



## Robert "MIke" A. Thornton, Sr.

July 24, 1924 - October 5, 2013

Robert "Mike" Alan Thornton, Sr., 89, of Greensboro, MD passed away on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at his home. He was born on July 24, 1924 in Greensboro to the late Wallace and Susie Jones Thornton. Mr. Thornton was a 1942 graduate of Greensboro High School. He began his working career with Pet Milk of Greensboro then continued on as a salesman on the Delmarva Peninsula for the David L. Pransky and Son Company of Philadelphia. During WWII he volunteered as a plane spotter and was fondly known as the "Mayor" of Academy Street. He was a member of the Greensboro Lions Club, the New Life Wesleyan Church and had served as a Greensboro Town Commissioner. He was a Maryland Terrapin basketball and football fan and loved to travel throughout the South with his wife Miriam. In addition to his parents he is preceded in death by his wife Harriet Miriam Thornton. He is survived by his children Robert A. Thornton, Jr. and wife Carol of Denton, Cindy L. Thornton of Greensboro and H. Suzanne Nickerson and husband "Buzzy" of Barclay, 7 grandchildren Kristy Hutson, Holly Ranney, Erin Thornton, Blair Thornton, Tina Miller, Melody Orick and Chuck Nickerson & 8 great grandchildren. Funeral service for Mr. Thornton will be on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 2:00 PM at the New Life Wesleyan Church in Greensboro. The family will receive friends on Tuesday from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM in the church prior to the service. Burial will be in the Greensboro Cemetery. Please send donations in Mr. Thornton's memory to New Life Wesleyan Church 13699 Greensboro Road, Greensboro, MD 21639.



# Cemetery Details

## Greensboro Cemetery

311 N. Main Street  
Greensboro, MD 21639

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 8. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

New Life Wesleyan Church  
13699 Greensboro Rd  
Greensboro, MD 21639

## Service

OCT 8. 2:00 PM (ET)

New Life Wesleyan Church  
13699 Greensboro Rd  
Greensboro, MD 21639

# Tribute Wall



“ Robert "Mike" A. Thornton, Sr.

October 08, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ Robert "Mike" A. Thornton, Sr.

October 06, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ So sorry to hear of your loss. Prayers sent - God bless.

Warm regards,  
Kathy Edwards Bunty and Linda Edwards Hoffheins

Kathy Edwards Bunty - October 12, 2013 at 05:51 PM



“ Kristy and Cindy, I was very sad to hear about Pop Pop's passing. He was such a loving, fun man. I enjoyed talking with him when he would pick up Londyn way back when. I know he will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Please call if you need anything...I'll be happy to help in any way.

Love to you all,

Ed, Dayna, Jackie and Billy Buswell

Dayna Buswell - October 08, 2013 at 07:15 PM

“ I was truly saddened to hear of Al Thornton’s passing. He was perhaps our last outside link to David L. Pransky and Sons and my grandfather, father and uncle, of blessed memory. I have for many years, when the occasion warranted, told people that I knew Al Thornton longer than any other non-family member. He became part of our business family some 61 years ago, if I have it right, when I was only three years old. As a young boy I would spend a lot of time at the company premises, meeting Mr. Thornton on his occasional trips to the office. (I don’t think I knew his name “Alan” until years later.)

When I joined the family enterprise as an adult, we of course had greater interaction. I remember opening his mailed-in order sheets, which I preferred to process (in earlier years by hand and afterward into the computer) neatly written on standard order forms, as opposed to the general chicken scrawls on scrap paper with which I usually dealt. Later on he would call in the orders and we would sometimes discuss matters other than business.

One of my favorite memories is a trip I took with my wife and younger son in '92, to Williamsburg, Yorktown and the Eastern Shore. I made it a priority to come back to Philadelphia by way of Greensboro so I could see Al’s house, meet Miriam and show off my wife and son.

When Pransky’s was acquired by Accommodation Mollen, Alan continued to work part-time for the company, making calls to customers and “getting up and down with me” regularly. As the years went by the business diminished but the length of our conversations stayed the same as we spoke about politics, the world scene and family matters. He always asked after my wife, children and grandchildren, and my mother, brothers and cousins. He often told me he enjoyed reading over the correspondence he had with my brother Bob, when he was living in Israel. He was tickled when he found out Bob’s son and his family moved to Atlanta, where his granddaughter was living.

*We, the Pransky's, are observant Jews and our business always shut for the Jewish holidays. I remember my father was quite attentive in sending Alan a listing of the days we would be closed so he would know not to call the office. I continued this after the sale of the business, so that Al would know when I was in the Accommodation office. This year the holidays were unusually early and in the rush at summer's end I forgot to do so. For a few weeks I missed his calls and could never seem to catch him myself. I count myself very fortunate that last week I was able to speak to him for what I regret was the last time.*

*On behalf of myself, my brother Bob, cousins Paula and Marty Polikoff, cousin Brad, and all of our families, our deepest condolences to Alan's family.*

*Barry Pransky*

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**Barry Pransky** - October 08, 2013 at 09:19 AM

RR

“ *Our Sympathy goes out to the family and there will be prayers sent from Tn, a place Mr. Mike loved to visit. Greensboro has lost another GREAT Man. I'm sure Uncle Leonard (Piggy or as Mr. Mike called him "Partner") and Dad (Bill or "Blinky") met him at the gates and they took off walking down the golden streets of Heaven.*

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**Rick and Debbie Rockwood** - October 07, 2013 at 10:59 AM

PD

“ *Our youth group and Dawn and the boys are praying for your family.*

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**pastor Shane Dickinson** - October 07, 2013 at 10:55 AM

EB

“ Pop Pop Thornton was loved by everyone in Greensboro! He never forgot a name or a face and still to this day would save me a couple Reese's cups on Halloween. Going to his house every year was a tradition for my family when I was growing up and I continued to take my children there every year. He will greatly be missed!!!

*Erin Braband and family*

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**Erin Braband** - October 07, 2013 at 08:35 AM

JD

“ Mr. Thornton " THE MAYOR OF ACADEMY STREET" was one of the nicest men I have ever met. He was always smiling and happy and such a joy to speak to. He will be greatly missed.

*Jeannette DeLude*

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**Jeannette DeLude** - October 07, 2013 at 06:06 AM

LP

“ To the Thornton Family, So sorry for your loss. My mother (Hazel Hignutt) enjoyed see Mike at Hall's Restaurant in Camden. He was always so pleasant to others and will be greatly missed. May your faith give you the strength at this time of need to carry through this rough journey.

*Linda Parenteau*

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**Linda Parenteau** - October 06, 2013 at 09:15 PM



“ My condolences to the family members of Mike. I know his loving granddaughter and she will miss him very much. Susi Ayers

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**Susi Ayers** - October 06, 2013 at 05:50 PM