



Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton

November 3, 1984 - March 25, 2019

MOCKSVILLE – Mr. Thomas Pennington “Penn” Blanton, 34, of Cana Road, died Monday, March 25, 2019, at his home.

He was born November 3, 1984, in Rowan County, to Mary and Ted Blanton of Salisbury. As a boy, Penn was loved by children, peers and adults, and he returned it. He was bright, witty and mischievous. Inseparable from his two older brothers, they named themselves the “Three Amigos,” which always made their parents smile. Penn’s sister, Eliza, nicknamed him “Sweetums,” the only brother to receive a nickname from her.

A graduate and student body president of Salisbury High School, he afterwards enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served for six years. There he pursued his lifelong avocation: weather forecasting. Stationed at various Naval airbases, he served as an aerographer’s mate, measuring and forecasting weather for Navy pilots.

Penn then graduated from the University of Virginia (UVA), majoring in government. He loved great political contests, both here and abroad. Penn remained a staunch conservative and knew how to make, and take, a political joke.

After his time at UVA, Penn spent a year working for a government contractor in Afghanistan, managing aerostats, small blimps that measured critical weather statistics as well as carrying secret military surveillance equipment.

For the last five and a half years, after marriage, Penn lived with his beautiful wife, Emily, on her family farm near Mocksville. He worked as a Technology/Operations Analyst with Vitacost, a Kroger Company. Penn also worked alongside his wife to help build and manage a cut flower farm, Cana Farms. True to form, wherever he lived in private life, he installed complicated weather stations.

In addition to his parents, survivors include his wife, Emily Hunter Blanton; two brothers, Lt. Commander William F. Blanton and John Blanton; a sister, Eliza Blanton; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Eugene and Brenda Hunter; a brother-in-law, Michael Hunter; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and two special aunts, Anne Rutherford and Terry Rutherford.

A funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 30, at Eatons Baptist Church with Dr. David Gilbreath officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery with military honors conducted by the U.S. Navy and the VFW Memorial Honor Guard.

The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to the service. The family will receive friends at a reception in the church fellowship hall following the graveside.

In lieu of flowers, they request that memorials be considered for Davie Community Foundation, P.O. Box 546 Mocksville, NC 27028, Memo: Thomas Pennington Blanton Memorial Scholarship.

Online condolences may be made at www.eatonfuneralservice.com

Cemetery

Eatons Baptist Church Cemetery

430 Eaton Church Rd
Mocksville, NC, 27028

Events

MAR 30 Visitation 01:00PM - 02:00PM

Eatons Baptist Church
430 Eaton Church Rd, Mocksville, NC, US,
27028

MAR 30 Funeral Service 02:00PM

Eatons Baptist Church
430 Eaton Church Rd, Mocksville, NC, US,
27028

Comments



“ Dear Mary and Ted, It is with greatest sorrow that we send our condolences to you and your family. Penn was a classmate of our son. He was so very loved by all and was an incredible intellect. We remember him as a funny, smart and well dressed young man.

We pray for the Lord to give you peace and ease your tremendous pain. Just know you have been and will continue to be in our daily prayers.

With Deepest Sympathy

Brad and Melonie Beaver

BRADFORD A BEAVER - April 04 at 05:37 PM



“ Jill Hunter lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Jill Hunter - April 02 at 06:58 PM



“ I worked with Penn at Vitacost. I will truly miss his smiling face and quick wit! He was a very special young man. He was so helpful and never made me feel stupid when I didn't understand what was going on with my computer, which happened all the time! He was such a wonderful co-worker and I am better for knowing him. He spoke often of his sweet wife and his love for her was on full display. May God keep you in his loving, comforting arms.

Drema Slenker - April 01 at 07:40 AM



“ Blanton family,

We are so sorry for your lost. I can't even list all the memories I shared with Penn from elementary school to high school. Such a great guy. It breaks my heart to find this out. I pray that you rest in God's comforting arms.

With love,

PageCarol Woods



“ 17 files added to the album LifeTributes



Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - March 30 at 07:59 AM



“ Prayers of Comfort , Peace and Faith for the Entire Family..

John 14:1-3

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also

Pastor Joey Spry & Family - March 30 at 03:26 AM



“ Ted, Mary, Will, Johnny and Eliza,

The Kimball family was devastated to hear of the news about sweet Penn. Karen and I recall his enormous brown eyes and bubbly little personality during his early years. We will always hold fond memories of our time spent babysitting him and pray for peace for all of you.

Love and hugs,
Bob, Gail, Cindi, Karen and Deborah

Our family will make a donation in memory of Penn.

Deborah Kimball Howell - March 29 at 10:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.



March 29 at 09:05 PM



“ Sandy Flynn lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Sandy Flynn - March 29 at 04:57 PM



“ Asking God to send comfort and love during this tragic time of unimaginable grief. We will continue to hold all the family in our hearts and in our prayers.

Sandy Flynn - March 29 at 04:55 PM



“ It broke my heart when they told us at work that Penn had passed away. He was such a great and friendly young man. I personally am going to miss seeing his smiling face everyday. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. May God wrap his loving arms around you and give you the strength and grace to make it through this most difficult time. Mike Fuller (Vitacost)

Michael Fuller - March 29 at 02:17 PM



“ My deepest condolences to all of you. Penn was a beautiful person inside and out. I will always cherish the memory of when he visited his Grandmother. Her eyes would light up. He was so kind and patient with her. Thinking of you, wishing you hope in the midst of sorrow, comfort in the midst of pain.

Jill Hunter

Jill Hunter - April 02 at 06:43 PM



“ Ted, Mary, Emily, Will, John and Eliza,

My Heart is broken. I share your sorrow as I remember watching Penn grow up and become a brilliant and talented young man. Intellectually complex yet possessed of the ability to connect with everyone he met. He was not afraid to accept challenges and took on the world on his own terms. I greatly admired the depth of his intellect and his uncommon ability to engage anyone respectfully without condescension while remaining firm in his position. He was charming, witty and a joy to be around.

God understands your sorrow and shares the depth for your pain. Take comfort in the certain knowledge that Penn is in the embrace of never-ending bliss which Christ so freely gives.

Darrell Hancock

Darrell Hancock - March 29 at 01:36 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.



March 29 at 12:04 PM



“ My deepest condolences for your loss, I am so very sad and heartbreaking to see this, prayers for your family have difficult times RIP in heaven!! Daniel & Danica Huynh

Danica Lee - March 29 at 10:44 AM



“ Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.





“ What heartbreaking news! I have such happy memories of a young man who always lit up our office with his sweet smile and manner. I am so very sad to see this. Trusting in God to bless and comfort you all in these days as only He can. My love and prayers are with you. Glenda Ball, retired Deputy Clerk of Court

Glenda Ball - March 29 at 09:45 AM



“ Mary, Ted and family; you are in my prayers at this difficult time. I pray for peace and comfort as you grieve the loss of such a special young man!

Angie M Sell - March 29 at 09:16 AM



“ Please accept our sincere condolences. Penn and his entire family have been leaders in our community for many years. His life, and the service of his family, should be models for all of us. May God and his grace fill this family with loving peace.

Gordon & Cynthia Correll, Salisbury

Gordon Correll - March 29 at 07:47 AM



“ Yes, Mary and family, my deepest condolences the loss of Penn. please know that you are all in my prayers and will continue to be remembered each day. From reading about Pen,, he obviously was an amazing young man and loved by many.

Jane Edwards Crenshaw



Jane Edwards. Crenshaw - March 29 at 07:04 AM



“ Mallory MG lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Mallory MG - March 29 at 01:47 AM



“ Oh Penn! My heart aches. You were an amazing person and I'm so grateful you were a part of my life. You were smart, funny and charming. My last memory with you was a hug after a tough day. I'm thankful for that moment and that memory. I pray you are at peace sweet Penn. You will be greatly missed. May your body and soul be at rest

Lauren Wetter - March 29 at 12:46 AM



“ I am so very sorry, my thoughts and prayers are with you all. Penn will be missed by so many. It was a pleasure to have known him.

Martie Mako - March 28 at 10:30 PM



“ Ted and Mary, we are so very sorry for your loss! God's Love, God's Hope, and God's Peace be with you! Tim and Becky Williams

Tim Williams - March 28 at 10:07 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.



March 28 at 09:22 PM



“ We are so sad for you all in your loss. Prayers ascending for his soul in repose.

wrenna barney - March 28 at 09:10 PM



“ My heart is breaking for you all, and for Penn. Love and prayers.

Ronda DeHart - March 28 at 08:55 PM



“ Much love and many prayers to Mary, Ted, family & friends. I'm a mom of a beautiful Angel who was only a few months younger than Penn. She entered heaven's gate 4/3/2017. Please know I'm here if you ever need an understanding friend. It seems like just yesterday we were at Dr. Painters office. Your family will remain in my prayers. May God give you peace beyond all understanding

Sandra Harrington - March 28 at 08:48 PM



“ Charles and I send our heart felt sympathy to all of you. We will send a donation to the charity plus our continued prayers. Mary, Ted, we are so sorry for your loss.

Charles, Janet Hardison - March 28 at 07:46 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.



March 28 at 07:23 PM



“ Marie Sparks lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Marie Sparks - March 28 at 03:44 PM



“ T Cuthrell lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



T Cuthrell - March 28 at 02:37 PM



“ Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.



March 28 at 01:56 PM



“ Words cannot express our sorrow at this time may God wrap his lovings arms around your family and lift you up in your time of sorrow.
Your friends,
The Brileys



Caren Briley - March 28 at 12:09 PM



“ Penn,
Nothing can express the emptiness we all have. Over this past year I got to know you and appreciate the kind, helpful and willing person you are. Always ready to help anyone at a moments notice. Especially me over and over when I didn't fully understand what I was doing.
Going to miss sitting next to you on our morning meetings, and throwing little jokes back and forth ,seeing you beat out others in corn hole and just look at them with a smirk like they should've known better and hearing about you talking about having your folders in the system moved around.. That was funny brother. making me laugh right now just thinking about it.
All in all Just know you are more than missed you are and will always be loved man. Ill see you on the other side, have my Computer ready when I get there. Love you man
Angel L Morales

Angel Morales - March 28 at 12:01 PM



“ Heavenly Sentiments Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton.



March 28 at 11:56 AM



“ Emily Sears lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Emily Sears - March 28 at 11:04 AM



“ My prayers go out to the family at this sorrowful time. Penn will be greatly missed. I enjoyed working with Penn. He was always friendly, easy to joke with and helped whenever he was asked. He was admired by his peers and will always have a presence here at Vitacost. May God continue to comfort you and see you through.

With love,

Vonna Weekly

Vonna Weekly - March 28 at 10:05 AM



“ Prayers are with you and your family, You will surely be missed . Debbie Scott



Debbie Scott - March 28 at 09:31 AM



“ So sorry for your loss, Prayers for the family.
My Sympathy, Lois Driver Felts

Lois D. Felts - March 28 at 08:56 AM



“ Brittany King Ching lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



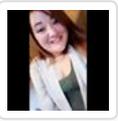
Brittany King Ching - March 28 at 07:50 AM



“ We all lost a wonderful man and a man who cared about others. Carry on Prayer Warrior! You will surely be missed here on Earth. Thank you Penn for all you tried to do to help me when I came back to work after a significant bout with cancer. Your kindness, help and compassion helped through some really difficult times.



Jacqueline Gabard - March 27 at 10:17 PM



“ Penn was a great person he was my manager at vitacost he was always greeting everyone with a smile and always very nice when someone spoke to him my prayers are with his family in this devastating time may his memory live on and he rest in peace
Amen



Kortney Smith - March 27 at 10:14 PM



“ "Penn" will truly be missed i worked with him at vitacost. My heart and prayers goes out to his family

Shelly Greer - March 27 at 09:59 PM



“ Lit a candle for Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton. He was an intelligent, humorous, loving and caring person. My heart goes out to his wife, Penn loved her so very much. I pray for the difficult time she is going through. I was proud to call Penn my friend. We will see him again one day. Penn will be waiting at the pearly gates with that dimpled smiling face of his welcoming us there.



Jacqueline Gabard - March 27 at 09:58 PM



“ Shelly Greer lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Shelly Greer - March 27 at 09:37 PM



“ Audrey Myers lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Audrey Myers - March 27 at 08:53 PM



“ I am so sorry for you loss. I wish there was something I could do or say to ease your heart. Penn was a truly loving person and a wonderful coworker and office mate.

Audrey Myers - March 27 at 08:55 PM



“ I send my condolences to the family..Penn will truly be missed and I'm grateful that i had the chance to know him! he had a smile that lit up a room then dimples...RIP gone but never FORGOTTEN

KATRINA BURNS - March 27 at 09:06 PM



“ I'm in shock over the passing of Penn. He always came in the clerks office and lifted us up with his comical weather forecast. May your family find peace in God.

Netanna Kesler
Deputy Clerk



“ Gail Reineke lit a candle in memory of Thomas Pennington "Penn" Blanton



Gail Reineke - March 27 at 08:48 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. Penn was my manager at Vitacost. He was one of the best managers I ever had during 42 years of working. He truly had a heart of gold. I pray that God would draw you all up close to Him as only He can.

Sincerely,

Gail Reineke

Gail Reineke - March 27 at 08:47 PM