



Joe David "Dave" Hale

November 30, 2012

Joe David "Dave" Hale, 75, passed away Friday, Nov. 30, 2012, at the family home at 5-H Ranch near Cape Girardeau. He was surrounded by his wife of 52 years and the rest of his loving family. He was born July 6, 1937, on the family farm in Cape Girardeau County, to Joe Wilson and Hazel Williams Hale. He graduated from College High School. He is survived by his wife Maxine and was the father of Vicki (Todd) Lantz of Cape Girardeau, Pam (Jim) Phillips of Dogwood, Mo., Jim Hale (Karolyn) of Mountain Home, Texas, and John (Elizabeth) Hale of Jackson. In addition, he leaves nine grandchildren: Colt, Tommi, Chance and Caden Lantz; Cody (Cassie) Phillips, Cooper Phillips; Haylee, Waylon and Jolie Hale; and two great-grandchildren, Porter and Roanie Phillips. Also surviving is nephew David Lee Hale; cousins Martha Ann Young, Rob Lamkin, Anne Lamkin Kinder, Jeannie Burkemper and Marcia Edwards; stepgrandchildren Ryan (Carla) Lantz, Jay (Nicole) Phillips, Shawna (Tracy) Rogers; great-stepgrandchildren Corey, Tyler, Rowdy, Camey, Miley and Jhett; and many nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and nephews. He led a full and interesting life as an auctioneer of everything from airplanes to zebras. He was a farm machinery dealer and a breeder of quarter horses, and later exotic animals, which included importing animals from other countries. Dave touched many lives throughout his 75 years here on Earth by sharing his knowledge of exotic animals, his outlook on life and his sense of humor, which he kept until the end. He may not always have played by all the rules, but he made sure he got to play by his. The following are a few of Dave's life

accomplishments and achievements, which made a lasting impression on everyone he came into contact with throughout his life. His auctioneering career began in high school when he sold watches, etc. in downtown Cape. That advanced to machinery auctions with his brother, Bob, which were held all over the United States. Their airplane got them from one auction and state to the next. They started the first airplane auction, which was held monthly, at the Cape Municipal Airport. He also was a partner in the building and operation of the Fruitland Livestock Auction barn. Dave's first love back then was his registered quarter horses. He held a sale of his yearlings every year. After he became involved with exotic animals, an auction was held at 5-H Ranch twice a year with buyers and sellers coming from all over the U.S. and some foreign countries. What started out as a two-day sale advanced to five days (and nights). Lifelong friends and relationships developed from this, which continue today. The 5-H Ranch Drive Thru Animal Park was opened in 1976 with Loretta Lynn at the grand opening. People from all 50 states and several foreign countries attended in the 10 years it was open. Dave was the first recipient. In 1980 of the Cape Girardeau Tourism Ambassador Award. Through the years, petting zoos, camel rides, pony rides and pig races traveled the country playing state fairs and smaller fairs as far reaching as Honolulu. Another feat Dave was most proud of was his eight camel hitch, which he trained and drove. The hitch participated in many state fairs, the Great Circus Parade in Milwaukee for many years, the Orange Bowl Parade in Miami and Christmas parades in Hollywood, Calif., and Palm Springs, Calif. A camel hitch had not been done since Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus back in the 1800s, and has not been done since. He received the President's Choice Award at the Sarasota Circus Festival Parade in 1995. Liberty camel acts, which appeared at various circuses and venues, including Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, was one of his dearest achievements. At the present time, an act made up of spotted camels is in training in Florida. Dave's camels also have been used in commercials and one appeared in the movie "The Scorpion King." At this time of year, camels, donkeys and four-

horn sheep are being used at churches in Maryland, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri and Texas in various Nativity scenes to celebrate Christ's birth. One of Dave's favorite things was to follow his son John's music career and participate in the annual John D. Hale Band Barn Party held yearly at 5-H Ranch. He had no music talent, but participated by giving a lot of free, unsolicited advice. But, his greatest achievements in life were his 52 years of marriage, his children and his grandchildren. The laughter of children filled Dave's heart with so much joy. If there was ever a way he could fulfill the wish of a child, he would give everything plus more to do it. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, Bill and Bob Hale. Also, his "adopted son" J.D. the Super Chimp, and his beloved eight hitch camels -- Pete, Joe, Jack, Charlie, Tom, Jess, Sammy and Louie. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday, December 3, 2012 at Ford & Sons Mount Auburn Chapel. The funeral will be 1 p.m. Tuesday, December 4, 2012 at the chapel with the Rev. Dan Johnson officiating. Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Southeast Hospice or Evangelical United Church of Christ. Pallbearers will be his grandsons: Cody Phillips, Colt Lantz, Cooper Phillips, Chance Lantz, Caden Lantz and Waylon Hale. Honorary pallbearers will be Jim Phillips, Todd Lantz, David Lee Hale, Pat Suzuki, Dr. Bud Huck, Charlie Baldwin, Homer Millikan, Montey Grimes, Ryan Henning, Jay Cagle, Larry Smooth Roose, Matt Gumby Michel and Scotty Wilson.

