



## Dr. H. H. Jack Van Horn Jr.

January 13, 1937 - March 18, 2024

Dr. H.H. Jack Van Horn, 87, of St. Augustine Beach, FL, went to be with the Lord on Monday, March 18th, 2024. He died suddenly without suffering, with his wife of 65 years by his side and family with him. He is survived by his wife, Clea; his children: Jill Andrews (Sam), Eric Vanhorn (Shalle), Amy Thomas (Mike), Craig Van Horn (Laura), and Laura Nelson; as well as 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Jack was born on January 13, 1937 on a farm outside of Pomona, KS. He loved life on the farm – working with his Dad, hunting, fishing, and above all else, caring for his cows. He went to elementary school in a one-room country school, riding his horse every morning. He reminisced that when he got to school, he would dismount onto the top of the gate, toss the reins over the horse's head, and give him a slap on the rump, sending him back home to help with the plowing. He was very active in 4-H. One highlight of his high school years at Pomona High School was when he was one of 8 national soil conservation winners and won a scholarship and a trip to Chicago for the National 4-H Club Congress. Jack was valedictorian of his 7-person class graduating class. The biggest highlight of high school? Jack met Clea.

He earned a degree in Dairy Science at Kansas State University in 1958, and went on to receive his Master's Degree at Kansas State in Dairy Nutrition and a doctorate in Animal Nutrition from Iowa State University. It was there he began his teaching and research career in the Department of Agriculture and Dairy Science. In 1967 he moved his family to Kentucky to be chairman of the

Dairy Science Department at the University of Kentucky and then became the Director of Extension for 4-H. They moved to Gainesville in 1970, where he became Chairman of the Dairy Science Department at the University of Florida. He stayed at the University of Florida until retirement in 2002, where he also served as Assistant Director of International Programs and as President of the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA).

Jack loved his family and his family adored him. In 1995, before retirement, he purchased a beach house in St. Augustine where the extended family gathered for years. After his retirement in 2002, they moved permanently from Gainesville to St. Augustine. They found their church home and church family at Anastasia Baptist Church and it continues to be for Clela a very special place. The beach house was a truly magical place for the children and grandchildren to grow up and spend time with Jack and Clela. Their love for him still grows and grows.

A "Celebration of Life" service will be held Friday, May 10th at 11:00 a.m. at Anastasia Baptist Church in St. Augustine, FL. If you are inclined to give flowers, the family is requesting that memorial gifts be made to Anastasia Church's Building Fund: "4 Generations to Come." This project of reaching out to future generations was very important to Jack. [Website: [anastasiachurch.org](http://anastasiachurch.org)].

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Anastasia Baptist Church  
1650 A1A S  
St. Augustine, FL 32080  
(904) 471-2166

# Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. H. H. Jack Van Horn Jr.*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - March 28, 2024 at 11:37 AM



“ *My Uncle Jack and I shared a love and passion for the land and agriculture. My childhood dream was to be a farmer. Thanks to Jack, we started a small farm enterprise and were successful farmers for nearly four years. He had the land and I had the labor. It was also special because Jacks' Dad and my Grandfather advised us in our endeavor. Not a lot of people can say they lived their childhood dream, but I did. It will always be a highlight of my life. The experience also helped me greatly throughout my career where I worked with farmers and ranchers to be better stewards of the land. Thanks to Jack for making that possible. I am sure Jack is up in heaven "lying down in green pastures" with his Holstien Dairy herd.*



*Nephew Paul Ingle*

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**Paul Ingle** - May 08, 2024 at 10:18 PM

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“ A few weeks ago I reached out to Jack to ask if the Iowa Dairy Museum could add him to our list of Iowa Dairy Pioneers. He agreed and we enjoyed sharing emails and memories about his years and friends at Iowa State. He received so many awards and honors during his carrier. So glad that our recognition of him could be the final bookend.

*Dr. Kent Nelson, Decorah, Iowa*

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**Dr. Kent Nelson** - April 30, 2024 at 01:31 PM

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“ Jack was my mother's younger brother and my Uncle. I will always remember their wonderful hospitality during all of the years that they have been in Florida. On more than one occasion, I called and arrived at their home and was wonderfully welcomed as family for as long as I wanted to stay. Unfortunately, due to distance, we missed many family times, but would always get together during their return visits to Kansas. I know that my uncle lived an extraordinary life and passed a a lasting legacy on to his family. You were loved by all. David Ingle -Tulsa, OK

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**David Ingle** - April 04, 2024 at 11:05 PM



“ 11 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - March 28, 2024 at 11:28 AM