



Stuart Allan Haney

May 9, 1957 - April 25, 2020

Stuart Haney, 62, died suddenly at home in Leesburg, Virginia on Saturday, April 25, 2020. Born in Topeka, Kansas to William E. and Lila C. (nee Edwards) Haney, Stuart spent many of his formative years working on the family farm and ultimately rose to prominent positions advising some of the country's most influential business and political figures.

He received an undergraduate degree in hotel administration from Cornell University, a Juris Doctor degree from Washburn University Law School, and a Master of Laws in Tax from Georgetown University Law Center.

During his college years he became active in the campaigns of his former home state U.S. Senator, Robert Dole, and later served as an intern in the Senator's capitol office. More importantly, however, was Stuart meeting his future life partner, Paula Leszyk, while working at the Holiday Inn in Cortland, New York. They were married on July 14, 1979, and later became the proud parents of their only child, Colton Haney.

Upon earning his final degree, Stuart began his professional career working in the tax division of Arthur Anderson LLP., where established many friendships and connections that he cherished through the years. He later became in-house counsel to high net worth individuals, including the late Jack Kent Cooke who was both owner of the Washington Redskins NFL franchise and philanthropist in the National Capital region.

Upon Cooke's death in 1997, Stuart served as co-executor of Mr. Cooke's estate which resulted in the sale of the Redskins for a then-record of \$800 million and, among other assets, the Chrysler Building in New York City. Stuart later served as president and chief operating officer of Salamander Farms in Middleburg, Virginia.

While he had a robust career that led to his many engaging and often humorous tales, Stuart will be most remembered for his warm and generous spirit. His proudest work was serving as a life-time member of the board of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. Beyond

his commitment to honoring Mr. Cooke's legacy, Stuart's greatest joy was getting to know and support many of the foundation's 2,700 Cooke Scholars over the past 16 years.

Stuart served on numerous other boards, including the Gettysburg Foundation, the Alliance for Environmental Markets and Investments, the National History Day, Shelter House, the First Star Institute, and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground. Whether it was engaging through these organizations or lending a helping hand to a friend in need, all who knew Stuart will long remember his warm smile and infectious energy. He had a natural but powerful ability to make everyone feel as though they were his friend of many years, even if they had only met mere moments before.

A curious, life-long learner, Stuart was constantly doing something new. Whether it was delving into an obscure book on American history or doing a project around the house that he had never done before, he found joy. But this curiosity was best exemplified through his love for travel that he shared with his wife and son. Stuart and his family journeyed to more than 35 countries where, having "done his homework," he took a mischievous delight in showing up the local tour guide.

In addition to his wife and son, Stuart is survived by his mother of Topeka, Kansas, brother Stephen (Nancy) of San Antonio, Texas, sister-in-law Linda (Joseph) Holthouser of Elmira, New York, and a host of nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father in 1993.

Per his wishes, Stuart's "final journey" will be to a destination he had never visited where his cremated remains will be spread. Given the present situation, a celebration of Stuart's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (44325 Woodridge Parkway, Lansdowne, Virginia 20176) in honor of their husband and father, son and brother. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Please share online condolences with the family at www.loudounfuneralchapel.com

Comments



“ I just learned of Stuart's passing, and I write this with a heavy heart. I knew Stuart through the JKCF. He had a warm and generous spirit, an infectious sense of humor, and his was a joyous presence. Every time I spoke with him I wound up laughing until I had tears in my eyes. His pride in the work of the Foundation, and his enthusiasm for the great things the Cooke Scholars will accomplish was a wonderful thing to behold. I will miss him.

Matthew Quinn, Jr.

Matt Quinn - August 20, 2020 at 03:47 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stuart Allan Haney.



June 21, 2020 at 04:30 PM



“ I am very saddened to read of Stuart's death. His warmth and hearty laugh were a welcoming presence when my husband, Harold Levy, joined the JKCF family. At JKCF events, I always sought him out because he was such a positive and cheerful demeanor.

