



Jesse O'Day Hughes Jr.

March 26, 1941 - January 2, 2025

Obituary for Jesse O'Day Hughes, Jr.

March 26, 1941 – January 2, 2025

Jesse O'Day Hughes, Jr., a beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and friend, passed away peacefully on January 2, 2025, at the age of 83. Born on March 26, 1941, in Salisbury, Maryland, he was the son of the late Jesse O'Day Hughes, Sr. and Henrietta Louise Polk-Hughes.

Jesse was a proud graduate of Salisbury High School in 1959. After completing his studies, he embarked on a distinguished 45-year career with the United States Postal Service as a mail handler. During this time, Jesse and his first wife, Yvonne, also became successful entrepreneurs, investing in multiple real estate properties, including Jesse's One Stop Market, a beloved local convenience store. His unwavering dedication to his work, strong work ethic, and commitment to his family and community were hallmarks of his character.

Affectionately known as "Sing" for his love of singing and his sharp sense of humor, Jesse had a magnetic personality and a zest for life. He could light up a room with his infectious laughter and a well-placed joke, making him a beloved figure to all who knew him. Whether through his music, comedy, or warm spirit, Jesse's ability to bring joy to others was truly remarkable. His

greatest pride, however, was his family, and he found fulfillment in the love of his daughters, grandchildren, and church family.

A man of many talents, Jesse enjoyed boating, crabbing, and fishing, and was an avid bowler, often found at Cherokee Lanes enjoying his favorite pastime. He had a playful competitive streak, especially when it came to games like pool, cornhole, and horseshoes. He was known to defeat his daughters in pool, often holding the cue stick behind his back, creating treasured memories that his family will cherish forever.

Jesse was a devoted member of St. James A.M.E. Zion Church in Salisbury, Maryland. His presence was always felt at Sunday services, and if he ever missed a Sunday, his church family knew right away because of his "reserved special seat."

Jesse's legacy extends beyond his personal and professional achievements. He was a driven, business-minded man with a generous heart and a deep sense of integrity. Whether in his career or in his relationships, Jesse approached life with a spirit of giving and compassion. His legacy of love, laughter, and devotion to family will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Iris Jackson and Delores Glover, brother Henry Polk, granddaughter Menick Johnson-Holland, and second wife Hazel Croswell.

Jesse leaves to cherish his memory his first wife and special friend, Yvonne Handy; his four daughters, Mabelle Watson (Jesse) of Fruitland, Maryland; Daphne Griffin (Leonard) of Salisbury, Maryland; Dr. Jessilene Purnell-Corbett (David Corbett) of Magnolia, Delaware; and Maria Price (Dion) of Fort Washington, Maryland. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren: Steven, Candace, Christopher, Douglas, Xavier, Cameron, and Jaden; 30 great-

grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

A private family service will be held in his honor. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Funeral Service

JAN 20. 12:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Tribute Wall

SR

“ Shaun, Kim and Robyn purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Jesse O'Day Hughes Jr..



Shaun, Kim and Robyn - January 19, 2025 at 10:02 AM

AL

“ Mabelle, Daphne, Jessilene. I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your father, "Mr. Jesse" As former neighbors I'm grateful that I got to know your father. My heart goes out to you and your family.

Alva Corbin Lisby

Alva Corbin Lisby - January 16, 2025 at 04:09 PM

FH

“ To the family of Jesse O'Day Hughes Jr. You have my condolences. To my friend over 40 years, Daphne, and basic buddy, be strong while going through this difficult time. God knows, God cares, and he is too wise to make a mistake. Ps.121, I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. Look to the Lord for wisdom, guidance, and direction. God will see you through.



Fayetta Hull - January 16, 2025 at 02:08 PM

BS

“ To Machele and Daphne, I am so very sorry to hear about your loss. Your father was such a nice man. He always greeted you with a smile, and a kind word. As a child growing up on Delaware Ave, I would see him everyday either working on the mail truck, or with you both in the store. My memories of him will be forever in my mind, and heart. Your family always felt like my family, and Mr Jesse will be missed. Your family will always be in my prayers and I know you will be strong during the time of your loss. Rest Peacefully Mr Jesse, we will miss you .

Billy Smith - January 15, 2025 at 07:59 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Jesse O'Day Hughes Jr..



January 15, 2025 at 01:24 PM

GH

“ Uncle Jr. my teenage yrs being raised by you & granddaddy are most memorable & shaped my life. RIH, Gregory O'Day Hughes-Glover 🥹

Gregory O'Day Hughes-Glover - January 14, 2025 at 01:31 PM

TW

“ Sorry For Your Loss



Thomas Widgeon - January 14, 2025 at 08:24 AM

SW

“ *Daphne Griffin and family I'm so sorry to hear this. Sending prayer, hugs and comfort*

Sheryl Waters - January 14, 2025 at 07:33 AM