



Melvin Dawson Pritchard Sr.

November 20, 1939 - April 8, 2022

Melvin Dawson Pritchard Sr. of Manassas, Va. age 82 went home to be with our Lord on April 8, 2022 with his family by his side at Lake Manassas Rehab Center. Melvin was born on November 20, 1939 in Suffolk, Virginia.

“Mel” was the owner and operator of the House of Leather on Route 28 in Manassas for over 20 years. He started as a shoe shine boy at the age of 10 and enjoyed doing shoe repair for more than 70 years. Mel was very dedicated to his customers; worked seven days a week and built many lasting friendships over the years.

Melvin is survived by his loving wife of 38 years, Marjorie Pritchard of Manassas, Virginia. Three children, Sharon Kay Swarmer, Outer Banks, NC., Dorothy E Guy (Beth) Kinston, NC., Melvin D Pritchard Jr., (Buddy) Raleigh NC., two grandsons and five great grandchildren all of North Carolina.

Melvin was preceded in death by his mother Dorothy J Brinkley, of Suffolk, Va.

Melvin was an avid sports fan. He loved the Washington Redskins and the Washington Nationals. He enjoyed bowling most of his life, both duckpin and 10 pin. He was on different leagues over the years at Bowl American on Mathis Avenue and later at Bull Run Bowl America on Balls Ford Road, developing lifelong friends along the way.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Parkinson Foundation or The Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements are being handled by Pierce Funeral Home (9609 Center Street, Manassas, Virginia 20110). Services will be held at Pierce Funeral Home on Saturday, April 23, 2022 at 5PM.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **23**. 5:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Pierce Funeral Home created a Service for Melvin Dawson Pritchard Sr. in memory of Melvin Dawson Pritchard Sr.*



Pierce Funeral Home - April 23, 2022 at 09:08 AM

KF

“ *To the Pritchard's family our sympathies.*

Kenneth and Armande Fisher

Kenneth/Armande Fisher - April 24, 2022 at 02:56 PM

MG

“ *Dear Margie and Family: Vera and I were so saddened to learn about the passing of Mel. As you will remember, I was on the Manassas City Council for 16 years. My frequent visits to your store were always enjoyable events. Mel loved telling me how messed up he felt our City Government was and what we should do to fix it. Your kind attempts at trying to quiet him down usually didn't work. You all were such a respected couple, business owners and loved for so many years by the Manassas area. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Maury Gerson - April 19, 2022 at 03:30 PM

HM

“ Hugs and peace, Dawn Mancuso purchased the Dawn of Remembrance Basket for the family of Melvin Dawson Pritchard Sr..



Hugs and peace, Dawn Mancuso - April 19, 2022 at 12:11 PM



“ Growing up next to Mel and Margie has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. No matter how old I got, how far away I was, even after moving across the country, I was always greeted with a wave and chat. He always had a smile, always wanted to know how I was doing, and I will miss those chats more than I can adequately express. After losing my grandfather, I appreciated those gestures even more. He always knew how to help someone slow down, take a moment to breathe. I have nothing but the fondest of memories for him, and my heart goes out to Margie. One last wave from me, "Mister Mel". Rest well, and I miss you.

Kat Bays - April 15, 2022 at 04:02 PM

SS

“ I remember going to his shop next to the 7-11 in Manassas Park on many occasions. He was a tremendous Police supporter and was always in good spirits. He was a wonderful human being. RIP Melvin.

Scott Stallard - April 15, 2022 at 02:43 PM

JH

“ Ann and I are deeply saddened by the passing of our long time friend, and bowling teammate, Mel. In the past couple of years, Mel was not able to bowl, but his wife Margie filled his spot on the team, and he was always there to cheer us on, and give us words of encouragement... It was always fun to talk about the local sports teams with Mel, I will surely miss that. You are missed Mel, may you rest in peace ..

John and Ann Humphrey - April 15, 2022 at 12:15 PM

TP

“ Sorry to hear about the loss of Mel, many good memories of him at The House of Leather.

Tom Poindexter - April 13, 2022 at 12:13 PM

TI

“ RIP, great memories of you and your shop.
Enjoyed the stories!
Tim Lee

Tim - April 13, 2022 at 10:57 AM

DB

“ Marjorie and children,
I spent many hours in pleasant conversation with Melvin when he was running the shoe repair. He always had a smile and a good word for everyone that came in. My wife often asked, when I was taking shoes in or picking them up, if I would be home for dinner. Melvin was a great talker. I am greatly saddened to hear of his passing. He was one of the good ones.
Dave Button, Manassas
A long-time customer at Francis House of Leather

Dave Button - April 13, 2022 at 08:42 AM

LB

“ *Mel was a sweet man. We lived next to him for 20 years and he was a wonderful role model for our children. He served as a favorite uncle and always had a kind word and a good story. God bless and sleep well, good sir.*

Lee Ann and Gary Brown - April 12, 2022 at 06:43 PM