I send condolences to the entire family.
Pat Sapinsley (aka Mrs Harold Levy)

Pat Sapinsley - May 28, 2020 at 09:37 AM



“ Stuart was a loyal friend and colleague. His knowledge, good humor, and interpersonal skills made working with him fun and easy. I know I will miss very much. He was very proud of his family and I send my sincerest condolences to them.

Elissa T. Garr - May 26, 2020 at 11:23 AM



“ I’m ver sad to hear of Mr. Haney’s passing. I worked as an Accountant at JKCF for a few years and I remember his kindness when he came to the office for board meetings. Sending a lot of love to the family.

Necole L. - May 19, 2020 at 06:32 PM



“ Stuart was an amazing person. Exceedingly warm, highly ethical and a consummate professional. I was so privileged to work with him through First Star and First Star Institute. My deepest condolences to his family. He spoke so highly and lovingly of each of you. I am so very sorry for your loss.

Noy Davis - May 08, 2020 at 01:19 PM



“ I was so sad to hear that Stuart had passed away. I first got to know him professionally in the late 1990s and that turned into a friendship over the following decades. Such a nice man, so generous with his time and advice. I will always recall that he never had a cross word to say about anyone, and was most always beaming with that wonderful smile. I greatly regret that we did not have more opportunities to get together in recent years. I am sure you miss him deeply, but hold on to those good memories. Dave Donovan

David P Donovan - May 08, 2020 at 12:22 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Stuart's passing. I remember him from the Countryside Waves, when his son swam with our daughters. He was always so fun and positive. I think I remember that he liked to help with the pancake breakfasts, and he gave the team guidance when we were in a tough situation a few times. Sending your family prayers and hugs during this difficult time from the Derby family.

Michelle Derby - May 07, 2020 at 09:43 PM



“ Dear Paula and Colton, We were so saddened to hear of Stuart's untimely passing. Our hearts go out to your family. Stuart was always such a kind, warm, helpful and cheerful individual. It was always clear that volunteering and helping others was a great love and priority for him and the whole family. His generous gifts of his time and his upbeat personality have impacted all of those who knew him. We are thinking of all of you and sending feelings of love and comfort. David, Nancy, Benjamin and Madeleine Roodberg

Nancy L Roodberg - May 07, 2020 at 04:38 PM



“ I am so sad to read this. He and his family were always so kind. I meet him at Dr groys. He loved talking about his son and how proud he was of him. My heart go out to all of you.

Pam white (Dr Groy assistant)

Pam - May 07, 2020 at 12:33 AM



“ Jason and I first met Stuart at the JKC Scholars Weekend in 2006 when Jason was seated at Stuart's table for the banquet dinner. At each subsequent Scholars Weekend, we looked forward to seeing Stuart and catching up. The first few years, we were surprised that he'd remember us on sight -- he'd boom out from across the room, "It's the married couple!" But our annual catch-ups quickly became a highlight of those weekends; he always made time to chat, to regale us with another inside story of Jack Kent Cooke, and to inquire sincerely about how we were doing.

Stuart's genuine warmth and care for us - for all Scholars - was a reaffirming touchstone. We treasured and appreciated that he made the effort, year after the year.

He cared, and he worked hard for the things he cared about. His death is a real loss. We will miss him deeply.

Caraleigh Holverson - May 06, 2020 at 08:24 PM



“ Dear Paula and Colton,
I am so sorry. We just received new of Stewart's passing. We are heartbroken. We have so many wonderful memories of Stewart. From all the camping trips out on the river to the numerous meetings at school, he was a joy to be around. He brought a spark into every room he entered. He always had sage advice and helpful perspective. His sense of humor made any meeting fun and enjoyable. His willingness to help others inspired so many. He was an incredible person. Stewart made the world a better place, and he brightened the world for all of us around him. I will remember his distinctive chuckle and laugh forever, and I will always be grateful to have known him. Our family's thoughts and prayers are with you during this terribly difficult time.

Ken, Linda, Alex, Kurtis, and Kristine Nysmith

Ken Nysmith - May 06, 2020 at 07:49 PM



“ Oh what a beautiful heart he had! Just think of all the joy that he shared with the world in which he lived. He will truly be missed. Our heavenly father will comfort us by using all of the good memories of this special gentleman that we can hold on to and perhaps share with the world in which we are surrounded. My sympathy goes out to those he left behind. He will not be forgotten--He's waiting to tell us of all of this new journey.
Wrap yourselves with the warmth and love that our Stuart showed us.

Sincerely, Lois Lutz Zeller and family

Lois (Lutz) Zeller cousin - May 06, 2020 at 06:13 AM



“ Very sad to hear of Stuart's passing. I first met him in the late 1980's early 1990's when the Redskins were buying the land for Redskins Park, when he worked for Jack Kent Cooke. A consummate professional. Little did I realize that in 1999-2001 right after the team was sold, I would be General Counsel of the Redskins, and we worked together on many issues relative to the acquisition and related follow-up. When I ran for public office in 2003 Stuart was a friend and supporter, and then through further coincidence I did quite a bit of work for Sheila Johnson and Salamander, and Stuart was their consiglieri so to speak. He was always knowledgeable, courteous, professional, and a pleasure to work with. Since I am 67 years old, I feel that his passing was totally untimely and it makes me very sad. . . .

Bob Gordon, Esq. / Loudoun Commercial Title.

Bob Gordon - May 05, 2020 at 03:25 PM



“ Dear Paula and Colton,

Just learned of Stuart's passing. You have our deepest sympathies. I will always be so thankful that you and Stuart brought Lila up to visit about a year ago. Stuart looked so much like his dad and we could remember when we were kids and they lived on Fairlawn street in Topeka. He was a good human being and will be missed by many. Till we meet again cousin. Bruce and Betty Lutz

Bruce L Lutz - May 05, 2020 at 03:02 PM



“ Dear Paula and Colton,

We were so incredibly sad to hear today of Stuart's passing. You have our deepest sympathies. He was such a vivacious and fun person. He always made us laugh and there are no words for the loss you have experienced. We are grateful to have had him in our lives and have so many great memories of him with the boys growing up. Sending you all our love and hugs. Love, Carolyn, Lou, Michael and Elizabeth

carolyn parent - May 05, 2020 at 01:59 PM



“ Just received a note in the mail from Stephen about Stuart's passing. I remember the Edwards reunions many years ago and Stuart was able to be at this particular one at the Potawatomi UMC where our Aunt Waneva and I attended. He showed us his Super Bowl Ring and I remember how proud I was to have a "celebrity" for a cousin. I remember his curly hair and his dimples. We spoke one time over the phone about geneology. He was gracious enough to pass along some information he had found about the Edwards side of our family. Paula and Colton... I am so very sorry and sad. My love and prayers to you both. Judy Thoman, cousin

Judy Thoman - May 04, 2020 at 02:24 PM



“ Just received news of my cousin Stuart's passing. His mother Lila and my mother Ruth were sisters. I hadn't seen Stuart since he was a young boy but I have fond memories of his sweet smile and wonderful personality. I followed his career over the years with immense pride. My love and prayers to Paula, Colton and my Aunt Lila.

Deborah Wallisch Borys - May 06, 2020 at 12:42 AM



“ Stuart loved connecting with Cooke Scholars and possessed so much passion in supporting our professional aspirations and academic journeys. I enjoyed every interaction I had with Stuart and always left our conversations affirmed. Thank you for your leadership and work in establishing the Foundation and transforming our lives.

Larry Thi - May 04, 2020 at 01:54 PM



“ I'm extremely saddened to learn about Stuart's passing. I loved and will cherish every interaction we had at the Cooke Foundation events. He always had great and inspiring stories to share and he truly loved all the scholars as if he knew them all for years and years. Thank you Stuart for all you have done and I will continue your legacy and mission to support those students who dream of a better future. Rest in Paradise, my good friend and mentor. You will be missed!

Aman Waheed - May 03, 2020 at 10:56 PM



“ Dear Paula and Colton, we were dismayed and saddened to hear about Stuart. We have such great memories of everything we did together when the boys were at Nysmith. He would always take the lead, be the life of the party, get things done, be the friendliest person to everyone, and always have something interesting to talk about -- he just was simply an amazing and a good man! Our hearts go out to you both for your loss. Love, Nicky, John and Ian Rand

Nicky and John Rand - May 03, 2020 at 10:03 PM



“ Sending our deepest sympathies to the Haney family. Paula & Colton our prayers lifted up for you especially. In the time we spent together at POTOMAC FALLS CHURCH, Stuart was faithful and warmly welcoming to all.



Carolyn Cuppernull - May 03, 2020 at 03:39 PM



“ I wasn't close to Mr. Haney but always respected him from afar. You could always sense warmth in certain people. He was one of them.

I hope his family and friends can find peace in these already challenging times. Rest easy.

Kyle

Kyle Chin-How - May 02, 2020 at 01:07 PM



“ I will remember you with gratitude Mr. Stuart. When I spoke to you during a JKCF scholars weekend, your words lived on in my memory.

I pray you will watch over those you love, and share with those who remember you-- the abundance of love that can exist within you or I. To encourage, even the wealthiest in this country, to remember that they are interwoven into the fabric of reciprocity and that to be humble in the comforts and peace we know today.

key - May 02, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ I vividly remember meeting Mr. Haney during a JCKF Scholar Weekend where we engaged each other in a conversation about the Redskins and my father's teenage antics in Maryland. One of which was sneaking into Mary Surratt's haunted house at night from a second floor window on a dare for a box of Cracker Jacks. He seemed to get a kick out of the story. Although short, I will treasure our conversation for the rest of my life as Mr. Haney was one of a handful of truly genuine people that not only intrigued me, but also left a lasting impression on me.

My heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family. May God give you the comfort and peace that you seek and may the soul of your loved one rest in peace.

Sincerely,

Dalton Leftwich

Dalton James Leftwich - May 02, 2020 at 02:34 AM



“ I am very sorry to hear of Mr. Stuart's death. Words seem so feeble in moments like these. I extend my heartfelt sympathy to their family and the Cooke community. I am a new Cooke scholar; unfortunately, I never had a chance to meet Mr. Stuart. However, by reading about him, I can tell he was a valuable asset to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. I will always regret not meeting him. He has left an undeniable impact—my warmest love and wishes for their family.

Best Regards,
Jaweria Bakar

Jaweria Bakar - May 02, 2020 at 01:17 AM



“ I had the pleasure of meeting Stuart at Scholar's Weekends and really enjoyed all of the conversations I had with him. He was a lot fun to be around and it was a joy to hear his stories about the very full life he lived. My condolences go out to his family.

Bryce - May 01, 2020 at 10:02 PM



“ Very sorry to hear this. I had the pleasure of getting to know Stuart while I worked at the Cooke Foundation in its earliest years. I always enjoyed his energy and his spirit, and his obvious love for serving the scholars helped by the great cause that Mr. Cooke left behind—which Stuart always did with such verve and passion. May he rest in peace.

Pete Mackey - May 01, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ I'm so sad to learn of Stuart's passing. His boisterous laugh brought joy to all of us at the scholar events. Thanks for sharing him with all of us.

Alonit - May 01, 2020 at 05:22 PM



“ What an absolute delight it was to talk with Stuart at the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation events. He had so many adventures and it was a joy to hear him tell of them. Hearing about the man (Jack Kent Cooke) whose benevolence made my academic dreams possible from a first hand source was rewarding for me and my fellow scholars, and it was a kindness of Stuart to tell us his stories. Thank you for everything Stuart, and sincerest condolences to the Haney family.

Amanda Morin, Fort Worth, Texas

Amanda Morin - May 01, 2020 at 04:56 PM