



Donald Mortimer Chatellier

May 3, 1929 - August 15, 2018

Donald Mortimer Chatellier of Chestertown, MD, died Wednesday, August 15, 2018, at the Resorts at Chester River Manor in Chestertown, MD. He was 89.

Donald M. Chatellier was born May 3, 1929, in Avon-by-the-Sea, NJ, a son of the late Ida Mae (Cornwall) and John L. Chatellier. Mr. Chatellier was a 1947 graduate of Kearny High School in Kearny, NJ. He then earned a B.S. from Springfield College in 1952 and an M. Ed. from the same school a year later. He served two years in the United States Army before coming to work at Washington College.

"Chatty" — as he was affectionately known — spent a total of 35 years as a head coach at Washington College, third-most behind Tom Kibler and Ed Athey '47, and continued to support the department in a variety of ways long past his retirement as a head coach. Most famously, Chatty began serving as head men's track and field and cross country coach when he first arrived in Chestertown in 1955. He coached the track team until its discontinuation in 1982 and the cross country team until 1987. Immediately following the discontinuation of the track and field program, he took over the reins of the men's rowing program and coached that team until 1990. Chatty coached a number of Mason-Dixon Conference and Middle Atlantic Conference champions in track and field. His knowledge of the sport was so well-respected that the coaches of the Middle Atlantic Conference continued to call

upon him to organize and conduct conference championship meets long after the College dropped the sport.

Chatty served as both Assistant and Associate Director of Athletics for many years under Ed Athey, developing a robust intramural program for both male and female students. He also began his tenure at the College as head coach of the junior varsity men's basketball program and served as a physical education instructor. Following his retirement, he remained committed to the College; he was an active and integral part of the College's Hall of Fame Board, assisted in running home rowing regattas, and volunteered in several other areas.

Don Chatellier was inducted into the Washington College Hall of Fame in 1989. In 2014, he was honored with the Edward L. Athey '47 Award, which is presented to an individual who has made a significant positive impact on athletics at Washington College while demonstrating the ideals of integrity, dedication, humility, and enthusiasm. The track encircling Kibler Field is named the "Chatty Track" in his honor. Each May, Garnet Elementary School sponsors the "Sneaker Creeper" - a series of youth foot races that serve as a PTA fundraiser on the track. Chatty was a generous and enthusiastic annual supporter of that event.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife of over 60 years, Elizabeth Greenock Chatellier, daughter-in-law Michelle, brothers Truman and Larry; sisters, Elaine Romaniak and Marjorie Beach; brothers-in-law, James Beach, Hank Payne, Charlie Romaniak, Jack Syme, Austin Sutherland; sisters-in law, Doris Chatellier and Catherine Sutherland.

He is survived by his son, Dana S. Chatellier of Bear, DE, his daughter, Ellen M. Stevens and husband Bill of Chestertown, MD; one step-granddaughter, Jacqueline Baldwin of Bear, DE; two step-great grandchildren; two sisters,

Barbara Syme of Lyndhurst, NJ and Jeannette Payne of Jacksonville, FL; and numerous beloved nieces and nephews, and his “grand-dogs.”

The family of Donald M Chatellier would like to express their sincere gratitude to Bonnie Tucker and the entire staff at Rock of Ages Assisted Living in Rock Hall, MD. Their kindness and generosity is the benchmark by which all assisted living homes should be measured.

A visitation will be held Friday, August 24, 2018, from 6-8pm, at Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home, 130 Speer Rd Chestertown, MD. A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 25, 2018, at 11am, also at the funeral home.

In honor of “Chatty,” please dress casually and wear your favorite running or tennis shoes at the service.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be sent to the Washington College Crew Program, c/o Sean Flanigan, 300 Washington Avenue, Chestertown, MD 21620.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **24**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chestertown Location
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 778-0055
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Service

AUG **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Chestertown Location
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 778-0055
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Mortimer Chatellier*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - August 21, 2018 at 11:54 AM

PS

Chatty invested so much in all of us young athletes. He'd think nothing about driving any of us to Swarthmore PA on a cold winter's day for an indoor track meet. Anything he could do to help us be successful he would do it. He was a character. We used to imitate his modes of speech and his expressions "think in terms of" "not a snowball's chance" "well but, . . . no". Drove a Volkswagen bus like a bat out of hell and never got a ticket. Track meet day he had everything organized. Everything ran like clockwork. Didn't have a mean bone in his body

Paul Schlitz - August 23, 2018 at 09:28 AM

TP

Don and Betty were important and special people in my life. I am grateful for that gift. The fond memories of them and Dana and Ellen fill me. Peace. Tony Parker

Tony Parker - August 24, 2018 at 08:24 AM



“ *Donald Mortimer Chatellier*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Donald Mortimer Chatellier

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Donald Mortimer Chatellier

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *"The Don Chatellier is the Doane Academy women's pair and has won gold medals in the women's pair race at the Upper Merion High School regatta for the past three years in a row. It is a great boat for both teaching, and racing, and is still a very valuable part of our boathouse fleet."*

--from Evan Koch, a current member of the Washington College Men's Rowing Team

This past spring, Evan raced in the "Betty" at the Dad Vail Regatta with teammate Charlie Snyder. The Chatty and Betty live on -- and rowers continue to propel them across the Chester, Schuylkill, and many other waters.

*Caren Saunders
Assistant Women's Rowing Coach
Washington College*



Caren Saunders - August 27, 2018 at 09:58 PM

JH

“ Jack Heinfielde lit a candle in memory of Donald Mortimer Chatellier



Jack Heinfielde - August 27, 2018 at 03:57 PM

RR

“ Chatty was the first Coach that I met when my parents and I came to the campus. He welcome me and my parents to the campus and the athletic department. We then were introduced to Coach Athey and Coach Kibler. Little did I know what these three men meant to the College and would mean to me for the next 4 years and the rest of my life. I was not coached by any of these 3 icons but what an influence they had on me.

Chatty was a great coach and kind man who would go out of his way to help, advise, or council with any student. May God continue to bless Him and his family.

Ron Regan 65-69.

Ron Regan - August 25, 2018 at 07:21 AM

CS

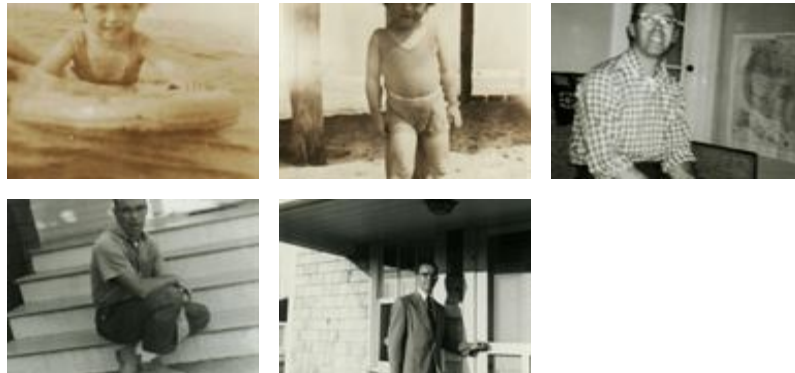
“ I was deeply saddened to hear about the death of Coach Chatellier. Don was a unique individual, who impacted the lives of many students at WC with his wit, brutal honesty, wisdom, and supportive nature. Back in the early 60's, the talent pool was small and the track program was under funded yet Don demonstrated success not in terms of wins and losses, but in life lessons of hard work, dedication, and giving to others while maintaining a positive attitude. I also remember his bellowing voice, his taste for Coke Colas, and his ability to out Psych the competition. Don was especially proud of his family and particularly his children who provided his end care. God bless.

C. Sebastyan

Charles Sebastyan - August 23, 2018 at 02:38 PM



“ 65 files added to the album Life Tributes



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - August 21, 2018 at 10:31 AM

KK

“ Coach will always be a huge part of my college memories. I joined the team in order to be part of the athletic family at WC. Was older than rest of the team because I was a Veteran just like coach. I can still remember after a particular home Cross Country race where I exceeded my expectations. Coach's voice booming over the track and corn fields. And then the next day him searching me out on campus to congratulate me for a good race. Keep running Chatty.

Kevin T Kroencke - August 19, 2018 at 08:42 PM

BG

“ Track was the best part of my 4 years at WC. Win or lose, we had a lot of fun because of Don Chatellier. I miss those days, the road trips, my teammates and Chatty, but I will always have great memories. Thanks Chatty, and rest in peace.

Bob Greenberg '74

Bob Greenberg - August 18, 2018 at 06:04 PM

RH

“ Chatty was my coach and mentor. He was a friend and father figure. He was always fun to be around. He was wise, generous, and kind. I loved him and will never forget him.

Rick Horstmann '73

Rick Horstmann - August 18, 2018 at 05:03 PM

DS

“ it was a great joy to help Chatty achieve his two Penn Relay dream wins. i still hear him yelling from the stands "go danny go". every telephone conversation always included something about the Penns. only Chatty would spend the time to send Penn Relay official baton replicas twenty years after the fact. he was one special man. i have great fondness for him and was constantly touched by his specialness. condolences to his wonderful family. rest win peace "Chatty" love you daniel scharf

daniel scharf - August 17, 2018 at 10:26 AM

BF

“ Condolences to the Chatellier Family. It was a privilege knowing Don. A wonderful man.

Bob Farwell, Washington College, 1974.

Bob Farwell - August 17, 2018 at 07:21 AM

JJ

“ I don't have words to express how deeply I felt when I heard the news of his passing. I feel so grateful for having him in my life. I can still hear his voice echoing far beyond the track. "Chatty" was a rarity and his constant encouragement to be the best person that you can in this life has help shape the person that I am. He will never be forgotten. May God's eternal promises guide you thru this season.

Jackie Johnson

Jackie Johnson - August 17, 2018 at 02:33 AM

MS

“ So sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers are with all of you

Marie Spray - August 16, 2018 at 06:03 PM