



Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead

October 21, 1926 - November 1, 2016

Floyd E. Hempstead

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Floyd E. Hempstead, known to many as the “Chief,” “Hempie,” and the “Old Fox,” was born October 21, 1926 in Cairo, NY to Floyd E. and Mildred (Canniff) Hempstead. As a youth, he enjoyed basketball, ice hockey, soccer, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing. He was an avid sportsman, involved in hunting, fishing and trapping.

During WWII, he enlisted in the Army Infantry, serving in the Pacific Theatre (Philippine Islands). When the war ended he was employed by the Federal Government’s Schenectady Army Depot in Vooreville, NY.

Floyd met the love of his life, Marie J. Desiderio, at the Purling Roller Rink, and married her April 25, 1948. She predeceased him in 2004.

Floyd was the Scout Master for Troop 43 in Cairo, and a member of Scouting’s Order of the Arrow. He was also the Hunting Safety Training Instructor. He was a member of numerous organizations, including the Cairo Fish and Game Club, Hop-O-Nose Bowmen, NRA (lifetime member), Cairo Hose Co. (lifetime member), Greene Co. Police Chief’s Association, Cairo Historical Society, VFW, American Legion and Catskill Elks Lodge. Together, Floyd and his pal, Joseph Spencer, were the first commissioners for the newly formed Greene County Pop Warner League.

Floyd dedicated 40 years of service in law enforcement to the Town of Cairo.

A town native, he began his career in 1962 as a constable and is credited with founding Cairo's part-time and then full time, police force in 1974. He exemplified the policeman's ethic "to protect and serve", as he was seen early in the mornings assisting school children then patrolling the 92 miles of town's roads. Being in a small town in no way meant that he escaped the dangers inherent to police work and over the years earned respect and developed friendships with the surrounding town's police force, county sheriffs and state troopers who worked with him and valued his assistance. He was always 24 hours a day, seven days a week, regularly checking in on elderly shut-ins. He retired as Chief of Police in January 2002. Floyd worked for and provided weekend security at the Catskill Game Farm for 43 years. Throughout his career he was honored by many political officials and organizations. His career reflects the highest standards of public service.

For many years on Christmas Eve Floyd donned his Santa suit and, together with the NYS Troopers, visited many homes of families in the area, much to Floyd and the children's delight. He will be remembered for his lighthearted stories and jokes.

Floyd was predeceased by his parents, his wife and his sister Virginia (Hempstead) Butterworth. He is survived by his son Robert F. Hempstead Sr. (Catherine), grandchildren Gwen Cummings (Jared), Robert F. Hempstead Jr. (Pornchanok) and Joan Aprea (Anthony), great-grandchildren Alexis, Aiden, Eloise, Lydia and Adeline, and many nieces and nephews.

Floyd loved and was devoted to family and his town, Cairo.

Relatives and friends are cordially invited to attend calling hours at Richards Funeral Home, 29 Bross Street, Cairo, N.Y. on Sunday, November 6, 2016 from 2:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

The Cairo Hose Company will hold services in his memory at 5:30 P.M., and The Cairo Mohican American Legion Post # 983 will hold services in his memory at 5:45 P.M. Sunday evening at the funeral home.

Funeral services will take place at the funeral home on Monday, November 7,

2016, at 10:30 A.M. with Pastor Victor Nelson, Pastor of The Resurrection Lutheran Church of Cairo, officiating.

Interment will follow in the family plot of The Cairo Cemetery, Cairo, N.Y. with full military honors.

Following the funeral and the interment, there will be a celebration of life, including food and memories at Gallagher's Banquet Hall, 513 Main Street, Cairo, N.Y. from 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M., all are invited.

Donations in Floyd's memory may be made to The Columbia Greene Humane Society, 125 Humane Society Road, Hudson, New York, 12534, or to The FASNY Firemen's Home, 125 Harry Howard Avenue, Hudson, New York 12534.

Condolences may be made at www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net.

Cemetery Details

Cairo Cemetery

County Route # 84
Cairo, NY 12413

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 6. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Cairo
P.O. Box # 383
29 Bross Street
Cairo, NY 12413
(518) 622-9503
info@richardsbradysfh.com

Firematic Services

NOV 6. 5:30 PM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Cairo
P.O. Box # 383
29 Bross Street
Cairo, NY 12413
(518) 622-9503
info@richardsbradysfh.com

Legion Service

NOV 6. 5:45 PM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Cairo
P.O. Box # 383
29 Bross Street
Cairo, NY 12413
(518) 622-9503
info@richardsbradysfh.com

Funeral

NOV 7. 10:30 AM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Cairo
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29 Bross Street
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Tribute Wall

LP

“ *My deepest condolences to you and your family.*

I remember "Pete" and your dad always being such buddies.

