



# Harold J. Shea, Jr.

JUN 19, 1930 - JUL 7, 2016



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 6
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 12



## **Harold J. Shea, Jr.**

JUN 19, 1930 - JUL 7, 2016

**H**arold J. Shea, Jr. passed away peacefully at his home in Mandeville, LA on the morning of July 7, 2016 surrounded by family. “Big Hal”, as he was lovingly called, is survived by his adoring, beautiful wife of 64 years, Joyce Mae Cuadrado Shea. He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold J. Shea, Sr. and Mildred Dudenhefer Shea, his sister, Iris Shea Knight, his niece, Claudia Dudenhefer, and his first son, Harold J. Shea, III. He leaves behind his four other children: Timothy O’Patrick Shea and his wife, Holley, Ita Shea Oglesby and her husband, Gayle, Patrick Shawn Shea and Theresa Dowdy, and Kelly Shea Grunditz and her husband, Tommy. He also leaves his seven grandchildren: Meghan Rose Shea and Casey Taylor, Emily Robin and her husband, Chris, Kylene Shea, Kathleen Flynn and her husband, Evan, Tim Shea and his wife, Jessica, Jonas Grunditz and his wife, Erin, Anders Grunditz and Lindsey Barron, as well as his four great-grandchildren, Logan and Charlotte Robin, Aiden Flynn and Jack Flynn. In addition, he also leaves behind his niece Michelle Dudenhefer Benoit, Joel Dudenhefer, Kylene Knight Lindsley, and Michael Knight.

“Big Hal” was born on June 19, 1930 in the Upper 9th Ward of New Orleans, LA and attended Nicholls High School where he met his future wife, Joyce Cuadrado. He attended Tulane University on football and basketball scholarships, graduating and marrying his love, Joyce, in 1953. After teaching school for a year at Holy Name of Mary Catholic School, he joined the United States Air Force, and as a First Lieutenant, was the Aide-de-Camp to Brigadier General Monroe McClauskey. From 1954 – 1958, Hal was trained in aircraft control and as an operation analysis officer. During this time, he was one of the first coaches at the United States Air Force Academy, where he also served as a recruiter. After the Air Force, he resettled in the city in which he was raised, his beloved New Orleans. For the next 10 years, Hal worked for Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co. and was honored with numerous achievement awards. He was a life time member of the Million Dollar Round Table and Board Member of the Life Underwriters Association, as well as chairman of the ethics committee. In 1968, Hal left Mutual Benefit Life to join Financial



## Obituary

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Service Corporation. In 1971, he opened his own successful business, Financial Services, Inc. and moved his family to Mandeville, making it his home for the next 45 years. Hal retired in 2006 to devote more time to his family.

His hobbies were his family, friends, and eating any New Orleans traditional dish. He loved all sports, but in Mandeville he took up golf and enjoyed spending time on the links. In particular, he enjoyed engaging with his friends and his children's friends in conversations ranging from joke telling, and politics to football. He has maintained friendships from his grade school days until the end. Hal and Joyce were actively involved in any activity regarding their children or grandchildren. Whether it was a ballgame or watching and participating in a play, they were there. "Big Hal" was engaged in PTA, Booster Club, Knights of Columbus, Rotary, Jr., Chamber of Commerce New Orleans, and the board of the Mandeville Chamber for which he was Treasurer for 10 years. He was president of the PTA and a board member of the Booster's Athletic Club at Mandeville High. He was Deputy Grand Knight of Council 9240 of the Knights of Columbus in 1992. Not busy enough, he was always community oriented and got involved with the City of Mandeville serving as Alderman from 1976 – 1980. Years later he was actively involved as the chairman of the 1990 Mandeville Sesquicentennial. His endearing, charming big personality that his family and friends know so well will be dearly missed. We have had more laughs in our family than any one family deserves thanks to "Big Hal". 1 John 5:10, "Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony of God in them." It is a sad time to say goodbye from our family but we know he is going to a better place. Like the song our family knows so well, "Now is the hour, when we must say goodbye..."

Relatives and friends are invited to the Funeral Mass at E.J. Fielding Funeral Home, 2260 W. 21st Avenue, Covington, LA 70433 on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 2:00 PM. Visitation will be from 12:00 Noon until service time. Burial will be at the Mandeville Cemetery. The family would like to send their heartfelt thanks to the Notre Dame Hospice nurses and aides for their kindness and care. Also sincere thanks to Wayne and Deanna Bruno, John and Lola Burga, John and Ann Alan, and Dr. Frank Minyard for their kindness and support to Hal and Joyce. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Notre Dame Hospice of New Orleans, [www.notredamehospice-no.org/donate](http://www.notredamehospice-no.org/donate), (855) 756-6558, or the American Heart Association, [www.donatenow.heart.org](http://www.donatenow.heart.org) Please Share a Memory on the Tribute Wall at [www.ejfieldingfh.com](http://www.ejfieldingfh.com).



