

In Memory of Lee Sullivan

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of our friend and President of the Chatham County Historical Association, Lee Sullivan. Lee contributed to CCHA in many ways over the years—facilitating fundraisers, heavy lifting and hauling, smokehouse deconstruction, arranging speakers, and, not least, convincing his many friends to contribute their own time and skills to the group. He served as vice president from 2013 to 2018 and as president since 2019. Lee's soft-spoken, gentle leadership will be greatly missed.

Lee's obituary:

Erbie Lee Sullivan Jr., 74, of Pittsboro, died Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at WakeMed. Lee was born in Pittsboro's Mathiesen's Clinic on June 28, 1946, the youngest child of Erbie Lee Sullivan Sr. and Ora D. Frizzell Sullivan. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers Billy and Beverly Henry Sullivan.

Lee is well remembered as being active in the community. He was the current president of the Chatham County Historical Association and the Pittsboro High School Alumni Association. He also was past president and member of the Pittsboro Kiwanis Club and a member of the Pittsboro Presbyterian Church. He also volunteered his time with the Salvation Army. He served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969. Lee was the owner of a fence company for 50 years. He is remembered as someone who always helped others, especially those who were in the most need, and standing up to injustices he witnessed.

Lee loved spending time with his grandchildren and was blessed to have them close to him so he could shower them with his love. Lee also loved celebrating and decorating for the holidays, in particular the Fourth of July. For many years, he held an annual Fourth of July celebration at his home called Lee Fest, filled with family and friends, food, and fireworks.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Reba Parker Sullivan; sister, Betty Bullard of Fayetteville; sons, G. Niegel Sullivan of Durham, and Jason Sullivan and wife Jennifer of Pittsboro; grandchildren, Gage Sullivan of Denver, Colorado, and Ella, Matthew, and Abby Sullivan of Pittsboro. A celebration of Lee's life will be held at a later date. Donations in his memory may be made to the Pittsboro Kiwanis Club scholarship fund, P.O. Box 703, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

