



Andy McCree Hern

Dec. 5, 1945 - March 29, 2025

Andy McCree Hern, 79, of Morganton, passed away Saturday, March 29, 2025. He was the son of George Alexander Hern and Mary Hefner Hern. A renowned photographer and respected pillar of the community, he was always extending a helping hand. Beginning his photography career at the Morganton News Herald, he later opened his own photography studio where he was a professional photographer for 47 years. Having held a high position as a former member of PPNC (Professional Photographers of North Carolina), he inspired many. Everyone in Morganton has an uplifting story of their experience with his photography and were positively touched by his kindness. As a first responder with the Rescue Squad, he is most famously known for delivering a baby, therefore, receiving the Man of the Year award.

He is survived by his two daughters, Wendy Wagner (Charlie) and Heather Brown; granddaughter, Taylor Hylemon; sister, Joy Guzman (Collin); and former wife, Sherry Eckard.

He will always be remembered and sadly missed in the hearts of many.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m., Thursday, April 3, 2025 at Sossoman Funeral Home. The funeral service will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2025 at Walker Road Baptist Church with Pastor Mark Ball officiating. Burial will follow at Forest Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Walker Road Baptist Church, c/o Pastor Mark Ball, 100 Walker Road, Morganton, NC 28655.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

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Visitation

April 3, 2025

4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center

Service

April 4, 2025

1 p.m.

Walker Road Baptist Church

Committal

April 4, 2025

Forest Hill Cemetery

Tribute Wall



I had the opportunity to work and learn along side Andy at the News-Herald in the early 1970s. His photographic skills made the job of the reporters easier by telling the story photographically. Thank you, Andy!

—Tom Ditt



So sad to hear of Andy's passing. Andy was our wedding photographer in 1982. He was wonderful. He brought quite a bit of excitement to an already exciting day. He done a wonderful job with our wedding album as well. May he rest peacefully and his family find comfort during this time of lost.

—Kim and David Hull



My mom, Melda, met Andy when he was a high school student and remained friends with him for many years. He is a big part of my memories from Morganton, and I always enjoyed visiting him when we traveled there. Though I hadn't seen him in a long time, I'll always remember the wonderful stories that Mom and Mary Blaylock used to tell about him, his photographs of North Carolina, his patience when taking pictures of my toy poodle, Pepe, and his love and care for everyone he knew. My prayers and thoughts are with you.

—Cheryl Lee Duhaime

Joy and, family it truly saddened me when I learned of Andy's transition. Please know that I offer you all my



deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy. Andy was a fantastic photographer and always when I met him out in the community with his granddaughter, he was so very pleasant and a true gentleman. I worried about him when he suffered damages to his home by fire. May he SIHP until you meet again.

—Ruth Roseboro



I miss you so much Andy you were the best grandpa you always have me the best advice when we sat down at abeles you will be missed love you Andy

—Brayden Brown



I'm so Sorry for the family loss I met Andy as a 16 year old kid and learned many things by talking with him at my 1st job roses always with a smile glad I got to call him a friend

—Doug REVIS

My Dear Joy, I am so sorry. What a wonderful person and brother!

—Lucy Goodwin

Always a smile, kind word and compliment. Always a gentleman, a friend to all.

—Vicki Vanderbloemen

I will sorely missed him, he is very very sweet man and even go to my school take pictures when I grow up to seniors!! Will see him someday.... Prayer for his families!

—Lori Passmore

We are all better people for having Andy in our lives, and he will live in our memories as a person we should emulate A good man died - and his name was Andy

—Steve Warren



RIP Sir. Andy will be missed.

—David Kiser



Prayers for the family. Andy did some awesome photography work for me over the years. He will be greatly missed by all.

—Pat Simpson

My Dear Joy and Family. Andy was a good man! He captured my wedding in pictures 40 years ago this May. He made memories for so many. My deep sympathy and gratitude for his life. Blessings as you move forward without him - Nancy

—Nancy Ferguson Brown

Sorry for your loved ones! He did a lot of pictures at NCSD for long time! He is

Sorry for your loved ones! He did a lot of pictures at NCSD for long time! He is not more suffering!

—Nancy Fletcher



My sincere condolences to Andy's family. I remember the first time I met him. It was at the old Grace Hospital. We both became parents the first week of March 1972. He was making a joke about our daughter having "all that long hair" and that they should charge us more for combing it. He was certainly a friendly person saying hello every time he saw me. May God bless each of you during this most difficult time in your lives. You remain in my most sincere prayers.

—Diann Thomas Tate

—Laura McCoy



I was so saddened to learn of Andy's passing. I have know him my entire life and such a good man and person to be around. And amazing photographer. He also loved his church and we/they loved him. Rest in Peace my friend and know the works you done here on Earth were pleasing to the Lord. Your Friend, Pam

—Pam Cowan McLellan



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—Pam Cowan McLellan

So sorry to learn of Andy's passing. I have many of his great photographs of my grandchildren. I always look & think of him when I pass his studio. He had a gift entertaining for getting the best of children & weddings. Prayers for comfort for all who love him. Sonya England

—Sonya England



—Christopher Welch

Deepest sympathy.

—Ann Smith

My condolences to Joy and family. Andy was a friend , and knew the goodness of our Lord. He often spoke of the afterlife and no longer being in pain or this evil place we call earth. He was appreciative of the good things in His life; Especially a young girl he raised to see grow to a beautiful woman. I will always have fond memories of Andy. There was always laughter with his witty comments.And The only person to convince my father to smile for a picture. I will miss you Andy!

—Janice Scalise

You have my deepest sympathy. May God be with you to provide comfort and strength at this time.

—Jacqueline C.Kanipe

To the Family of Andy, as you know he will greatly be missed! I'm glad I had the

opportunity to grow up with him taking pictures of my family, and then my of children. If anyone knows Andy he knew how to make people laugh especially when taking photos, I sometimes mock him when I take photos of my kids, and they still laugh at me to this day. I also had the privilege of growing up behind his studio at my mother's shop with him as a role model. He is a great guy and would be greatly missed.

—Isaac Cheves III

Andy was a great guy, would give you the shirt off his back. He always did a super job with the kids pictures and we always enjoyed talking with him. He will be missed

—Carolyn and Bill Vaassen