# Events

**Harold J. Shea, Jr.**

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## Visitation

 **Wednesday**, July 13, 2016

 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM CT

 **E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services**

2260 W 21st Ave, Covington LA 70433



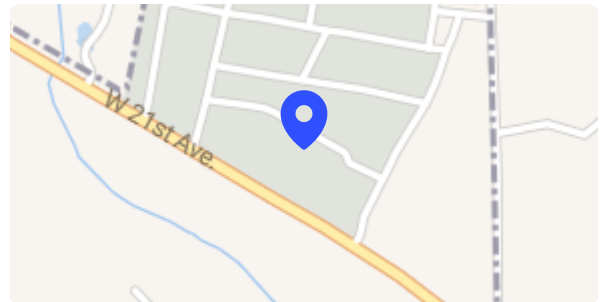
## Funeral Mass

 **Wednesday**, July 13, 2016


 2:00 PM CT

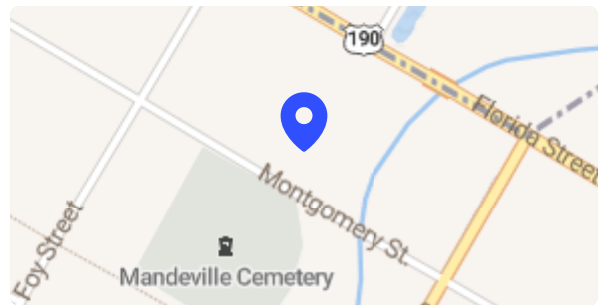
 **E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services**

2260 W 21st Ave, Covington LA 70433



## Cemetery Details

 **Mandeville Mausoleum**  
1609 Montgomery St., Mandeville LA 70448





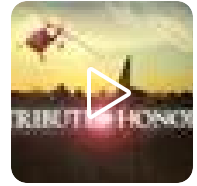
# Tribute Wall

**Harold J. Shea, Jr.**

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**E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services** shared a **Tribute Video**.



July 11 at 3:17 AM



**Leslie Lauck** lit a candle in honor of Harold.

To th Shea family I grew up with I am so sorry for your loss. You still have each other and he raised you well. You are all wonderful people and lucky to have each other.



December 30 at 3:09 AM



**Gregory Bergeron** posted:

Harold J. Shea, Jr.As a young man growing up in Mandeville, Mr Shea was a great teacher in life. R I P Mr Shea, you will truly be missed.

July 15 at 1:07 AM



**Buzz Armbruster** posted:

To the Shea family we offer our sincerest condolences. To Timmy and Ita we hope life has brought yall much happiness and prosperity. From some old friends Steve Harrold, Joey Ripoll and Buzzy Armbruster.

July 13 at 7:36 AM



**Bruce Lott** July 14 at 1:09 PM

To the Shea family from Bruce Lott. So very sorry for your loss, he was a great man and friend to my family and I will miss him.



# Tribute Wall

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**David Calhoon** posted:

I didn't get the pleasure of knowing Mr. Shea very long. I got the pleasure of meeting one of his daughters first. Ita that said alot to me what a fine person he helped mold though all the challenges in today's world. He and i'm sure his wife meet and few others that i got to meet in the family tree all were exceptional people . People this world could use alot more of. He did his part and more. wish i was a member of that family what a childhood. i'm sure i would of been a handfull for even him. Wrote a poem for a member of my family awhile ago and it fits him nicely  
Traveling through space and time  
Family wait in a line  
Some cross the heavens in their dash  
Burning hot and bright in their pass  
Some flicker in the night an unseen flash of light  
Some a dull long stream  
Some a quick bright dream  
Some burn bright for others  
Like a loving protective mother  
Some travel all alone  
No family;no friends;no home  
Your loved one Harold J. Shea burned long and bright  
A beacon in the night  
All wish as blessed as he  
A BRIGHT LIGHT (brilliant) light on the family tree.  
my prayers go out to all who got to be touched by him may God rest his soul thanks Ita for allowing me in to your family sincerely david

July 13 at 7:16 AM



**Kelly Grunditz** July 15 at 4:10 AM

Just beautiful David! ❤️



**Deborah Booker-Doyle** posted:

He was truly a family man. Thoughts and prayers for the Shea family. Deborah Booker-Doyle

July 12 at 7:51 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Shea family.



July 12 at 4:05 AM



**Betty Phelps** posted:

Thoughts and prayers to the Shea family. Betty Phelps

July 11 at 6:44 PM



## Tribute Wall

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AR

**Al And Walt Robelot** posted:

We were saddened to learn of Harold's recent passing. We attended Fortier High School and played football against Harold at Nicholls. We were also teammates at Tulane University in the late 40's and early 50's. Harold was a talented, tough and hard nosed football player. He was also a great teammate on and off the field. It brings us back to a simpler time where we forged friendships that would last a lifetime while playing a sport we all loved as young men. Harold will always be a part of those memories. We would see Harold at the semi-annual "Good Friends" reunions. He was an all around good guy. We will surely miss him. Our sincere and deepest condolences, sympathies and prayers to his family at this time for their profound loss.

