



## Mr. James Arthur Wood Jr.

June 6, 1927 - November 4, 2014

James Arthur (Art) Wood, Editor, Cartoonist and Public Relations Executive died on November 4, 2014 in Charlottesville, VA. He was born in Miami, Florida where his father was in a law firm. He spent most of his life in the Nation's Capital. He graduated Cum Laude from Washington and Lee University in 1950 ... received his Masters at Michigan State. During World War II he served in the Navy where he was Staff Cartoonist for The Bainbridge (MD) Mainsheet, All Hands magazine and Ships Editorial Association (a Navy syndicate) which circulated his cartoons around the world. After the war, Art Wood was cartoonist for the Washington (DC) Star, The Richmond (VA) News Leader, and Chief Political Cartoonist for the Pittsburgh (PA) Press, one of the largest evening papers in America. His work appeared in such major publications as Time, Newsweek, US News and World Report, Saturday Review of Literature, Harpers, and Editor and Publisher. He was also reprinted regularly in the New York Times "News Of The Week In Review" and papers coast to coast...his work syndicated nationally.

Wood was awarded a dozen Freedom Foundation Awards, the Christopher Award with Walt Disney and numerous others. For twenty years he was a Political Cartoonist for the Farm Bureau News (a weekly). He also hosted and moderated the Smithsonian's popular lecture series "Great Cartoonists" and the National Press Club's "Cartoonist's Night" featuring the country's outstanding graphic artists.

Wood was a "Founding Father" of The Association of American Editorial Cartoonists, a long time board member and President in 1975. He was also a member of The National Cartoonists Society, the National Press Club, Sigma Delta Chi, ODK, Phi Gamma Delta, and PRSA, Accredited.

His own original cartoons have been displayed at The Metropolitan Museum in New York, The Hirschorn in the Nation's Capital and the National Gallery in London, and featured in two World's Fairs. He was included in the International Touring Exhibit "The Great Challenge." President Truman framed one of Art's original political cartoons over the door to the Oval Office. His work is also represented in Presidential Libraries.

In addition to his cartoon work, Art Wood was Director of Public Relations for the Telephone Association in Washington, DC and Editor of their publications for many years.

Art Wood's collection of original cartoons and illustrations, some 40,000 drawings, was the largest private collection of that genre in the world. He gave this collection to the Library of Congress in its Bicentennial Year. The Library of Congress has published a table top book, *Cartoon America*, based on his "Gift to the Nation." Art authorities and prize winning cartoonists have contributed chapters to the volume illustrated by work from his collection. Earlier he had written a book of his own, *Great Cartoonists and Their Art* concerning the trade and leading major artists he knew personally.

Mr. Wood was an Elder of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland and an active member for a number of years.

He is survived by his wife, the former Sallie Van Dyck, a daughter, Elizabeth Wood Blakely of Irvine, CA, two sons, Dr. James Arthur Wood III of Richmond, VA, and Baldwin Jennings Wood of Charlottesville, VA, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at Blandford Cemetery in Petersburg, VA. Memorial gifts may be given in his memory to the Charlottesville Salvation Army.

# Cemetery

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## **Blandford Cemetery**

319 S. Crater Rd

Petersburg, VA, 23805

# Events

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**NOV**

**8**

**Graveside Service**

03:00PM

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Blandford Cemetery

319 S. Crater Rd, Petersburg, VA, US, 23805

# Comments

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“ I worked at The Pittsburgh Press from 1961 to 1992, so Art and I must have co-existed for awhile. I never met him, but the distinctive way he signed his cartoons has never left me. I didn't realize the extent of his editorial cartoon contributions until I looked him up on the internet. Very impressive. May he rest in peace, and my condolences to his survivors.

**Ed Wintermantel** - November 15, 2014 at 07:36 AM

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“ For 40 years, we were privileged & honored to have Art as our very dear & cherished friend. As fellow artists & fellow art collectors, we spent many hours on the phone always excited to share with each other our "latest finds" of original artwork. Art & Sallie were always gracious hosts in welcoming us into their home & to enjoy Art's jaw-dropping art collection. We were also privileged & honored to be invited to attend the party that the Library of Congress threw in Art's honor in order to personally thank him for his "Gift to the Nation". We will be FOREVER GRATEFUL for having known such an incredible human being & will carry our priceless memories forever deep within our hearts! Many people will walk in & out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart. We thank God for having Art & Sallie as an extra-special part of our lives! Our Love & Blessings to the entire Wood family. Deepest Heartfelt Regards, Kathy & Larry Zabel, Germantown, Maryland

**Kathy & Larry Zabel** - November 10, 2014 at 07:39 AM

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“ What a visual legacy Art Wood has left the world! It was fun growing up in Rockville, Maryland as a classmate of his namesake son. What a consolation it is to know he is drawing cartoons now in Heaven! Blessings, Barbara Dixon Ryan

**Barbara Ryan** - November 09, 2014 at 09:47 PM

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“ Dear Family of Art Wood

Please accept the deepest sympathy of Bettie Lou and I on the passing of Art. He was a real friend and wonderful person. I am sitting in my office looking at a cartoon he did of me when I was President of USITA. Art was one of the most pleasant individuals I ever knew. May the Good Lord strengthen each of you as you mourn his passing.

Robert W & Bettie Lou Bunke

**Robert W Bunke** - November 08, 2014 at 10:45 AM

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“ I fondly remember the cartoon and cell collection that covered the walls in the family room on Park Entrance Drive. Betsy and Arthur, your dad kept us in stitches, even as little kids. If you ever are back in Mt. Lebanon, let's get together. David Redding, Mt. Lebanon, PA

**David Redding** - November 06, 2014 at 11:17 AM

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“ I was privileged to know Art for a number of years. We participated in a weekly Bible study at the Colonnades. Art was a true gentleman, kind, compssionate, and loving. I learned a great deal from directly observing Art's walk with Christ. I know he will be among the welcoming committee in heaven when I arrive there. I will be praying for Sallie and the family; in that they will be comforted by the Lord with the knowledge that Art is in heaven with Him.

**John M. Ray** - November 06, 2014 at 10:14 AM