

## **Judson Hood Drennan, III**

Rock Hill, S.C. native and longtime Florence, S. C. resident Judson Hood Drennan, III died early Saturday morning surrounded by his family at the McLeod Hospice House in Florence. He is survived by his loving wife of 25 years, Kathy Mugele Drennan. He was 62.

A funeral mass to celebrate his life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Florence. Burial will be private.

Jud was a 1970 graduate of Clemson University and a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity. A lifelong athlete, he was a Rock Hill High School track star and played rugby and tennis for Clemson. From 2002 to 2005, he was the S.C. state champion for his age division in the 1,500 meter and 5,000 meter race walk; in 2005 he won bronze and silver medals in those events at the National Senior Olympic Games in Pittsburgh.

Jud spent his entire professional career in service to others. He came to Florence in 1970 to become the city's recreation director. He later worked for UPS and 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Mortgage.

Jud had boundless energy, compassion, and faith. He formed deep, meaningful relationships wherever he went. He was a loving husband, devoted father, respectful son, and faithful friend. His talents were many: he was an artist and an athlete, a dancer and a gardener, a teacher and a disciple. He was a member of St. Anne's Catholic Church where he served as lector. For years he taught the confirmation class at St. Anthony's, sharing Christ's love with dozens of children.

He was an Eagle Scout, an astronomer and a formidable chess opponent. He knew just how to tell a joke --- And when! He nurtured his love of dinosaurs into adulthood. Foremost, he never forgot how to play or to see the world through a child's eyes.

Also surviving are his son, Judson Hood Drennan, IV (Heather); his parents, Judson Hood Drennan, Jr. and Jeannette Meldrum Drennan; a sister, Sally Drennan Preslar (Dennis); his brother, Robert Wingate Drennan (Sharon); and two grandchildren, Lucas Avery Drennan and Evelyn Lessene Drennan. He was preceded in death by a sister, Jennifer Hood Drennan.

Visitation will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday at Layton Anderson Funeral Home in Timmons ville, S.C. A prayer service will follow. The Celebration of Life will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Anthony's Catholic Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society; McLeod Hospice; or St. Anne's Catholic Church, 113 S. Kemp Street in Florence.