July 11 at 10:09 AM

EC

**Employees Of Thermal Corporation** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Shea family.



July 11 at 8:21 AM

VJ

**Vic Johnson** posted:

I had the pleasure and good fortune to serve with Hal on the board of the Mandeville Chamber of Commerce. I believe that was where I first met him. His energy, enthusiasm, positive attitude and outlook on life had a big effect on me. He was so larger than life that I often felt that I was hanging-out with a movie star. Hal...I will miss you buddy. Thanks for your support, advice, and encouragement. Vic Johnson

July 11 at 4:52 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Love's Journey to the Shea family.



July 10 at 5:24 PM

JP

**Judi Peck** posted:

Only new Harold through his wife Joyce. We were bought active in MRW. Spent social time with Harold through the organization and always enjoyed his company and wit. I know he will be missed Judi Peck

July 10 at 1:46 PM



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HM

**Herbert P. Montalbano, Sr.** posted:

Hal, Sold me my first life insurance policy which was a family plan with Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co.He was smart, knowledgeable and honest.I go back with Hal during our high school days when I attended Holy Cross High Schooland Hal was at Nicholls High School (first public high school for e-education.)Hal was also an excellent speaker....he got your attention immediately.I will pray to him and for him and his family.Herbert P. Montalbano, Sr.84 years old

July 10 at 11:10 AM

MB

**Michelle Benoit** posted:

My best memory of Uncle Windy was the camping trip in the Smoky Mountains with Patrick walking on hot coals! Nothing but good times!

July 10 at 9:08 AM

DO

**Danny Owens** posted:

Speaking of "JOKES" when Mr Hal would come into the Superior Tire store for his normal vehicle maintenance the first thing he would say - I have a real good joke to tell you which was always good."Mr Hal, we will miss you. Our prayers, thoughts and best wishes go out to all his family and all who mourn his loss."Danny Owens & the gang @ SUPERIOR TIRE.MANDEVILLE, LA.

July 10 at 7:54 AM

JA

**Jack Andonie** posted:

Dear friends. Two major memories. When we would visit their house, I always wound up wrestling with all their 5 small children at the same time. He was a big star Tulane football player and I was an LSU fan. He and Joyce and my wife Priscilla and I would always go to the TU-LSU game every year. In 1973 ,in a huge upset, T U beat LSU and even though I was disappointed with the loss, Hal's great joy at his victory made me feel really good for him. jack andonie

July 10 at 7:25 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Shea family.



July 8 at 6:12 PM



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MF

**Mark Fiorito** posted:

We were blessed to meet Hal with his lovely wife, Joyce, when they visited San Diego many years ago. We had a most enjoyable evening and found out first hand that all the wonderful adjectives describing both of them were true. We know the entire family, especially our dearest Ita, will miss him very much. All our love, Joan & Mark Fiorito

July 8 at 5:15 PM

JN

**Jennifer Rinehart Norrell** posted:

Hal Shea was a big man with a big heart. I taught several of his children so I know how very proud he was of his family. Please know, he leaves memories in the heart of all who knew him. He will be missed.

July 8 at 1:09 PM

KM

**Katrina Manning** posted:

Sending deepest sympathy to the Shea family in this time of grief. Prayers for strength for what you are going through and for comfort and peace. I know you have a treasure trove of beautiful memories to comfort you as you mourn this special man. David and Katrina Manning

July 8 at 12:02 PM

BK

**Bill Kortlang** posted:

Big Hal was a bigger than life figure with a beaming smile, sharp wit, and sparkling blue eyes. I'm sure he is getting his repertoire of stories ready for everyone in heaven. I will miss drinking beer with Hal during his visits to Mystic Shores. He will be missed dearly by everyone whose life he has touched.

July 8 at 10:43 AM

DB

**Dick Blossman** posted:

Harold was one of a kind - Bigger than life - and Friend to every one he meet I am honored to call him a friend for many years - May god comfort his family in this time of grief..... Dick & Lynn Blossman

July 8 at 10:32 AM



## Tribute Wall

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TB

**Tom And Dawnell Buell** posted:

Prayers for the She's family for comfort in the passing of Mr.Hal.He loved his family and community.I Truly appreciate his friendship and always enjoyed our talks and his dedication to the Mandeville area.He will be missed .God Bless

July 8 at 10:24 AM

GA

**Gayle** shared an album called **Family**.



July 8 at 9:55 AM

LG

**Larry Gilmore** posted:

Mr Hal is one of the greatest men I have ever had the honor to know and be a friend of. My deepest thoughts and prayers are for his family and numerous friends. He will truly be missed here, but, heaven is by far a better place with his entering those glorious gates

July 8 at 8:56 AM



## Media

**Harold J. Shea, Jr.**

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**E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services** shared a **Tribute Video**. July 11 at 3:17 AM



**Kelly Grunditz** July 15 at 4:11 AM

Joe, our fathers are for sure together...smiling down upon us! Beautiful souls!



**Joe Randazzo** July 13 at 2:52 AM

Yes Kelly he was and also a great friend to my father and a kindred spirit! I will miss his laughter and infectious smile.vaya con dios my friendJoe



**Kelly Grunditz** July 11 at 7:36 AM

A man who was deeply loved and admired by his family! A tough act to follow!! RIP Daddy!!Kelly and Tommy



## Media

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Gayle shared a photo to the **Family** album.

July 8 at 9:55 AM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Harold by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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