



Edward Malcolm Hicks

April 1, 1948 - August 13, 2020

Edward Malcolm Hicks, 72, of Charleston, passed away Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Ed was born April 1, 1948 to the late Noble C. Hicks and Bette L. O'Dell.

Ed graduated from St. Albans High School in 1966 and attended both Rensselaer Polytechnic and the Rhode Island School of Design. He worked at Allen Blueprint in Charleston before accepting a position in the photography division with the State of West Virginia.

Surviving are his brother, Michael Hicks (Pam), and their children: Rob, Geneva & David.

You may visit Ed's tribute page at BartlettNicholsFuneralHome.com to share memories or condolences with the family.

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Ave., St. Albans is honored to serve the Hicks family.

Tribute Wall

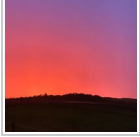
PE

“ I am absolutely devastated to hear this news. I worked as a designer at Charles Ryan Associates in Charleston in the late 80's/early 90's and Ed would shoot stats and prints for us at Allen Blueprint. Going over there became my favorite part of the week... hanging out in the darkroom, talking about anything under the sun (and realizing he knew something about everything, while I knew nothing). He loved my dog Dewey as much as I did, but also loved music and reading and philosophizing. We went to Mountain Stage a few times and always had fun. In 1990 when I was preparing to go to California for the first time with my fiancé, he said to go to Napa Valley and check out this little winery called V. Sattui, and try their Johannisberg Riesling. It became our favorite wine, and has been for 30+ years. I just ordered a case of it, and was trying to get in touch with Ed to share some. I hadn't seen him in a couple years. As soon as I saw the obit, I got a ping on my phone that the wine was ready for pickup. But now I don't feel like drinking it.

Does anyone know how he died? Was there no service because of Covid? Can we pull together and have one now? I'd be happy to help make it happen. Anyone can reach me at [philevans\(dot\)design](mailto:philevans(dot)design) (my website with contact info) if you have any info, ideas, or want to plan a service after the fact. Ed deserves it. We deserve it.



Phil Evans - August 10, 2021 at 06:23 PM



“ I remember sharing a bottle of Riesling with scrambled eggs and toast one breakfast in Elkins. I wish could do that one more time again my friend. ❤️

Mary Estes - March 02, 2021 at 07:07 PM

SW

Cheryl had an interesting memory of Ed last night. He arduously cut a tiny but vividly colored butterfly out of a postal stamp. Then on the envelope of a letter he sent to a friend, he glued the tiny cut out butterfly about an inch to the left of the stamp with a wavy dotted line to the butterfly shaped hole in the stamp making it look like the butterfly had flown free of the stamp. Very creative!

Geneva, so good you're getting another view of the rich impact your uncle had on so many people around him.

Scott N Williams - May 09, 2021 at 08:28 PM



“ Sorry to learn of Ed's passing. He and Ellwood Cutler were my roommates in our freshman year at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), 1966-1967 (Nason Hall room 314).

-- Gary Aikin, Cary NC

Gary Aikin - January 17, 2021 at 06:19 PM

PP

Ed would very occasionally reminisce about David Smith's sculpture farm in Bolton Landing. This was before art in the raw outdoors was a real thing. Like everyone, he had mixed feelings about Troy (at least as it was in them days) but I think RPI opened a lot of doors for him. Roommates are often central to finding the doorknob.

Phil Persinger - January 18, 2021 at 08:21 AM

GH

“ *Ed was my uncle. Just cried reading through these comments. You are all unbelievably kind and I'm happy to see he left behind such lovely memories.*

Geneva Hicks - December 10, 2020 at 02:33 PM

SS

“ *I worked with Ed at West Virginia Archives and History from 1999 to his retirement. He has been sorely missed. His sense of humor kept everyone on their toes. One never knew what the topic of conversation may be, or where Ed would go with it. He is one of those people you never forget. May his memory be eternal.*

Susan Scouras

Susan Scouras - October 26, 2020 at 04:12 PM

SS

“ *Ed was my friend. He was a friend to a lot of people. He always had a smile on his face and a kind word for me. My world was always a little brighter after I saw Ed. I knew him for decades and can't remember a time when we weren't friends. He would always have some special scientific article that he wanted to share with me or an interesting Factoid. It's hard for me to comprehend that he isn't on this earth anymore. His death definitely left a hole in my heart. Godspeed, Ed. Love, Sandy Sowell*

Sandy Sowell - October 26, 2020 at 03:05 PM

SP

“ I am sorry to learn of Ed’s death. Our paths crossed through a mutual friend, at a remote farm in Webster County where we lived at different times. He was a kind and creative man, he loved his dog, and conversation with him was always interesting. May he rest in peace.

Susan Polgar - October 24, 2020 at 01:16 PM

KS

“ I am deeply saddened to learn of Ed's passing. Although we had grown apart in recent years, I will forever count my friendship with him as one of the greatest blessings of my life. He was brilliant, witty, kind, and generous. And as true to himself as anyone I have ever known. Requiesce in pace, amicus meus.

Kip Simpkins - October 23, 2020 at 06:32 AM

KD

I was so sorry to hear of Ed’s passing. I met him at the Kanawha County Public Library where I was an employee and he was a patron. He was such a nice, gentle soul. His choice of reading material always fascinated me. He always had a kind word and a smile on his face. Rest In Peace, Ed.

Kim Dankovich-Taylor - October 23, 2020 at 01:30 PM

LA

“ May you rest in peace Ed. You were a good friend.

Larry Allen
Hickory, NC

Larry Allen - October 22, 2020 at 03:29 PM

PP

I visited Ed a few times at his station amongst the manifold and impressive equipment in the Allen Blueprint basement. He seemed happy there and totally at home with technical challenges of the work involving issues of graphic quality, even if (and especially since) much of the product was destined to serve as courtroom displays and exhibits.

