

James V. Coste

September 28, 1914 – June 3, 1996

(From newspaper clip posted on Ancestry.com)



James V. Coste

COSTE

James V. Coste of Hinton and Lewisburg, died Monday, June 3 at the Brian Center at Low Moor, Virginia.

Mr. Coste was born at Springdale, WV September 28, 1914.

He was a pioneer in the cable television industry, having built one of the first systems in the United States at Hinton in 1953. He was his own engineer, and with his wife Helen owned and operated the Hinton Television Corporation until it was sold in 1988. Mr. Coste served as Secretary of the West Virginia CATV Association and was a member of its Board of Directors. In 1984, he was presented with the Award of Excellence in recognition of his outstanding service to the West Virginia Community Television Association, of which he was a charter member.

Mr. Coste's engineering background dates back to World War II when he was a member of the US Naval Air Corps select group of 100 men known as the LPG. The Installation Prototype Group made the very first installations of radio and radar gear in the Navy's fighter craft, bombers and transports. Coste was assigned to the Air Conditioning Group and taught pilots and service personnel the operation and servicing of the radar gear which they were using. Coste holds a citation from Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal for services rendered during this critical time in our nations history.

Mr. Coste was active in local and civic affairs in Summers County and was one of the original directors of the New River Gorge Corporation who worked to make Pipestem State Park a reality. He was past president of the Summers County Hinton Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, and Summers County Industrial Development Corporation. He served as a member of the West Virginia University Extension

Service for several years and was at the time of his death a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Hinton.

Mr. Coste was instrumental in the formation of the Civil Air Patrol Wing in Lewisburg and was awarded the Commander's Commendation Award in 1985 and 1993. He held the rank of Captain in the local CAP Wing. His life-long dream was to pilot his own airplane, and in 1978, at the age of 64, he graduated from the Sowell Aviation Flight School in Panama City, Florida.

Mr. Coste was the son of the late Larry and Rosa Coste of Santa Nichola, Italy and Hinton. He is survived by his wife, the former Helen Virginia Jones of Hinton and their three children, Lynda Jane Pellegrin of Morgantown, Regina Ann

Konkel of Newport News, VA and James V. Costa, Jr. of Talcott. He is the grandfather of Mrs. Helen Mary Hathaway, of Weyers Cave, VA, Christopher E. Honaker of Morgantown, Larry East Coste of Cincinnati, Ohio and Martin James Coste Konkel of Newport News, VA. He is also survived by sisters, Jeanette Providenti of South Charleston, WV and Yolanda Lanteri of Edge Water, FL.

Friends may call Wednesday from 2 until 4 and 6 until 9PM at the McCraw Funeral Home in Lewisburg. The Holy Rosary will be led by the Rev. Father Stephen Dube at 8PM. The Mass of the Resurrection will be held on Thursday, at 10AM at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Hinton. The Rev. Father David J. Schmitt and Rev. Father Stephen Dube will officiate.

Active pallbearers will be Christopher E. Honaker, Larry E. Coste, Nathan Hathaway, Martin Konkel, James A. Hunter, Sr., William O. Burns, L. Wade Griffith, Glenn D. Musser.

Honorary pallbearers will include the directors of the First National Bank of Hinton and members of the Civil Air Patrol, Lewisburg Wing. Also included as honorary pallbearers are Venus C. Mann, David Meadows, Donald K. Meador, Colonel John W. Gwinn, Colonel Paul White, Richard Leftwich and Norman Loudermilk.

Temporary interment will be at Greenbrier Mausoleum with permanent interment to be in the family crypt at Restwood Memorial Gardens.

McCraw Funeral Home, Lewisburg is in charge of arrangements.