



John (Jack)

September 10, 1923 - February 22, 2012

John Kenneth (Jack) May, 88, Groom Creek John Kenneth (Jack) May of Groom Creek, Arizona died Wednesday, February 22, 2012, at his residence. He was 88 years old. Jack was born September 10, 1923, at Billerica, Essex, England to John C. and Florence (Beeson) May. He attended Brentwood School in Essex, England before becoming a Fighter Pilot for the 19th Squadron of the Royal Air Force during World War II. (Jack moved to Arizona in 1965.) He was the Director of Friendly Pines Camp for many years. After retirement he was ordained an Anglican priest, serving at St. Paul's Church and All Saints' Church. He enjoyed racquetball, golf, flying, and water skiing. Jack is survived by his wife, Bebe Brown May; sister, Daphne Gray of Liverpool, England; son, Christopher May and daughter-in-law Barbara Parenteau May; daughter, Rosemary Taylor; and grandchildren Megan and Nick May and Collin and Brock Taylor. He was preceded in death by his sister Joan Bell. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, March 10th at 11:00 am at Friendly Pines Camp, 933 Friendly Pines Road, Groom Creek, Ariz. 86303. Memorial contributions may be made to the YRMC Foundation, 1003 Willow Creek Road, Prescott, AZ 86301, to Stepping Stones 6719 E. 2nd Street, Suite A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, or to the All Saints Anglican Church, 1806 N. Savage Lane, Prescott, AZ 86301.

Tribute Wall

KM

“ Dear Bebe and family,

Our prayers go out to all of you on your great loss. Jack was a great man and we remember him well. Kelly and I were camp counselors back in the early 1980's and in fact we met at Friendly Pines, fell in love and married. We have two wonderful boys and have just celebrated our 27th wedding anniversary. Way to go Jack (and Bebe) for bringing us together. We still share stories with other friends from Friendly Pines. I (then Cheryl Konvalin) remember well when I pulled ligaments in my ankle at camp and Jack driving to Prescott Hospital. He was so kind and caring and I even stayed to finish out the summer counseling on crutches. Jack will be well remembered.

Kelly and Cheryl McCaw - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Dearest BeBe, Chris, & Rosemary

Our Love and Prayers are with you and your family.

We will always remember the kindness and friendship welcoming us into the community of Groom Creek.

I always enjoyed working with Jack at the camp and his hard work and leadership getting our Groom Creek Fire Dept started.

Thank you for all these years of Friendship

Paul & Barbara Williams - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ smooth flying Jack

peter J Groff - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ *Bebe and family, please accept my sympathy for your loss.*

My twin sister Alice and I attended Friendly Pines Camp in the summer of 1969. We were supposed to meet at the Phoenix bus station to ride with the other campers from Phoenix on a bus up to Prescott. Our mother was late and the bus was full so Alice and I rode up to camp with Jack May. We were two very unhappy campers because we wanted to ride in the bus with the other children, but Jack was very nice to us. We loved Friendly Pines and didn't want to come home. RIP Jack!

Candice LaPrade - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *There are so many things I remember about Jack, but two very important days come to mind. These were my high school graduation and my wedding. Jack and Bebe opened up Friendly Pines for all of us to have a safe and fun graduation party. We had a great time. After having Jack, Bebe, Chris and Rosemary a part of my life growing up, it was so very special having Jack marry Jim and I. His presence and beautiful voice helped make it a very wonderful day. He is truly a man to remember.*

Carolyn Orth Tharp - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the May family. We are so thankful to have known Jack and celebrate the amazing life he lived. He was loved by not only his family but those who he touched by his kindness.*

We are better for having known Jack.

Love and Prayers,

Kevin and Lynne Tucker

Kevin and Lynne Tucker - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PO

“ Dear Bebe,
God bless Jack, he is at peace. He fought a tough battle, with you there by his side. Our long family ties were severed a bit with his passing.
Seems like we were just wishing him a happy 85th @ the FPC Reunion.
I will make every effort to be with you on Saturday March 11th.
with sympathy and love,
Posey

posey - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FL

“ Jack May was the consummate man as evidenced by his fulfillment of vital roles in conquering challenges of flying some of the world's fastest and finest combat planes against ever challenging odds during World War II. His determined yet clearly realistic attitudes were evident in every task he undertook. He was a true leader with full support from the love of his, Bebe. What an incomparable team they were especially as role models for young people who were fortunate to attend the Friendly Pines Camp started by Bebe's father, Bud Brown - another outstanding, giving man.

Fred and Karen Lindquist - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ It has been a blessing to get to know the Brown and May families during the past 15 years. Our sons attended Friendly Pines a decade ago and have many memories of the experience. Although we will not be able to attend the celebration of Jack's life, please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Our condolences to the May family.

Karen and Dan Burchfield - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ I've known Jack and Bebe since I was very young, her aunt was my godmother. Visits at Friendly Pines were fun parts of my childhood and I enjoyed visiting with Jack at the occational Rotary Club meeting.

My thoughts and prayers are with Jack and his family.

Bob Frith - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *Deepest Sympathy and Condolences. God Bless you Jack and your Family. May you rest in peace,you will be missed so much..*

David & Annie Jordan - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *I will always remember the kind heart , the good nature and that magnificant smile that always greeted me when I came in contact with Jack May. I have worked for Jack for the last 8 years and in the last few years he has counseled me through the loss of my parents and life's questions in general. On a regular basis I would pop into the May house in the morning, Jack would always greet me with a "come in, come in, come in good buddy. We would share a conversation, I asked if he needed anything then I began my work day. I will not be there for the memorail service but I will have my own service in a place that Jack truly loved. Baja and the Sea of Cortez.Jack you have left a lasting impression on everyone you have come in contact with, and I will strive to keep that positive attitude alive while working at Friendly Pines Camp. Will see you again one day old friend.*

love,Stever

Stever and Sharona Speirs - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Although it's been 20 or so years since I've seen any of the May family, you all still hold a place in my heart. My memories of Fr. Jack as a church leader, family friend, FPC leader and even brief employer all helped shape the adult I am today. Surely St. Pauls, FPC and Prescott are greiving the loss of a great, influential man. Bebe, Chris & Rosemary- my thoughts are with you.

Marie Higgins - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ In 1992, looking for a map of the forest, Chris called in to the office of Friendly Pines Camp, and introduced herself. From the back room came a voice, "Cor, another limey" That proved to be the luckiest day of our lives, as over a period of 20 years, Jack went from a stranger, to an employer, to a very, very good friend. It is not an exaggeration to say that 'he saved our lives'. We have returned to Friendly Pines camp every year for the last 15, to repay in some small way the enormous debt we owe. We shall continue to return, though a huge part will be missing.

God Bless you Jack

With much Love, Rod and Chris.

Rod and Chris Chorlton - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ We will always remember our time with you both at All Saints and what a wonderful time just being around you. Fr. Jack had such an contagious laugh and was always ready with a witty comment. Our hearts and prayers go out to Bebe and family on your loss. You both are TRULY servants of our Lord and Savior and it is a comfort knowing Fr. Jack is making Jesus smile. Even tho the world just got a little darker; Heaven just got a little brighter.

Diane & Warren Cochrane - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ I will always fondly remember Jack May as a delightful man with a kind heart and a generous spirit. He taught me how to make a proper cup of tea in the English style, which I will never forget. Bebe, my heart goes out to you and your family with deepest condolences. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers.

Becky Morgan Egan - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM