



## Jon "Coach" Hazelip

November 2, 1939 - March 4, 2019

"Coach" Jon Lawrence Hazelip, 79, was officially pronounced in heaven at 8:06PM March 4, 2019 in Nashville, Tennessee, surrounded by his family. Jon was born November 2, 1939 to Lawrence and Barbara Hazelip in Youngstown, Ohio.

Jon was married to the love of his life, Carolyn Weaver Hazelip, for 60 years. He loved his career coaching basketball at Georgia Christian High School in Dasher, Georgia and Alabama Christian College in Montgomery, Alabama. However, even more, he loved being a servant of God leading as many people to Christ as he possibly could. Jon was a deep man of prayer and worked tirelessly to build strong marriages in his marriage seminars. Jon touched many lives as a coach, preacher, teacher, mentor, leader, husband, father, grandfather, servant and friend.

He will be greatly missed by his wife, Carolyn Hazelip, his four children Teri Bradley of Charlotte, NC, Rick Hazelip of Pensacola, FL, Barbie Lanier of Nashville, TN, and Thom Hazelip of Nashville, TN. He also had 13 grandchildren, Charles, Mason Bryce, Jonathan, Jennifer, Michael, Travis, Austin, Collin, Anabelle, Carey-Mae, Hamilton and Ricky, and many, many friends, former players and loved ones from across the United States and China.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence & Barbara Hazelip, his in-laws, Byron & Mary Weaver, and his brother Don Hazelip.

A celebration of life service is planned on Saturday, March 9, 2019, at 3:00PM at the Greater Nashville Church in Nashville, TN. The address is 3646 Murfreesboro Pike, Antioch, TN, 37013.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to either: Front Porch Ministry in Nashville, [www.frontporch.house](http://www.frontporch.house) or SIM Sports Friends Ministry, [www.sports-friends.org](http://www.sports-friends.org)

# Comments

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“ I will forever remember loving him so much. When I was small and he was the Minister at College Church, now University Church, after his sermon as he walked down the isle he always picked me up and carried me with him to greet everyone after the service. And, not to forget to mention the peppermints. I am deeply saddened at his passing, but I am very sure he is in Heaven smiling down on all of us.

I am so sorry for all of the family, I remember you all and you all gave me wonderful child hood memories. I was blessed to give your wonderful Father Mr. John one more hug when he was in Montgomery. Thank you so much for all the love that each and everyone of you have.

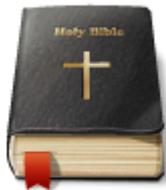
Much Love, Stephanie Buford Billingsley AKA Stephe.

**Stephanie Buford Billingsley** - March 10 at 11:24 AM

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“ Selah Miller sent a virtual gift in memory of Jon "Coach" Hazelip



**Selah Miller** - March 09 at 12:48 PM

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“ Jon was a great guy he always made time for people and god no matter what he will always be in my prayers.

**Selah** - March 09 at 12:45 PM

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“ Coach Hazelip made our years at Georgia Christian School so much better. So inspiring and uplifting no matter what your situation was. I feel so honored to have been part of that time. Even when our little basketball team was getting beat badly he kept telling us we could win. And right he was because we gained so much through his guidance. Love you "Coach"!

**Phyllis Mills Thompson** - March 09 at 12:10 PM

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“ Coach and Carolyn Janet and I love you all!! You all will always be in our hearts!!  
God has gained a great servant!!

**Frank Cardwell** - March 09 at 11:07 AM

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“ Carolyn, we are so sorry. Pat and I love you and Jon so much. We have wonderful memories of both of you when Jon was at Macedonia. May God wrap his arms around you and the rest of the family during this time. We love you.

**Lloyd Pritchett** - March 09 at 09:15 AM

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“ Jon attended the first outreach we did for The Salvation Army/Berry St. to reach out to a dangerous, broken neighborhood about 13 years ago. He so gently reached out to individuals in the big front yard and brought them into the chapel to connect with them and pray for them one on one. He spent the afternoon praying and looked the happiest he must have ever looked. This man made a deep impression on our lives that lasted. The world will miss this gentle yet bold man.  
The Simms family

**Ernie Simms** - March 08 at 08:10 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jon "Coach" Hazelip.



March 08 at 11:00 AM

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“ Billy (DOG) Saandifer Family! purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jon "Coach" Hazelip.



**Billy (DOG) Saandifer Family!** - March 08 at 08:40 AM



“ 11 files added to the album Memories Album



Thom Hazelip - March 07 at 03:14 PM

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“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Jon "Coach" Hazelip.



March 07 at 01:17 PM

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“ Coach Jon Hazelip, what a man of God! From giving positive and Godly influences at Georgia Christian and Alabama Christian College, baptizing Bill, and uniting us in marriage to instilling and encouraging in us a lifelong love for sharing Christ with others, Bill and I are eternally grateful for the Christ-like influence he has had on our lives. We loved him dearly! Our love and heartfelt sympathy are extended to Carolyn, Teri, Rick, Barbie, and Thom and the entire family. May God give you peace.

Bill & Cathy Malone - March 07 at 10:34 AM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Jon "Coach" Hazelip.



March 07 at 09:04 AM

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“ When Jesus answered the question about the greatest commandment, His answer was a description of Jon. Jon not only loved the Lord but loved people in a way that I've rarely witnessed. When Jesus said you need to go and learn what it means when it is said "I desire Mercy and not sacrifice", well, Jon learned it well. When Micah suggested that we know what is required; "to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God", Jon knew and lived it better than any I've ever known.

As my heart breaks for Carolyn and I mourn our loss, I can't stop the smile on my face from breaking through the tears. I try to imagine what Jon is experiencing right now, and I can see his smiling face and almost hear his voice as he explains his overwhelming joy as he embraces his Savior. I can hear him say, " Mike, you cannot imagine how wonderful it is here; it is beyond description".

Way to go Jon, you have done well, my friend. Relax now and enjoy, I'll see you soon.

Mike Batson

Mike Batson - March 07 at 08:59 AM

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“ From our initial meeting in Valdosta Jon Hazelip's influence was impactful in so many ways-spiritually (he baptized me and taught an amazing Bible class), mentally (it's all in a state of mind) and emotionally (forever challenging us to practice positive attitudes, avoid taking ourselves too seriously and love all of God's creation)! But my favorite thing about him was his commitment to growth! He sought out truth wherever it lived and embraced life fully with every fiber of his being. Like Jesus, he loved children freely and without hesitation reached out to every person he met. In a phrase, he responded like his Lord and Saviour-a true ambassador of his Heavenly Father. I believe his biggest challenge in his death was giving up ministry to go to his reward. As we shared in a recent conversation, "There is still so much to do! The fields are indeed white!" God bless his family as they deal with the huge hole left by his departure. This world will never be the same!

Pam Pate - March 06 at 10:30 PM

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“ Jon, my marriage will never be the same because of your influence, love and prayers. I will do my best to honor your legacy and be the man of prayer and love you taught me to be! I will miss you tremendously but I know you're in the arms of Jesus. Thank you for loving me like you did!

Chris Wilcox - March 06 at 04:40 PM

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“ He was a special man. I remember driving the basketball team to games and at times late at night on the way back he would relieve me and drive. He always had a smile and a kind word. Thanks, Coach for the memories.

**Conrad Moorer** - March 06 at 02:19 PM

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“ The Lord created a special servant in Jon Hazelip. Jon cared deeply about his family everyone one that he came in contact with each day. Jon was a great example for all in sharing God’s love and salvation plan. Heaven is a brighter place today and Jon’s shining light will continue to fill our hearts each day. The Lord blessed by allowing Jon to be a part of our lives.

I was blessed to work with Coach Jon as one of his basketball managers and the Sports Information Director at ACC. Many wonderful memories of basketball practices, bus trips, and recruiting trips. I still get a smile on my face thinking back on the time that I saw Jon standing on a chair looking over the transom windows above the doors in our dorm room to make sure his players were in their rooms after curfew.

I treasure being able to spend a day with Jon in September of 2017, to catch up and share memories.

Carolyn, Teri, Rick, Barbie, Tom, and all of your families, are in my heart and prayers.

Gary Greer  
Los Angeles, CA  
crimsonchamps@outlook.com



**Gary Greer** - March 06 at 01:32 PM

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“ I loved and respected Coach and Carolyn so much. I have many fond memories of him at ACC and Mandarin. One of my favorites was how he loved my firstborn, Meghann. A great man of God. He will be missed.

**Cheryl** - March 06 at 09:44 AM

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“ The Hazelip family is SOOOO awesome. All of us in the Zorn family were closer to various Hazelips when younger and our lives were all enriched forevermore by knowing the family. The Patriarch of the Hazelip family was such a giant of a man. Daddy wept when I shared the news. Even though they only talked once in recent years some people just make such a huge impact on your heart that years only enhance your memories. Probably because the more years pass the more you realize how one of a kind Jon was in life. Daddy likes to think they were kindred spirits in some regards one of which was a positive can-do attitude. Daddy loved being with "Tommy" very much. Dad recalls having him make notes on a napkin at lunch only to be told, son, that's your three key points for a short speech- your up. "Tommy" daddy has ALWAYS loved you deeply. Men like Jon make it happen because they don't think inside a box. They don't own a box. A giant of a man that impacted the multitudes is lost to us but at peace no doubt. We love your family and are honored to be friends. Jon.....what a giant of a man for God.

