

AS I SEE IT!

The St. George family has lost their Patriarch. My father-in-law, Vernon St. George, passed away on February 18th, 2017. Father of 6, grandfather of 12 and Great-Grandfather to 18. He was a crusty old coot but soft as marshmallow inside and his presence will be greatly missed. While reading his obituary, a story of his life, a couple of questions went through my mind. How can they condense 85 years in 5 or 6 paragraphs? Who will tell the real story of his life?

Who will tell what a hard working man he was? He went to work everyday and supported not only his wife and six children, but also a couple of nieces and a nephew along the way. Because of his example, his children are productive members of society today.

Who will tell the stories of his time in the Korean war? He very proudly served in the United States Navy and was stationed on the USS President Jackson. During his time on the ship, marines were recovered from the destructive Battle of Chosin and they unloaded marines on the beachheads of Inchon.

Who will tell of his pride in his children and grandchildren? While going through things at his home, there were newspaper clippings from 10 to 20 years ago. Academic achievements, poetry contests and sports achievements, he was proud to see that they were excelling, in whatever they chose to do.

Who will tell that he was a great friend? Once you were his friend, you were a friend for life. Who will tell of his faith? Of his belief in God? He was very involved with Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Shady Cove, serving as a reader and on several councils.

Who will tell of his deep love for his wife? Married for 63 years at the time of his death, his love grew more each year. For the last few years, he took complete care of her because of the Alzheimer's, and never made a complaint.

I hope that his children and grandchildren continue to tell his story, for it is a story worth telling. He always told all of us to remember the Main Thing. (Don't get excited!)

In the end, who will tell your story?