Ed was intent on making things perfect even where only God could see 'em...

Phil Persinger - November 04, 2020 at 06:40 PM

 Becky Williams

“ *Always enjoyed conversations with Eddie when we were in high school. Such a smart and funny guy. Condolences to family and friends...*

Becky Osborne Williams

Becky Williams - October 21, 2020 at 02:09 PM

PP

“ *Ed was like a second son to my curmudgeonly Renaissance-man of a father. He was able to run with Dad down any strange alley a conversation might stray or stagger. Most tellingly, Ed helped care for Dad after Dad's open-heart surgery. Tending the healing incision was not trivial, especially with a mercurial patient. Dad never forgot Ed's kindness, and neither have I.*

Phil Persinger - October 21, 2020 at 09:34 AM

TH

“ *Great memories of Ed.
Meeting at Va Tech, getting to know Noble, Benefit Street @RISD,
Hacker Valley with Mars, etc.
May Peace be with you, Ed.*

Tom Haas - October 21, 2020 at 06:18 AM

PP

Mars! Greatest name ever for an Irish setter. Shades of John Carter. Ed helped curate a good-size library of paperback sci-fi in 1960-66, further bending his mind in certain directions. Barsoom forever!

Phil Persinger - October 21, 2020 at 08:54 AM

CW

On a more prosaic level, Mars was named for the Mars Viking Lander (how Ed can you get) in 1975 when he came to Ed from Friday Workman who bred Setters.

Cheryl Williams - October 29, 2020 at 07:10 PM

TH

Speaking of John Carter, while in Hacker Valley, we also had a cat, Dejah, named after the Princess of Helium.

Thomas John Haas - November 03, 2020 at 09:21 AM

CS

“ *Eddie was a friend during our teenage years. He was always creative, intelligent, and fun loving. Rest in peace, Eddie!*

Carol Tissue Smith

Carol T Smith - October 20, 2020 at 11:24 PM

SH

“ *Sharon lit a candle in memory of Edward Malcolm Hicks*



Sharon - October 20, 2020 at 02:26 PM

SH

I will always have wonderful, funny memories of Ed that still brings smiles when I think of him. He made some days that were drab, colorful and happy. May he R.I.P. and condolences to his family

Sharon - October 20, 2020 at 02:29 PM

RH

“ *Only fond memories of Eddie*

Rebecca Bukant Harshbarger - October 20, 2020 at 12:43 PM

CW

“ *Ed was one of the smartest, funniest and most creative people I ever met. His spirit lives on in so many memories and the myriad ways he shaped my life and the lives of those around him. The Story of the Wicket Woof and Ladle Gull, has never been far from my mind since he read it to me in the 1970s. Look it up and maybe you too will live with it forever, showing the power of Ed's far ranging and eccentric intellect. My deepest sympathies to his family and friends for their loss. He was truly one of a kind. Cheryl Williams*

Cheryl Williams - October 20, 2020 at 11:32 AM

PP

*For those unfamiliar—
<https://annex.exploratorium.edu/exhibits/ladle/>
Somehow Ed found, downloaded and bound for me all of Chace's fractured fairy tales as collected in "Anguish Languish." No better way to remember Ed than to read this story aloud and let it run rampant through your head...*

Phil Persinger - October 20, 2020 at 02:14 PM

CW

Agreed! I too have Letraset, as part of the graphic design world Ed introduced me to. It was but one of many worlds. Such creativity! Still can't believe our paths never crossed until after St.Albans High.

Cheryl Williams - October 29, 2020 at 07:17 PM

TB

“ We were so sorry to hear of Ed’s passing here at the Charleston Ballet. For many years, we have such fond memories of Ed helping with the creation of props and set pieces and working backstage at our Charleston Ballet productions. He created our “Magic Box” that has been used in our annual NUTCRACKER productions for more than 20 years.

We send our condolences to his family and many other friends at this time.

The Charleston Ballet - October 20, 2020 at 11:16 AM

SW

“ My wife and I were next door neighbors to Ed in 1974 - 1977 and got to benefit from his impish sense of humor, his wide ranging interests (I thank him every month for introducing me to Scientific American and because of him I know of Letraset and that the word is spelled remuneration, NOT renumeration), and his love of music. When we re-connected with him when he worked at the Cultural Center overseeing the photography archives, he dug up astounding photos from a relative I didn't even know about from the 1880's. I treasure the friendship we had with him and am so sorry at his passing. I wish I had had a chance to meet his daughter and want to express my condolences to his family for their loss.

Scott Williams - October 20, 2020 at 09:20 AM

PP

Some years back, Ed opened a drawer in his massive font cabinet and gave me a precious sheet of Letraset’s “Moore Computer” transfers. What will happen to that collection only Heaven knows; it should go to the Smithsonian.

Phil Persinger - October 20, 2020 at 02:49 PM

TH

Very cool to "see" you and Cheryl. Long live Godard Road.

Tom Haas - October 21, 2020 at 06:19 AM

SW

OK, Tom, share. My email is missinhills@gmail.com. We were just talking about where you might be.

Scott Williams - October 29, 2020 at 06:22 PM

PP

“ *Happy trails, Ed....*

Phil Persinger - October 19, 2020 at 10:44 PM

CW

Hope all these comments somehow reach him so he knows how much he meant to so many of us.

Cheryl Williams - October 29, 2020 at 07:18 PM

PE

We should have a service, sounds like he didn't get one last year. At least it wasn't listed. I assume because of Covid.

Phil Evans - August 10, 2021 at 06:34 PM