Halo & Rhonda Fernandez  
Jack Zorn  
halorhonda@gmail.com  
321.202.7600

Rhonda (Zorn) Fernandez - March 06 at 07:08 AM

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“ Jon came into my life about 25 years ago and he taught me so many things. He was a man full of joy and happiness. He was a man that touched lives, and people were better for being around him. He was someone you could always count on to be there when you needed a friend. He was never too busy or too tired to listen or to help you. God blessed him abundantly and worked through him in a powerful way to make me and so many others better. I have so many fond memories of him and I cherish each one. I will miss my dear brother, but I know I will see his smiling face again. Thank you God for putting Jon in my life. My thoughts and prayers are with Carolyn and the entire family.

Dean Farris - March 05 at 10:54 PM

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“ My husband and I met Jon when we made the decision to move from Idaho to TN to open a restaurant in 2006. Jon was recommended by a mutual friend as the realtor that could help us find a business location as well as a home. The moment we met we connected with Jon, I don't know if it was the familiarity of the name Barbie to him or the Spirit to Spirit connection but Jon treated us like family immediately. It was comforting to have someone that knew the area so well and that also took into account the needs of our family that we hadn't even considered, like a master on the first floor and some separation between us and our growing boys. We thoroughly enjoyed house hunting with Jon, and we are still in the beautiful home that he helped secure for us. I remember the day we looked for a business site in downtown

Nashville. It was the hottest day of the year that day in July 2006, as we walked from one side of Nashville to the other with a commercial realtor, Jon could see I was having a tough time breathing from the endless walking in the heat. As we were walking in Printer's Alley, he took me by the arm and led me inside an air-conditioned store, he had me sit down and then proceeded to buy quite a few bottles of water that he first made sure I drank one and then took the others to everyone else. That spoke volumes to me of his kind heart. We ended up being as pleased with the restaurant location as we were with the house he found us, and for the few years that we ran the restaurant Jon would often stop by with clients or friends just to give us business. He was a very kind loving man and I will always think of him when we eat at Chick-Fil-A, the one restaurant we had never heard of that he insisted on treating us to. May God bless the family with the knowledge that Jon took two strangers new to a city and made them feel like they had stepped into a friendly welcoming place because of the love he showed us through those first days in Nashville...and beyond. Blessings, Barbie and Tom Heydweiller

**Barbie Heydweiller** - March 05 at 09:10 PM



“ That's beautiful, Barbie!

**Dotty** - March 06 at 02:15 AM



“ Jon has been my friend for more than 40 years, and for the last several we've eaten lunch together almost every Thursday. He demonstrated what a joyful life in Christ looked like. He was the most prayerful man I've ever known. If a person wanted to see what it looks like for the Spirit of God to be alive in a man's life, all one had to do was to be around Jon. Thursday lunches will never be the same without Jon, but I look forward to joining him at the Master's table where we will feast and talk and laugh and rejoice like never before! I love you, Jon, my brother!  
Dan Dozier

**Dan Dozier** - March 05 at 08:52 PM



“ I have never known a more positive person. He exemplified Christ on Earth. I know his family will miss him but I have to think all those in heaven are smiling today!

**Joe Stork** - March 05 at 07:34 PM



“ Teri and Brad,  
Susan and I send our deepest sympathy and prayers of comfort for you and your family.  
Mark and Susan Draves



“ Simply Happy Kalanchoe Plant was purchased for the family of Jon "Coach" Hazelip.



March 05 at 07:08 PM

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“ There will never be another “Coach” like our Coach. Not only a basketball coach but a life coach. He taught us how to live for Father. He taught us how to love. He taught us how to have fun. He showed us Jesus. His whole life pointed us to Jesus. It’s hard to believe I won’t get another of his big hugs on earth. So excited for that heavenly reunion where we will all be together praising Jesus, who he lived to serve and taught us to as well. See you later Coach!!

Love,

Patsy Black



**Patsy Black** - March 05 at 06:58 PM



“ As we go through LIFE, we meet special people and JON HAZELIP!!

Johnny Ray

Class of 1964

GA Christian School

**Johnny Ray** - March 06 at 04:43 PM

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“ Patsy Black is following this tribute.

**Patsy Black** - March 05 at 06:49 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jon "Coach" Hazelip.



March 05 at 06:47 PM