



## **John "Stooge" Stewart**

**February 28, 1933 - March 2, 2017**

(From Jerryspearsfh.com)

John Stewart, 84, a sports reporter/copy editor with the Columbus Citizen-Journal and Dispatch for 32 of a 44-year career in journalism, finished the final chapter in his life on March 2, 2017.

He was born on February 28, 1933, in Hinton, W.Va., the youngest son of Charles Manley and Daisy Nelson Stewart, who died in 1944 and 1977. He was preceded in death by the devoted love of his life, Karen (March 24, 2009) who provided a breath of fresh air for 27 years of wedded bliss.

After he retired from the newspaper business, John wrote freelance articles for harness racing publications and was the maintenance/supervisor of a swimming pool for 10 years. In addition, to his long running journalism career, he won several writing awards.

Also preceding him in death were sons Dirk and Ted Welch, grandson Travis Welch, four brothers (Charles Jr., Robert, James, William Oliver, five sisters (Daisy Whanger, Helena Williams, Margaret Pollock, Jane McCulty and infant Nan) and sister-in-law Shirley Ciszek, Bay City, MI.

Survived by daughter Debra (Craig) Sothard of Columbus; daughter-in-law Judy Welch of Hilliard; brother-in-law Terry Donaldson, Upper Marlboro, MD; sister-in-law Mary Lou Stewart, Lepsic, OH; grandchildren Dirk Schillinger, Andrea Scott, Christopher Burk, Chad (Jessica) Sothard, Cindi (Steven) Edwards, Craig

“Boomer” (Kelly) Sothard, Timothy, Stephanie, and Wyatt Welch; great-grandchildren Tylar Fultz, Hannah and Mark Scott, Layla Jayne and Steven Russell “Trip” Edwards, Emmah Leeann Sothard, twins Ryleigh Renee and Braxton Scott Sothard, Bennett Austin Welch, Adele Marie Harris, great-great grandson Ryder Lee Fultz. Special friends David Hess, Shirley McCarter. Also surviving are numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Previously worked at Hinton (W.Va.) Daily News; Beckley (W.Va.) Post-Herald and Raleigh Register; Huntington (W.Va.) Herald-Dispatch while attending Marshall University (1960); Wichita Falls (Texas) Times; and Detroit News. Air Force Veteran. Member Concordia Lutheran Church, Moose Lodge #11, VFW 4044, Elks Lodge #821, Grove City YMCA and Columbus Men’s Bowling Association Hall of Fame. Friends may call at Jerry Spears Funeral Home with crematory, 2693 W. Broad St., on March 8th, from 4-7pm with a service to follow.

Family asks that contributions be made to the Central Ohio Heart Assoc.