



C.J. Hoke

June 18, 1927 - November 19, 2021

C. J. Hoke, 94, of Grand Island, Nebraska, born June 18, 1927, passed away on November 19, 2021, at his home in Grand Island, Nebraska, of natural causes.

A family memorial service will be held at a future date. All Faiths Funeral Home is serving the family.

After spending two years teaching in Culver, Kansas, C.J. worked his entire life in the electric utility industry. He began his utility career in 1953 while in college at Kansas State University by servicing trucks for Kansas Power and Light in Manhattan. He rose through the ranks to become the Assistant to the President and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer of the corporation. He left that position in 1973 to become the General Manager of Southern Public Power District in Grand Island, Nebraska. While at Southern he served as a Director on the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC). He was instrumental in getting legislation passed that allowed the Power Districts in Nebraska to “buy-down” their Rural Electric Administration loans, thus saving the rate payers in the state millions of dollars. He worked at Southern until his retirement in 1993.

C.J. met the love of his life Ruth (Stiles) Hoke after mustering out of the Navel Air Corp. They were married May 23, 1947 by a Justice of the Peace in Clay

Center, Kansas court house. As they said their vows the courthouse clock struck three. It was his tradition to call Ruth at three on every anniversary. C.J. was fond of telling the story of how they got married with a borrowed ring and seven dollars in his pocket; from those humble beginnings began the tale of devotion that lasted a lifetime.

C.J is survived by his wife, Ruth; his two sons, Terry (Alison) and John (Risa); three grandchildren, Maris, Mariel and T.J.; and three great-grandchildren, August, Elinor, and Marvin.

He is also remembered by his family of choice at Sagewood Heritage, those employees who became his friends, and more during his time living there.

Tribute Wall



“ *C.J. Hoke*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear about C. J. I want to send my condolences to the family. Ruth, John and Terry, it has been too long since we have seen each other.*

Rob Blasing - December 07, 2021 at 05:25 PM



“ *Fairways and greens, buddy. Skip and Suzie Pickering*



Skip Pickering - December 06, 2021 at 02:40 PM



“ *It was my honor and pleasure to have known C.J. for the past three decades. He was a mentor in my early public power career and we stayed connected after his retirement. I've also had the pleasure to work in the industry with his son, John, though C.J. was the feistier of the two (and he would agree!). Yes he could be feisty when necessary, but mostly he was an enormously kind and gentle soul and I will greatly miss him. My deepest condolences to his lovely wife, Ruth, and to John and Terry and their families.*

Shelley Sahling Zart - November 28, 2021 at 05:11 PM

BF

“ Sorry for your loss of C.J. I'm going to miss him as he was a dear friend. So thankful that I had the pleasure to know him.

Brad Fried - November 28, 2021 at 05:02 PM

JD

“ C.J. was a wonderful person to work for and with at Southern Power during my eight years there. He became a true mentor to me and I considered him a close friend. I left Southern Power in 1986 when I moved to California. He will always have a place in my heart. He lived a very long life so he was blessed. My deepest sympathy to Ruth and family.

*Sincerely, Jane Kruse Dreher
Redlands, California*

Jane Dreher - November 28, 2021 at 03:54 PM