Lynda Peterson

Lynda Peterson - November 08, 2016 at 12:00 PM

DD

“ *So sorry to hear of Floyd's passing. Cairo has not been the same without him! Remember him about town and on the ambulance squad. Always there when needed.*



Dave & Peggy Deyo - November 06, 2016 at 01:31 PM

RM

“ *I have a fond memory when I first moved to Cairo years ago and Floyd greeted me at the Town Clerk's office. We spoke for over an hour and had been friends every since.*

My condolences to his entire family.

Floyd you will be missed.

Rest in peace.

Rick and Mary Malin

Rick Malin - November 06, 2016 at 11:07 AM

MF

“ *Monika Fabiano lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead*



Monika Fabiano - November 06, 2016 at 06:04 AM

DM

“ *Robert, Cathy & Family,
We want to extend to you our deepest sympathy. Robert your Dad was a very special gentlemen, "Hempie" touched many lives through the years and always had a warm genuine hello & conversation to follow. It is our wish Robert that the days ahead for you be brightened just knowing how much your Dad meant to all if us in Cairo. Rest In Peace "Hempie"*

Dawn (Mower) Sirizzotti & Shirley Mower - November 05, 2016 at 07:34 PM

LN

“ *Lucy Neidel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead*



Lucy Neidel - November 05, 2016 at 05:24 PM

JM

“ *I remember Floyd as my Scout Master and instructor to receive my firearms safety certificate. He always volunteered for community services and was a very kind and gentle man. The town of Cairo owes him much gratitude. Condolences to his whole family and he will be sorely missed the community. Joe Merwin*

Joe Merwin - November 05, 2016 at 11:04 AM

GP

“ *My condolences to the family. Floyd Hempstead will always be in my heart. He was such a great person. Always there when you needed him. When i lived in Cairo he helped me alot. May you RIP Floyd.*



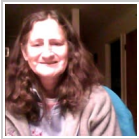
Ginny Smith Piscitelli - November 04, 2016 at 07:45 PM

MD

“ *Molly Dorpfeld lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead*



Molly Dorpfeld - November 04, 2016 at 06:32 PM



“ *My condolences to the families It's not good-bye,it's just so long ! It's been a pleasure to know you in this lifetime. Thank you for all the lives you have touched.*

Nip Strother Yannone Cobb - November 04, 2016 at 02:17 PM



“ *Rest In Peace Floyd! May you be never forgotten.*



Howard Parmelee - November 04, 2016 at 11:51 AM

LP

“ So sad to hear of Floyds passing, but rejoicing that he will be at peace. I'm sure he is overjoyed to be joining the love of his life, in Heaven with our Lord.

I have nothing but fond memories and utmost respect for this "gentle giant", who was and always will be, a beloved icon of our little home town of Cairo.

My sincere condolences and prayers of comfort, go out to his family, and all of us who loved and will miss him.

Laura Pisarri - November 04, 2016 at 08:38 AM

LS

“ Lou And Ellie Schepp lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead



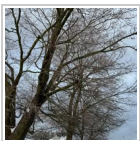
Lou and Ellie Schepp - November 03, 2016 at 08:43 PM

PS

“ Patty Sutter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead



Patty Sutter - November 03, 2016 at 06:00 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Floyd, one of my favorite police officers ever! Debra Kamecke

Debra Kamecke - November 03, 2016 at 03:00 PM

JU

“ I adored Floyd and am so sad to hear he passed. Years ago, we'd share morning coffee at Cairo Diner. This man could bring a smile to anyone's face and he always brightened my day anytime I saw him. He will be very missed by me and many others. Wonderful man.

Judy - November 03, 2016 at 02:27 PM

ST

“ Awww😭 Poor Floyd always put a smile on everyone's face that knew him may he rest now and fly above the rainbows. Prayers for all Family and Friends🙏💙

stephanie - November 03, 2016 at 11:57 AM

DB

“ What wonderful people your mom and dad were, a big part of my memories growing up. Your mom walking main stress 100 miles an hour. Your dad keeping us all safe from harm. My prayers and thoughts are with your family.

