



L.J. Martin Hensley

September 12, 1927 - October 21, 2019

LJ Martin Hensley passed away Monday, October 21, 2019 at the age of 92. He is survived by his wife, Betty Sue Hensley; daughter, Patricia Sue Hensley-Ebert and by two grandchildren: Jennifer Lorraine Ebert (Nick Helton) and Daniel Martin Ebert. Mr. Hensley was a member of Foster Seventh Day Adventist Church and a faithful and devoted servant of the Lord throughout his life.

Mr. Hensley was instrumental in getting the WNC Farmers Market built. He was well known in Asheville for his produce stand, selling everything from local fruits and vegetables, to honey, jams, wreaths, and rocking chairs. Customers regularly came from across the country to visit and stock up. Many restaurants throughout the city were his customers as well, and fondly referred to him as the "Tomato Man." He was also well known in Louisville, KY, where he sold his products to area businesses who awaited his return every holiday season when he visited his daughter and her family.

Mr. Hensley was a lifelong member of the Democratic Party and very involved in many political campaigns. He attended John F. Kennedy's inauguration and met several Presidents. Mr. Hensley was dedicated to the equality of all mankind and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the 1960's. Mr. Hensley had great empathy toward others less fortunate, including the elderly and homeless.

Visitations will be held Thursday, October 24, 2019 from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue. The funeral will be held Friday, October 25, 2019 at 2:00 pm in the chapel of Morris Funeral Home, with the burial to follow at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Mr. Hensley's name to the American Heart Association.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

1498 Sand Hill Road
Candler, NC 28715

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **24**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Morris Funeral & Cremation Care
304 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 252-1821
info@morrisfamilycare.com
<http://www.morrisfamilycare.com>

Funeral Service

OCT **25**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Morris Funeral & Cremation Care
304 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 252-1821
info@morrisfamilycare.com
<http://www.morrisfamilycare.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *L.J. Martin Hensley*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Betty Sue and Family... was so sorry to hear about LJ. We just found out about his passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Love you Marie Laster*

Patti Jolly - February 10, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ *It was such a pleasure to have known LJ over the years from activity in Democratic politics to his marketing of wonderful fruits and vegetables. We always looked forward to seeing him and sharing some time with him. May God bless him.*

Bill and Debby Wolcott

Bill Wolcott - October 28, 2019 at 02:55 PM



“ *My condolences to Betty and all the family. LJ was a wonderful man and I sure do miss him. My deepest sympathy. Doug Bailey*

Doug Bailey - October 25, 2019 at 12:46 PM



“ *My condolences to Betty and family upon the passing of Mr. Hensley. I'm proud to have known him throughout the years when our paths crossed at the Farmers' Market.*

Richard Hurley - October 24, 2019 at 09:26 AM

BS

“ *My condolences to the family on the loss of a fine man and proud Democrat. He will be greatly missed at the Farmer's Market, Democratic events, and most of all by you.*

*Sincerely,
Bill Slawter*

Bill Slawter - October 23, 2019 at 11:28 AM