



Dr. Herbert Curtin Haynes

March 17, 1920 - July 24, 2013

Dr. Herbert Curtin Haynes, age 93, passed away at his home in Englewood, Florida on July 24. He was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia on Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, 1920. To his friends and family he was known as "Pat". His parents were Dr. Herbert Hodge Haynes, a noted surgeon and inventor, and Francis Bird Curtin, granddaughter of G.W. Curtin, founder of Pardee & Curtin Lumber Co. He attended Towers School in Clarksburg and finished his secondary education at The Choate School in Wallingford, Connecticut. His passion for music led him to major in musicology at Princeton University. His studies there were delayed by WWII, when he worked for the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab helping to develop the super secret "proximity fuze", a military advancement that was credited with dramatically shortening the length of the war. In 1952 he received his medical degree at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons, after which he joined the Air Force to do a psychiatric residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Saint Elizabeth's Hospital. He served as an Air Force flight surgeon at both Eglin AFB and Andrews AFB, until 1962, achieving the rank of Major.

After leaving the Air Force, Pat was named Chief of Psychiatric Services for the Federal Aviation Agency in the newly congressionally mandated Office of Aviation Medicine. He created and directed this new behavioral science division, with the task to certify the mental health of all commercial pilots, private pilots and air traffic controllers. Among his many achievements was a program he developed for flight crews to cope with a skyjacking in progress. In 1973 he received the prestigious Longacre Award from the Aerospace Medical Association for his work at the FAA.

In 1976 Pat's talents were once again tapped to create and direct the first "in house" mental health division for the U. S. Department of State. He formulated programs, staffed, and directed this new division of the Office of Medical Services to serve the well being of the diplomatic community. He was particularly adept at acquiring much needed funding for this program. His most visible achievement was the astute planning and successful execution of the debriefing of the returning American hostages from Tehran in 1981. Pat retired from Federal service with the rank of Minister and returned to his beloved West Virginia. His version of "retirement" had nothing to do with relaxation. Once home, he could give back to the Mountain State and accepted the new challenge as Chief Medical

Officer and Clinical Director at West Virginia's largest state mental institution, Weston State Hospital. He remained professionally active until he suffered a stroke at the age of 79.

Pat and his wife Liz found their rural retreat in a farm outside of Buckhannon, WV, which they named Deer Park. The farm evolved from a private residence into a prestigious country inn. His passion for architecture and love of carpentry was expressed in the many buildings he designed as the inn grew. There was never anyone more proud of his home or the Mountain State where he was born.

He was a man of modesty, elegance and humor, who was as comfortable in the company of diplomats as he was with country folk. One of his greatest gifts was the ability to make anyone he met feel respected. He worked diligently for all in his care and was loved by all who knew him.

His family wishes to thank his devoted and remarkable caregivers who gave him love, support, and comfort.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Elizabeth "Liz" Haynes, his stepson Philip Hirsh and his five children by his first wife, Christine Minshall Haynes: Robert Alexander Haynes, David Read Haynes, Sarah Shanklin Haynes, Richard Blackmur Haynes and Diana Curtin Haynes Runyon. His legacy is also continued by his 7 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.