Debora Barbato

Debora Barbato - November 03, 2016 at 10:30 AM

SN

“ Nothing but smiles thinking about Floyd! ❤️

susan novack - November 03, 2016 at 09:59 AM

PA

“ Pat And Frankie Amoroso lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead



pat and frankie amoroso - November 03, 2016 at 09:40 AM

TR

“ Tracy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead

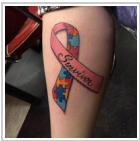


Tracy - November 03, 2016 at 06:54 AM

TR

R.I.P. Fly with the Angels.

Tracy - November 03, 2016 at 06:56 AM



“ Marlo Parker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead



Marlo Parker - November 03, 2016 at 02:11 AM

BM

“ *Beth Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead*



Beth Mitchell - November 02, 2016 at 11:34 PM

JM

“ *Janet Mattice-Espel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead*



Janet Mattice-Espel - November 02, 2016 at 10:31 PM

AG

“ *So sorry to hear of Floyd's passing our sincere condolences to Floyd's family. A true friend to all the citizens of Cairo who he tirelessly served. As a young boy I learned a lot from the Old Fox. Your End of Duty has come God's speed my friend it was an honor to know you*
Anthony & Denise Gasparini

Antony Gasparini - November 02, 2016 at 08:42 PM

TA

“ *RIP Floyd, so many memories. You were such a good friend to my grandmother. I remember you always coming by for your uniforms she tailored for you and miss seeing you in your police car. You had a spirit and a smile that lit up everyone you met. ♡♡♡*

Theresa Amoroso - November 02, 2016 at 08:32 PM

DR

“ Prayers of comfort at this sad time.
RIP Chief.



Donna Rummo-Faulkner - November 02, 2016 at 07:55 PM

JD

“ Joseph And Erika Deangelis lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead



Joseph and Erika Deangelis - November 02, 2016 at 07:11 PM

PG

“ Patrick & Sheila Gallagher lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Floyd E. Hempstead



Patrick & Sheila Gallagher - November 02, 2016 at 06:49 PM

NK

“ Nancy Karklin lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Floyd E. Hempstead



Nancy Karklin - November 02, 2016 at 06:35 PM

NK

God Bless the Family of Mr.Floyd Hempstead. My thoughts and Prayers go out to his Son Robert and all of his Family and Friends, Known him all my life,grew up as him being my neighbor. Floyd and my Dad (Tony Erceg) always had a lot to talk about .RIP. Floyd. :(

Nancy Karklin - November 02, 2016 at 06:42 PM

PB

Deepest sympathy to Robert and family and friends. I remember another nickname that Floyd was known by - Pink Floyd due to his tinted glasses. RIP Floyd

Puff Bishop - November 02, 2016 at 07:30 PM

TP

“ Our sincere condolences to Floyd's family and friends. I worked under Floyd as my Chief for many years he was the definition of community policing. He will be missed.

Tom and Roseann Plank

Thomas Plank - November 02, 2016 at 06:05 PM

TE

Ted retired pro wrestling referee years ago loved talking about wrestling with floyd he gave me reference to be approved years ago for security license I will pray for him great man definitely will be missed

Ted - November 03, 2016 at 06:44 PM

LB

What a wonderful man, loved to tell his stories and make us all laugh when he came in for his coffee sometimes a couple times a day at Teller's Picnic Spot. Now the Angels get to here those stories. God bless your family. .Lorrie (Teller) Baker and family🌈

lorrie baker - November 03, 2016 at 09:24 PM



Sending condolences to the Hempstead family on the loss of a truly fine man. Floyd helped with security at many Cairo-Durham school events - he was always so positive with the kids and such a pleasure to be with. Floyd was definitely the epitome of an outstanding community policeman. May he rest in peace.

Kriss Monteverd

Kriss Monteverd - November 04, 2016 at 07:34 PM



I think that I can speak on behalf of my entire family, with our heartfelt sympathy to the loved-ones of Floyd, as we are sure that he will be greatly missed by all of you. I know the community will miss him as well. Floyd was a great and honorable man who served our community with pride and tremendous decency and fairness. He was an excellent role-model to us kids who grew up in town under his law enforcement. Also, many a days he rounded up me and my clan of siblings and carted us home to mom and dad when we were into mischief. For that and many, of his other deeds, I am eternally grateful. Floyd's diligent willingness to go the extra miles for the kids in town changed the outcomes of many of our lives. Thanks be to God for Floyd and me he rest in eternity in peace. Blessings, Pamela Pisarri-Gallagher

Pamela Pisarri-Gallagher - November 07, 2016 at 10:34 PM