



## Paul Frederick Winder Huckans Jr.

February 7, 1944 - December 18, 2021

Paul Frederick Winder Huckans Jr., 77, of Johnstown, New York passed away on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at the St. Johnsville Rehabilitation Center after a brief illness. He was born on February 7, 1944, the youngest of three children, of the late Paul Frederick Winder Sr. and Margaret Jones Huckans of Gloversville.

A lifelong resident of Fulton County, Paul or Bill as he was called by his mother, grew up in Gloversville. He began his education in the Gloversville School District, eventually attending the boarding school Wilbraham & Monson Academy in Wilbraham, Massachusetts where he graduated in 1962, earning top academic honors. Paul went on to attend Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania and graduated in June of 1966 with a Bachelors Degree in English Writing.

An avid Pirates fan, Paul spent many days in college watching baseball games at Pirates Stadium in Pittsburgh. He loved to talk about the times he was able to go to Pittsburgh and attend day games. He would spend only \$2 for a general admission ticket then once the game started, he would move to an unoccupied seat behind the dugout where over the years he got to know the players, often on a first name basis. Roberto Clemente, one of his all time favorite players, was very active at that time. Paul was also a proud member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity and loved to talk about all the lifelong friendships he had formed from those years in the fraternity house with his brothers. He truly loved being a Beta and often still told fond and very funny stories of his times with his brothers in college.

After college, Paul worked for General Electric in Rochester, New York. He married Patricia Clemente in October of 1968. He moved on to jobs at the Nelson Jones Ford, Coastal Leather, and Ruby and Quiri where he worked as a salesman. Paul resided in Schenectady for over fifteen years and eventually moved back to Mayfield where he became active in the Freemasons. He was also a member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Gloversville. He was most recently residing over the last decade in Johnstown. Known for his wit, knowledge of history, and love of all things baseball, especially the Pirates, Paul was an avid baseball card collector. He loved attending the Twin Cities card shows organized by Mike Hauser. One of Paul's favorite memories was the time he met Johnny Podres at one card show in 2000 after having first met Podres as a child 45 years earlier when the Dodgers visited Gloversville after winning the 1955 World Series against the Yankees and earning the Most Valuable Player award. Paul had found the picture from his youth a few months prior and brought it with him to the card show. He was very fond of Gloversville and loved to tell stories about the days of his youth. Paul also enjoyed telling childhood stories of growing up on Oakland Avenue and spending time with his parents at the Eccentric Club and the Glove Theatre with the Schines. Paul loved his grandchildren and enjoyed cheering them on, especially from the sports sidelines. He loved watching baseball, Jeopardy, traveling to Florida for MLB spring training and going out to eat. In recent years, he had battled health problems which limited his trips to Applebees to see his favorite waitress, Lisa, who he still spoke fondly of even in recent months. The family wishes to thank Ed Ausfeld for his compassion and friendship to Paul throughout the many years of Twin Cities card shows and especially over the recent years and months.

Survivors include three children: two sons David (Robyn) Huckans, Matthew (Jennifer) Huckans, and daughter Erin (Ryan) Kindar; eleven grandchildren: Joshua, Benjamin, Julianna, Scout, Harper, Kason, Samuel, Henry, Jacoby, Sawyer and Wilson; and a brother, John C. (Raquel)

Huckans of Cazenovia, New York; and a sister Eleanor A. Johnson of Boulder, Colorado, and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation was performed at Park View Crematorium in Schenectady. Calling hours will be held

on Sunday, December 26, from noon-2 pm at the Robert M. Halgas Funeral Home 111 County

Highway 106, Johnstown, NY. A service will be held at 2 pm with Pastor Ralph Mirante officiating. Final burial will be in Broadalbin-Mayfield Rural Cemetery. In accordance with current health guidelines, facial coverings are required.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alcoholics Anonymous or the Freemasons Amsterdam Lodge NO 84.

UPDATE GRAVESIDE CEREMONY:

A graveside ceremony for Paul will be held at Noon on Saturday, July 2, 2022 at Broadalbin-Mayfield Rural Cemetery, Broadalbin.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

DEC 26. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Halgas Funeral Home  
111 County Highway 106  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
(518) 883-5323  
debbie@halgasfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.halgasfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

DEC 26. 2:00 PM (ET)

Halgas Funeral Home  
111 County Highway 106  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
(518) 883-5323  
debbie@halgasfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.halgasfuneralhome.com/>

## Graveside Service

JUL 2. 12:00 PM (ET)

Broadalbin-Mayfield Rural Cemetary  
Broadalbin, NY 12025

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ I had the pleasure of getting to know Paul through Baseball. Throughout the last 25 years, no matter what the event in the area, Paul was always there. From Card Shows, to Vintage Baseball Games, to Sports Hall of Fame events, Paul was always there supporting and playing a part in bringing fellow sports fans together through unique discussions about his experiences, his collection and his views on the game and the hobby. One of the coolest things I ever experienced was when Ed Ausfeld brought 1955 World Series MVP Johnny Podres to an event in Johnstown about 15 years ago. Paul showed up with a newspaper photo of himself and Podres that was taken in 1955 upon Podres last visit to the area. As Paul walked up to Podres, you could see the excitement in his eyes of getting to see one of his childhood idols. But the really neat thing was to see Podres reaction to Paul and the photo. He got just as excited as Paul and said he remembered the encounter like it was yesterday. Podres asked him “how he had been” and the two reminisced about the 1955 World Series and Podres career. He then thanked him for bringing the photo, as dozens of fans stood around listening to their dialogue. In the early 2000’s, the Fulton County Sports Hall of Fame unofficially started with a sports history discussion meeting hosted by Paul at the Forrester’s Club in Gloversville. The meeting led to the sharing of local sports history and subsequently the actual Hall of Fame in 2012, as well as all of the other unique baseball initiatives now taking place in Gloversville. So as the initiatives of the Parkhurst Field Renovation, and the New York State Baseball Hall of Fame roll out, know that Paul’s early involvement are an important part of them happening today!

Michael Hauser - December 26, 2021 at 02:31 PM

YT

“ Your friends at Transitions purchased the Serene Green™ Bouquet For Sympathy for the family of Paul Frederick Winder Huckans Jr..



Your friends at Transitions - December 23, 2021 at 10:26 AM

BB

“ My sincere sympathy on the loss of your dad, father in law, grandpa.... I worked w Paul many many years ago. It is never easy but you have many great memories of your dad. Thoughts and Prayers your family.  
Beth Brown



Beth Brown - December 22, 2021 at 09:01 PM

LH

“ I was very sorry to hear of the loss of Paul. He was a great friend to my mom and she always spoke very highly and fondly of him. Our deepest sympathy from our family to yours during this heartbreaking time. Lorrie M. Case Hanifan

Lorrie Hanifan - December 22, 2021 at 12:49 PM



“ Classic Fireside Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Paul Frederick Winder Huckans Jr..



December 22, 2021 at 07:50 AM

TA

“ We are very sorry to learn of your loss. Our thoughts are with you all during this difficult time.  
With our deepest sympathy,  
Tammie & Jim Subik  
dba Saltsman's



Tammie - December 22, 2021 at 06:05 AM

LM

“ Many memories of years gone by, the Moyses family sends their deepest sympathies to David, Matt and Erin and their families. Lorraine Moyses Macey

Lorraine Moyses Macey - December 21, 2021 at 06:28 PM