



In Memoriam

Steven “Dudley” Horton

December 13, 1951- November 19, 2024

Dudley Horton, passed away peacefully on November 19, 2024 at the age of 72 years of age. He had briefly been in the care of Brightmoor Hospice Facility in Griffin, Georgia after an extended illness. During his working life Dudley was employed by Bellsouth Communications in the telecommunications industry. His family lived in Smyrna, Georgia for many years, but he and his wife Dani relocated to Senoia, Georgia a few years ago after they both retired. Dudley enjoyed his grandchildren and supported them in their athletic and other sporting endeavors. He was also a devoted Georgia Bulldog fan, and rarely missed watching a game.

Dudley got involved with Epagneul Bretons many years ago, through his long friendship with John W. Barge, whom he had met as a neighbor when they lived in Smyrna, Georgia for many years during their respective working lives. After he retired from Bellsouth, Dudley had looked forward to and enjoyed being active in the outdoors. He enjoyed various forms of hunting and fishing over the years, but he especially enjoyed being involved in hunting and working with his Epagneul Breton (French Brittany) bird dogs. In his later years before his decline in health, Dudley enjoyed spending time at a cabin and surrounding acreage near rural Trotman, Georgia, which friends fondly referred to as Dudleyville Plantation. The Decedent was a long-time member and supporter of CEB-US, and the Epagneul Breton Foundation, Inc. and was an early member of the local Georgia affiliate EB Club known as the Georgia Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club. He frequently volunteered to help orchestrate club events and generously supported club activities. One of Dudley’s favorite annual events was helping to sponsor the annual Georgia EB Club’s President’s Cup Fun Hunt and Social. He had been working to help organize this year’s President’s Cup event, until shortly before his death. He and Brandon Joyner, a son-in-law of late, and other friends he knew and enjoyed traveled across the United States to many CEB-US Annual Conclaves in Arizona, Kansas, Iowa, Georgia, Florida and other states. He was very proud of the fact that both his sons in law Wesley Thomas and the late Brandon Joyner, were involved with the EBs, too. Dudley owned multiple EBs over the years. He and his long-time dog Bob de Peniche “a/k/a “Bob”,

earned a UKC Gun Dog title. Over many years participating in field trials and EB events, Dudley and Bob earned among the most award classifications earned by a single dog and handler in the UKC Pointing Dog Program history to date. He would joke and say that "Ole Bob is not flashy, - but he's steady and usually gets the job done!"

Dudley was fun loving and had a dry sense of humor. His laugh was contagious. He was generous to help out a neighbor, friend, or family member when needed and was a loyal and dedicated friend to all who knew him. He leaves behind many friends and admirers, who will mourn his passing. Dudley was predeceased by his parents and a son-in-law, Brandon Joyner. He is survived by his wife Dani Sue Horton and his daughters Jessie Thomas (husband -Wesley) and Melanie Joyner. He also is survived by granddaughters Zoe Joyner, Finley Joyner, Blakely Thomas and a grandson, Eli Thomas. Dani and the family may receive cards and correspondence at 517 Rowe Road, Senoia, GA 30276.

An informal memorial service and celebration of Dudley's life will be announced in the near future. Although the family requests that no flowers be sent, friends who knew Dudley through the Epagneul Breton Community are invited by the family to make charitable memorial donations to The Epagneul Breton Foundation Inc., Joyce Smith Scholarship Fund at P.O. Box 130, Richland, Georgia 31825. (Dudley was a supporter of the foundation and was very proud of his granddaughter Zoe's recent participation in EB activities.) For those preferring to make other memorial donations, the family requests that they be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to Samaritan's Purse, P. O. Box 3000, Boone, N.C. 28607 (This is an organization dedicated to Hurricane Helene relief efforts).