



Melvin Martin Hickman

August 5, 1936 - October 21, 2023

Melvin Martin Hickman, age 87, grew up on a farm in Limerick, Ohio. He lived, worked and raised his family in Jackson, Ohio and passed away on October 21, 2023 at the Bluebird Retirement Community in London, Ohio

Known by those that knew him best as “Mel,” “Dad” and “Grandpa,” he lived a life that reflected kindness, good humor and a love for his family and people.

Mel grew up helping on his family farm and had his first job while in high school. He started working for Columbus & Southern Ohio Electric Company (AEP Southern Ohio) in 1970 where he later retired as an engineering technician. He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church (now Christ Church) and loved worshipping there and attending men’s brotherhood breakfasts. Mel was also known as “Lion Mel,” having been a member of Jackson Lion’s Club for over 30 years. He took his Lion Mel role seriously, volunteering on holiday flag duty, Cracker Jack and broom fundraisers and working in the club’s Apple Festival booth. The club honored him as Lion of the Year for 2006-2007, and Lion’s International named him a Life Member in 2015.

His hobbies included driving a hobby stock race car in his early years, and later golf, playing acoustic guitar, traveling, and spending time with his family. Mel loved a family celebration of any sort, and whether it was a holiday, birthday, or attending programs and games for the grand or great grand kids, he was at his best in those times. He loved telling stories, and even in the last few weeks of his life he would always end phone calls and visits with “oh, let

me tell you about this time. . .”

When his wife Charlotte became ill, Mel left his Jackson life behind to move to assisted living to be with her. He focused almost exclusively on her well-being, promising her when she passed that he'd see her again soon. As he always was a keeper of his promises, he's with her now and his family has peace knowing that they are together again.

In addition to his wife Charlotte, Mel was preceded in death by his parents Darrell and Dorothy Hickman and an infant brother Harlan. Mel is survived by daughters Julia Brakenbury (Kenneth), Cheryl Taylor (Phil), and Gretchen Nelson (Brian); his grandchildren Christopher Brakenbury (Peggy Anderson) and Adam Brakenbury (Olivia); his step grandchildren Meghan Sanders and Chris Taylor (Jill); his great grandchildren June and Benjamin Brakenbury; and his step great grandchildren Adeline and Bryson Sanders and Jack and Lois Taylor. He is also survived by his brothers Darrell William (“Billy”), Carroll and Don Hickman.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home, with a graveside service and burial to be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, 10:00 a.m. at Little Mound Cemetery in Richmond Dale, Ohio with Rev. Janie Karl officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Christ Church, 150 Portsmouth St, Jackson, Ohio 45640 and/or Jackson Lions Club, P.O. Box 771, Jackson, Ohio 45640. Condolences may be sent to the family at: www.mayhew-brownfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Little Mound Cemetery

Richmond Dale, OH

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 4. 10:00 AM (ET)

Little Mound Cemetery
Richmond Dale, OH

Tribute Wall

LJ

“ Melvin was a great person to work with at American Electric Power and was a member of our retirees group. Well done Melvin. Laura Jordan (Athens District)

Laura Hawk Jordan - October 30, 2023 at 03:46 PM

AC

“ I will Miss Melvin Dearly, especially when i come into work! Melvin was always there to greet us in the morning, whether it be with a picture of his great grandchildren, a joke or just a simple " Good Morning Amber". Melvin always had a smile on his face no matter what. It's going to be different without him but i Know he is at peace and with his Beloved Charolette. Rest in Peace Mel. Family My thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Amber Cutlip - Bluebird

Amber Cutlip - October 27, 2023 at 09:35 AM

DH

“ I met Melvin when we moved my mom to Bluebird 2 years ago. Everyday he would be sitting in his same seat in the dining room. I would approach him to say hi and kiss his cheek. He would grab my hand and smile and we would talk for a bit. He was the sweetest man and I always looked forward to seeing his smile. I was devastated to hear of his passing. I will truly miss seeing him and talking with him when I round the corner to the dining room. To his family, I am so sorry for your loss. Reading his obit, I can tell he was a wonderful man. Rest in peace Melvin and thanks for being a friend to me.
Diane Hoover, daughter of Jean Hedges

DIANE HOOVER - October 27, 2023 at 08:51 AM

JF

“ *What a kind and gentle brother-in-law. Always remember our yearly Christmas get together with all the family. What great memories. Yes, Heaven has gained an Angel, but Mel is in the arms of his Heavenly Father and the love of his life, Charlotte.* 💕🙏

Judy Topping Ferris - October 25, 2023 at 08:51 PM

PB

“ *I'm going way back in time. Mr Hickman was a chaperone at the Youth Center for many years. He was my favorite, he was attentive to the unruly kids and was certainly a friend to all. So many good memories of the Youth Center, and he was a big part of it!* ❤️

Pam Beatty - October 25, 2023 at 08:03 PM

CS

Melvin was such a sweet man. I grew up playing with Julie and was at their home often. He was always fun to be around. I am so sorry for your loss and will be praying for your family.

Cindy Stewart - November 03, 2023 at 12:43 PM

DF

Melvin was a wonderful person to be around. So talented in so many things and he and Charlotte were so vital to our Church. I was blessed to have had Melvin and Charlotte in my life's pathway. Prayers for all.
Dan Fulks

Dan Fulks - November 04, 2023 at 08:01 AM