



Henry "Hank" Tucker Janowski

June 12, 1942 - April 24, 2015

Henry (Hank) Tucker Janowski, age 72, passed away after an extended illness on Friday 24 April 2015 at his home in Tallahassee. He was born in Sebring, Florida to parents Alexander Vetol Janowski and Jessie Edna Tucker Janowski. At the age of six the family settled in Crestview, Okaloosa County where he attended the 1st through 12th grades. He attended Gulf Coast Community College in Mississippi on a music scholarship, after which, he spent a year at LSU before being drafted into the military. He proudly and honorably served as a paratrooper with the U.S. Army 18th Airborne Corp stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During his service he was deployed with the 82nd Airborne Division and the Marine 5th Battalion to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic to intervene during a civil revolt. The action was called Operation Powerpack. When Hank returned from military service he pursued and later married a spunky beauty from Santa Rosa Co. named Judy (Dobson) and returned to school at Florida State University where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in criminology. A few years later he earned his Masters in Public Health at the University of Tennessee and embarked on a lifetime career in that field. He spent his first two years out of school working with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Broward, County Florida. Soon though, the Florida Department of Health had recruited him and he moved into administration and as an infectious disease epidemiologist investigating human and zoonotic diseases. His most important assignment extended through the final 20 years of his career and was spent directing the state's Childhood Immunization Program. His goal was to increase the immunization level of newborns, children attending day care centers, schools, college and universities and decrease the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases and serious complication and death. With a great deal of assistance from both the private medical community and the statewide public health system, immunization rates were increased and serious complications were reduced to zero. He proudly served the state of Florida, its residents and visitors for 34 years and retired as a Bureau Chief with the Department of Health. Throughout his life Hank was an avid outdoorsman, he loved archery, hunting, fishing, canoeing, scuba diving and spear fishing. He spent his last few years traveling and camping with his close friends, the Tallahassee Gang, as they competed in archery competitions throughout the Southeast. The wilds, be they the forests, or lakes and rivers

of the Big Bend, or offshore or inshore on the Gulf of Mexico and under its waters were all his favored haunts; though his greatest joy came from spending time with his family. Hank is survived by his wife Judy, daughter Jennifer, son Davis, his four granddaughters and his brothers James and Alexander. A celebration of life will be held at Mission San Luis, 2100 W. Tennessee St. in Tallahassee on Sunday May 3, from 2 to 4 p.m. All family and friends are welcome. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Big Bend Hospice or Friends of Mission San Luis in Hank's name (bigbendhospice.org or missionsanluis.org). Todd Wahlquist of Bevis Funeral Home, is assisting the family with their arrangements, 850-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 3. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Mission San Luis
2100 W. Tennessee St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *Condolences to Hank's family: I was saddened to hear of my old buddy Hanky's passing. I always thought we would see each other again. It has been probably 50 years now.*

I grew up with my sister Elaine Brown across the street from Hanky, Alex and Jimmy. We played together and rambled the streets of our small town of Crestview together. We would pick up pop bottles along the streets to turn into cash for a Saturday matinee at the Fox Theater. Bottles brought 2-3 cents each, movie was 25 cents.

We played "kick the can" in our yard many summer nights together with the neighborhood kids. Of course when Hank's dad would whistle, Hank would throw his head up and listen, when he whistled again Hank would make a beeline run home. I believe he could hear him a quarter mile away, you didn't want to miss curfew at the Janowski home.

Many Saturday's in the summer we would ride his scooter to Munson Pool about 20 miles up in the Forest for an afternoon swim. When we were teenagers Hank bought himself a used outboard motor. My dad drove Hanky, Mickey Stephen and I, early one Sat. morning to a remote boat landing, just a dirt bank on Yellow River where we rented an old 10' river fishing boat. We went up the river a couple of miles, fished all day and started back down the river as it was getting late. Hanky was running the motor wide open when suddenly we hit a log snag that was just under the water, knocking a hole in the front bottom of the boat. Water started coming in so we all got toward the back of the boat to get the hole somewhat above water line, then raced toward shore. We sank about 20' from shore. We all jumped into the water. I looked around to see Hanky standing in chest deep water trying to keep his motor from going under. Some other fishermen came to our rescue and after we bailed the boat they towed us back down the river to the landing where dad was patiently waiting for us.

Thank you for letting me share with you some of my many memories with Hank. My prayer is I will yet see Hanky again with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! May you be comforted with His strength.

Sam and Linda Brown

Sam Brown - April 29, 2015 at 12:07 PM

SB

“ *Tela Fitzgerald Brackins and Steve Brackins,
We were both friends with Hank at Perkinson Jr. College. We always enjoyed Hank and along with many of our mutual friends usually left with smiles and laughing.*

Hank and Steve grew up together in Crestview along with Hank's brothers Alex and Jimmy and Steve's brother Reese. They were all in the band together and made many "Band" trips together from New Orleans to Washington D.C.

We are sorry that we did not get a chance to visit with Hank over the past 50 years but kept up with him via his brother Jimmy and our mutual friend Buddy Cohen.

We loved Hank and wish you the best and know that you will miss him. Please extend our condolences to the brothers. Hank was a great trumpet player.

May God be with you during this time of your loss and may Hank be with our Lord.

Steve and Tela Brackins

Steve and Tela Fitzgerald Brackins - April 27, 2015 at 04:33 PM



“ *Fruit Abounds was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Tucker Janowski.*



April 26, 2015 at 12:53 PM

SJ

“ *Hank shared crock pot recipes with me as we drove around Lake Wedowee with my dad, Doug Boone. I loved our short visits in Wedowee, AL and the bantering between Hank and my mother, Marjorie.*

*Susan Boone Jenkins
Judy's cousin*

Susan Boone Jenkins - April 26, 2015 at 11:25 AM

ET

“ Hank, better know to me as "Hanky" was my childhood neighbor and friend through junior college days. We were in the same grade and in the band together. We loved catching up at high school and junior college reunions. I was so looking forward to this year's reunion in Crestview. We just never know when our Lord and Savior will call us to spend eternity with Him. My deepest sympathy to the family. He loved you all and was very proud of you all. He has a special place in my heart. May God bless you with peace and comfort during this difficult time.
Elaine Brown Tinsley

Elaine Tinsley - April 25, 2015 at 08:00 PM