but person and mentor for me as a young person. I played football on his team and I suffered a Joe Theisman type break of my left leg, the tibia and fibia, requiring a plate and 9 screws. I tried to play again in my senior year, stress fracturing the same leg again in the wondrful 2 a day practices, setting me out for my senior year, almost. The healing process began again. During this time Coach Pearson took the time to write a letter that would change my life forever, it was a letter that was one of encouragement, hope and work ethic. I have that letter to this day! I stayed with the team for my senior year, dumb right! Under great pressure from myself, I pleaded with Coach Pearson to allow me to play in the last game of the season, my last game in high school. He replied that he would consider it if I could get a signed letter from my Dad allowing me the chance to possibly play in that game. So in true form Coach Pearson called my name and I played the last 4 plays of the game on defense as a linebacker (the position I origionally broke my leg) with the rest of the seniors. We finished, in my eyes, together. It must have made him half sick to his stomach allowing me backout onto the field. Thinking back on this moment in time, he knew it would help me greatly in life, overcoming such adversity. Between those last 4 plays and the letter he wrote, it was a life lesson that I could overcome any adversity and accomplish anything. He was letting me know if you can believe it, you can achieve it. I thanked God many times over the years for the time Coach Pearson took th time to write that 1 page letter, thanks Coach!!!!

Very Respectfully and with great sorrow I say goodbye, until we meet again. You will be greatly missed. R.I.P.

Robert McClure
Class of 81



Robet McClure - March 13, 2019 at 11:34 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers for family an friends. Mr Pearson was a good teacher and coach. He was one of a kind. He always took time too care about us all. He will be truly missed an loved by all rest in peace



Virginia tolson - March 13, 2019 at 11:23 PM



“ Joann -- Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family at this difficult time. Sending prayers for comfort and peace.....

Robert and Wendy Abel



Wendy Abel - March 13, 2019 at 10:59 PM



“ Deepest sympathy JoAnn for you and your family at this difficult time. My heartfelt prayers and love for the loss of dear Sonny. What a kind and wonderful man. Hold your memories close and may God's grace sustain you in the coming weeks.

Gail Roberts Greene - March 13, 2019 at 05:36 PM



“ Our deepest and sincere condolences to the Pearson family on the passing of Coach Sonny Pearson. A graduate of Loudoun Valley class of "1974". May God continue to bless the family of a wonderful and loving coach.

Barbara & Wendy Smith



Barbara Smith` - March 13, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ JoAnn,
We are so sorry for your loss. Sonny was a wonderful person. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
Walter and Connie Barr

Walter A Barr - March 13, 2019 at 02:53 PM



“ Dear JoAnn, Beth and Duffy,
We are so sorry. Sending our love and prayers.
Trish, Rob and Julia McNeal

Trish McNeal - March 13, 2019 at 02:44 PM



“ Dear JoAnn, Duffy and Beth,

I'm so very sorry for your loss. I know the pain you are all experiencing. Remember that love never dies and your memories are forever. He was a great man and will be missed but never forgotten.

Sending much love and lifting you in prayer.

Love,

Nancy Frye

nancy frye - March 13, 2019 at 02:38 PM



“ I am so sorry, JoAnn and all the family. Sending love and prayers for your comfort as time passes. Sonny was an exemplary teacher and coach and leaves wonderful memories. He touched many lives and lives on in them.

Love to you all,
Pam Potts

PAMELA POTTS - March 13, 2019 at 11:24 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Pearson Family. So very sorry for your loss.

Terry and Mary Frye



Terry Frye - March 13, 2019 at 01:54 PM



“ My deepest and sincere condolences to JoAnn and the family on the passing of your loved one. I worked with Sonny as a Varsity Football assistant at Loudoun County High School for several years. He was thorough, confident, firm but fair. One of the finest people I have ever known. What a character guy. Will miss you. Rest in peace, my friend.

Harvey & Mary Kearney - March 13, 2019 at 01:07 PM



“ R.I.P. Coach



Moe Murphy - March 13, 2019 at 12:27 PM



“ Coach,

I'd like to thank you for teaching me the love of football. I'd like to thank you for your patience and despite all my mistakes, providing me the opportunity to earn my time on the field. Thank you for the example, quietly showing me how to handle adversity. For these gifts, I will always be grateful. R.I.P.

Ron

Ron Moore - March 13, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ Dick & Sheree Hickman lit a candle in memory of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III



Dick & Sheree Hickman - March 13, 2019 at 09:26 AM



“ I have a special story to share about Sonny showing he was a very caring individual and a good friend. It took place at Loudoun Valley High School some twenty years ago at their outdoor graduation in the football stadium. My nephew was graduating and I drove my parents to the ceremony and by the time we arrived the parking lot was filling up. I was driving around to see what was available and to get my parents as close as possible. Both of my parents were in their 80's. My mom had some health issues and was walking with a cane at a slow pace. Sonny saw me and motioned me to drive up where he was assisting with the flow of people entering the stadium. He allowed me to park at the entrance and also helped my mom into the stadium. He made sure she did not have to climb too many steps. My parents spoke for a long time about what a caring, polite person Sonny was. I personally still think about the special touch Sonny showed to my parents. I know Sonny will continue to lend a gentle hand to everyone in his new surroundings.

Dick Hickman

Dick Hickman - March 13, 2019 at 09:24 AM



“ Dude & Carolyn Moxley lit a candle in memory of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III



Dude & Carolyn Moxley - March 13, 2019 at 07:06 AM



“ I have a vivid memory of Coach Pearson from when I was a student at Loudoun County High School in the 1980s. Having access to a microphone as a student in those days was not so common. Someone must have been setting up for something in the gym and there was a live microphone and Coach Pearson let me use the it. I sang You Light Up My Life by Olivia Newton John. He just smirked and let me do it. I don't have a great memory but for some reason this particular one has always stuck with me. It obviously had a positive influence on me, as did Coach Pearson. He was here and he made a difference in my life and certainly countless others. I shed a tear because he is gone and because I know I was blessed to have known him.

Katie Russell Turner - March 12, 2019 at 07:21 PM



“ Angie Stewart lit a candle in memory of Frank "Sonny" James Pearson III



Angie Stewart - March 12, 2019 at 05:20 PM