Tribute Wall

DM

“ I am sorry to hear about your loss, I have great memories of times with Dave and his entire family. I wish you all the best.

Dale McDonough - June 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ So very sorry to hear of Dave's passing. He was a great character & a wonderful guy.

Kim & John Peters - May 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Dave, a friend and comrade. We had some GREAT times over the years. I will miss you.

Bill Rivers - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Maxine and family we are so sorry for your loss. What a legacy he has left for us all. Number 1 his family that he adored. All his accomplishment's with his animal's. And Most of all Daves way! We will miss his smile and so many funny stories. WE were blessed to have known Dave and he will be truly missed. You all are in our thought's and prayer's.

Greg and Lisa Sparkman - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Heaven has a new angel that will be missed down here. I am so sorry for your loss. I am so glad that I had the pleasure of getting to know Dave and enjoy his stories and humor! Our pool parties at Mary's will not be the same without him. The family is in my heart and prayers. Peg

Peg Beach - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Joan & I send our condolences from Baraboo, all the great times in Baraboo, at the Circus Parades, in Cape and partying all over the place. Will always remember those times just sitting around and the "jackpots" all evening and once and a while with a "beverage". To Maxine, Johnny, Jimmy, and Pam & Jimmy - Dave will always be in our hearts and always remembering a great friend. A great friend of the circus.

Ralph & Joan Pierce - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Rest in Peace Grandpa Hale, we will miss seeing you on our annual trip to Missouri.

Ryan & Carla Lantz - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ maxie. I am so sorry for youre loss.Dave was a great guy. May God blessings go with you. my love to you and youre family. janet williams

janet williams - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NK

“ Dear Maxine and Family we send you or deepest condolences at the loss of "Dave" I have many fond memories of times with him at the Great Circus Parade and at the Big E and often recall the time we had when we were involved with building the counter weight for the wagon tounge for the camel hitch I am sure he is beside many of his friends and wish I could be listening to all the stories they are telling Ned Kronber Lot Supervisor Great Circus Parade

Ned Kronberg - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ So very sorry to hear of your loss. I am sure Bobby is up there waiting for Dave to work on a new camel act.

Casey Gibbs - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Me and Melissa send our deepest condolences to the whole Hale family,Dave will be missed by us,and all the other people he touched . we had many great times ,and more fun than anyone should ever have with Dave all those years in Milwaukee,Baraboo,and later with Ringling Bros. Thanks for everything Dave,we will see you down the road!! Randy & Melissa Peterson

Randy&Melissa Peterson - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VE

“ *What can one say about Dave Hale. He was a remarkable man I feel honored to have known him and considered him a friend. He was passionate about what he loved in life. His family, his animals and his farm. He had an incredible sense of humor and could find humor in almost every situation. I know how much his family and friends will miss him. He is now with all his camels driving in heaven. My sympathy to all. Vicci Eaton*

Vicci Eaton - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *My deepest condolences to all of you on Dave's passing. I'll miss the years of friendship and laughter.. Prayers and hugs..*

Barb Romberg - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *My name is John Cook and I am writing this for Bob. Please accept our families condolences during your families loss.. Dad will not be able to attend the funeral. Dad was a good friend of Dave and the Hale family. God Bless.*

Bob Cook Family - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ As a boy in Cape I sometimes visited a friend who had a horse on his grandfather's farm which was near the Hale family farm. We would ride double while pretending we were cowboys. He was in my catechism class at the Evangelical Church as was Maxine Robinson. On one of these days a black pony with a rider all dressed in black and with a black cowboy hat came galloping past. I urged Tom to catch him. He said they were too fast and then added, "that's Joe David Hale." Years later Dave, Maxine, Roselee Newman and I became classmates at College High School and life-long friends. Roselee and I have fond memories.

Donald Wachter - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ It is so hard to express our feelings of loss. Our prayers are with you all. Dave and your family have meant so much to our family and especially my sister Polly's. He had such a wonderful life here with you all and we will never forget him. May he rest in peace! I am so sorry for your loss! I know he taught, loved and cherished you all..
God Bless you! Suzanna

Suzanna Lasee - March 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM