



## Bayard Lee Swecker

April 26, 1922 - March 1, 2018

Bayard Lee Swecker, age 95 years, a resident of Harman, passed away Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Davis Medical Center. He was born April 26, 1922 at Valley Head, a son of the late Kent R. and Floda E. Kyle Swecker. On December 23, 1945 at Arlington, VA, he was married to Jean Alta Ambrose who preceded him in death January 21, 1991. He is survived by three daughters, Deborah J. Tranum and husband Tom of Keyser, WV, Brenda Heavner and husband Dick of Mt. Storm and Tammie Daniels of Harman. Seven grandchildren, Tracie McDonald, Jay Heavner, Becky Pelfrey, Josh Ketterman, Jesse McDonald, Savannah Wilkins, Whitney Oliverio and six great grandchildren. He was the last surviving member of his immediate family having been preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Jonas, George and Gary Swecker and three sisters, Winnie Dyche, Lucy Goodman and Bonnie Clatterbuck. Bayard was a Veteran of the United States Army having served during World War II and the Korean War. He retired with thirty five years of service from the Randolph County Board of Education having taught science and vocational agriculture at Harman School. Mr. Swecker served as the Harman FFA Chapter advisor where he and his students received numerous state and national awards. He was a member of the Thomas Fairfax Lodge No. 74 AF & AM, Randolph County Retired Teachers Association, Harman Post 5781 Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion Post 0041 at Keyser. He was a former member of the Elkins Pilots Club, an avid photographer and a member of the Harman Presbyterian Church. Friends may call from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm Monday, March 5th, 2018 at the Tomblyn Funeral Home in Elkins. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM Tuesday, March 6th from the funeral home chapel with Pastor Wes Sebree officiating. Interment will follow in the Valley Head Cemetery at Valley Head. Full Military Honors will be accorded at the gravesite by members of H.W. Daniels Post 29 American Legion, Tygart Valley Post 3647 Veterans of Foreign Wars and West Virginia National Guard Honor Guard Program. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice in memory of Mr. Swecker. The Tomblyn Funeral Home of Elkins is in charge of the arrangements for Bayard Lee Swecker. Condolences may be expressed to the family at <http://www.tomblynfuneralhome.com>.

# Cemetery

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## Valley Head Cemetery

Valley Head, WV,

# Events

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**MAR** **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

**5**

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Tomblyn Funeral Home  
45 Randolph Ave, Elkins, WV, US, 26241

**MAR** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

**6**

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Tomblyn Funeral Home  
45 Randolph Ave, Elkins, WV, US, 26241

# Comments

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“ "Now if you boys would just quit playing grab tail and put your mind to it you could learn a lot in this shop class"  
He helped us all learn so much about life.  
Will never forget.  
Steve Mininger HHS '65

**Steve Mininger** - March 13, 2018 at 08:04 PM

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“ Dear Debbie, Brenda, and Tammie;  
The news of your Dad's death is just making it around the Mininger clan as we are spread all over at this point. But one thing, back in the day, that always brought all eight of us kids together around the supper table was telling stories of what Sweck said in class that day!  
This time of year he would be launching in to his rendition of "Oh Spring, Oh Spring....."

Swecker was a true "Salt of the Earth" person who affected us all in so many positive ways.  
We will always remember.  
Phil Mininger  
Paoli, Indiana

**Phil Mininger** - March 12, 2018 at 10:59 PM

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“ Aoi Ketterman sent a virtual gift in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**aoi ketterman** - March 07, 2018 at 08:20 PM

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“ grandpap was a sweet old man, I know that I will always try to be as generous and kind as he was.



aoi - March 06, 2018 at 09:01 PM

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“ Cindy Bennett Cook sent a virtual gift in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



Cindy Bennett Cook - March 06, 2018 at 02:19 AM

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“ Debbie,  
My condolences to you and your family. Sweck was a terrific teacher. In eighth grade math, he was determined to teach us what we had never learned. He succeeded! In our junior year he was our chemistry teacher. He came back to school one night a week one semester so we could have lab time. He was a dedicated teacher and will be greatly missed by all who knew him, especially his students.  
Wilma Cooper Elliott

Wilma Elliott - March 05, 2018 at 04:39 PM

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“ Thanks to Sweck for recording in photographs the history and life of Harman and the surrounding area. May you, the family, have wisdom in knowing what to do with that. To Sweck I owe my love of science. He made chemistry so relevant and practical as he explained the positive and negative charges of the atom by talking about the attraction between the boys and girls in the hallways of Harman High! Thanks Sweck! Mary Beth (Bucher) Lind

Mary Beth Lind - March 05, 2018 at 12:57 PM



“ Tammy, Brenda, Debbie, Josh and all the family, I was sorry to hear about Sweck. He was the reason I went to Harman School. He came to our house to install a 2-way radio and came back till he talked me into coming to Harman. Melvin had very fond memories of him also and talked about him often. Hold on to all of his pictures as well as all of your memories. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

**Norma Knotts** - March 05, 2018 at 12:08 PM

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“ Rhonda J Cooper lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Rhonda J Cooper** - March 05, 2018 at 09:14 AM



“ Swecker was one of my teacher's in high school, he will be missed a lot. To Tammie and the rest of the family I am so sorry for your loss. The death of your daddy is something that you never get over, but it does get easier with time. I know my daddy has been gone for over 30 years, and there is not one day that goes by that you do not think of them. If you all need anything don't hesitate to ask. I Love you all.

**Rhonda J Cooper** - March 05, 2018 at 09:23 AM

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“ Throughout the 20 years I have known him, he has always been loving, charming, and caring. I have always looked up to him, and I felt he has always looked after me and my daughter. I will continue to look up to him, and I know my daughter and I will always feel he will be looking after us.



**Tomoko** - March 04, 2018 at 08:25 PM



“ sweet message mom

**aoi** - March 06, 2018 at 08:50 PM

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“ We all loved sweck dearly.  
Artie had many wonderful memories of sweck.  
He will be missed.  
Love, Artie Nancy Layla and TJ

**layla** - March 04, 2018 at 06:51 PM

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“ My thoughts and prayers for the family during the death of their father, Mr. Swecker. I am so sorry will not be able to attend the viewing or funeral, due to circumstances being out of town. My mind goes back to 1975 when he photographed the pictures of my most memorable day, Our Wedding. Such a pleasure to have met him and such a very kind man who patiently took care of us on our special day. He will always be remembered. Love to all.

**Colleen Clark** - March 04, 2018 at 04:50 PM

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“ Uncle Bayard was a pillar in his family and in his community. He was a multi talented loving person who inspired young and old by his deeds and words. I am honored to have known him for almost 30 of his 95 years.  
May God bless him on his final journey home and console his family and friends.



**Gerard Frederique** - March 04, 2018 at 03:04 PM

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“ Debbie, Brenda, & Tammie,

With deepest sympathy on the loss of your father. Mr. Swecker sure was a great person and teacher. He helped so many people. He helped me get established at Harman High School. Brenda, I will always remember how you took me biking and was my friend when I stayed at Regina's. He also took our wedding pictures. We all were truly blessed to have known him.

Ruth "Tingler" Flanagan

**Ruth Flanagan** - March 04, 2018 at 03:04 PM

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“ Dearest Debbie, Brenda, and Tammy, I was so sorry to hear of your fathers passing. My thoughts and prayers are with your families. He was a great teacher and worked hard to teach us and prepare us for life.  
Barbara ( McBee) Harman

**Barbara Harman** - March 04, 2018 at 10:04 AM

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“ Paula Mullenax lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Paula Mullenax** - March 03, 2018 at 08:11 PM

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“ David & Betty Meadows lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**David & Betty Meadows** - March 03, 2018 at 02:52 PM

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“ I have so many good memories of Sweck and the entire family! Of course he was my teacher, but he was also a good friend of my Dad, the father of my high school best friend, my Dad's flying partner and one of the rotating parent chauffeurs for Friday night piano lessons in Elkins. However, one of my fondest memories is his participation in the "band" for the Saturday night square dances and school banquets along with my Dad and Aunt. My condolences to his family. He will be greatly missed by many.

Chris (Harman) Curtis

**Chris Curtis** - March 03, 2018 at 12:18 PM

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“ Tylyn "Boo" Burgess lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Tylyn "Boo" Burgess** - March 03, 2018 at 10:30 AM



“ Debbie, Brenda, Tammy and family,  
So sorry for your loss. He touched a lot of students and will long be remembered in the Community of Harman. He was a special family friend to my family. I also attended Harman High and will agree he made going to school fun and exciting for many. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.  
Love Tylyn Huffman Burgess

**Tylyn "Boo" Burgess** - March 03, 2018 at 10:42 AM

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“ Debbie, Brenda, Tammie and Family  
I was so saddened to learn about Sweck. From home room advisor to colleague to a special friend, he had such an influence on my life. Together we accumulated 58 years of memories. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you in your time of loss. May God give you strength and peace.  
Love Joy

**Joy Lou Teter** - March 03, 2018 at 08:53 AM

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“ Judy Harman sent a virtual gift in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Judy Harman** - March 03, 2018 at 08:38 AM

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“ Joe Decker lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Joe Decker** - March 03, 2018 at 08:04 AM

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“ To Sweck's girls. Like many others he was one of my teachers too. ( A long time ago )

So sorry for your loss. May God comfort you and help you through this time of sorrow.

Eddie Conrad Moon

**Eddie Moon** - March 03, 2018 at 05:34 AM

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“ Kathy Ketterman sent a virtual gift in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**kathy ketterman** - March 02, 2018 at 09:34 PM



“ He made going to school fun. All of his sayings and stories. He influenced many many lives.

**kathy ketterman** - March 02, 2018 at 09:36 PM

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“ Penny Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Penny Smith** - March 02, 2018 at 08:18 PM

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“ Jean Sebastian sent a virtual gift in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Jean Sebastian** - March 02, 2018 at 07:33 PM

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“ My sympathy for the loss of a wonderful man



**Shirley Hogan Thomas** - March 02, 2018 at 07:06 PM

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“ Tammy, your dad was a great man. He taught me a lot about photography. Years ago I asked him about one of his cameras, a 500 c hasalblad, and I told him I would love to have one. He would always bring it up when we were together, saying I'll sell you my camera when I am done with it. Great memories of a great gentleman. So sorry for your loss. Joe

**Diana Arbogast** - March 02, 2018 at 06:07 PM

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“ Bruce & Sharon Smith lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Bruce & Sharon Smith** - March 02, 2018 at 05:47 PM

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“ Wilma Jones Rogers lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Wilma Jones Rogers** - March 02, 2018 at 05:03 PM

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“ Ralph Hogan lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Ralph Hogan** - March 02, 2018 at 04:33 PM

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“ Susie Chisholm lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



Susie Chisholm - March 02, 2018 at 04:28 PM

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“ With deepest sympathy, and prayers...I could talk for hours, and not come close telling how many lives Mr. Swecker has touched, and changed. He was the kindest, most considerate man I've had the honor to meet. Greatest teacher I could have ask for. Debbie, Brenda, Tammie, and family you have a great legacy he left behind. Harman Community has lost, and will always remember Mr. Swecker..as my son Greg said "I have lost my HERO. Prayers for The Swecker Family.



Ellen VanDevender White - March 02, 2018 at 03:39 PM

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“ Nolen Swecker lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



Nolen Swecker - March 02, 2018 at 12:58 PM

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“ Keith & Mary White lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Keith & Mary White** - March 02, 2018 at 10:54 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss Debbie and family. I'll always remember Sweck as coming into classroom singing "These Boots Were Made for Walking" He was an awesome teacher and Photographer. We be greatly missed. Rita Williams

**Rita Williams** - March 02, 2018 at 10:20 AM

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“ Kim Johnson lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Kim Johnson** - March 02, 2018 at 10:01 AM



“ Tammie Brenda and Debbie! I am so sorry to learn of Bayards passing. He was a special cousin and Friend; So many good memories. Please accept my sincere condolences. RIP my special cousin and Fly High on that Mountain!

**Nolen Swecker** - March 02, 2018 at 12:54 PM

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“ Sandra Starr Nesbitt lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Sandra Starr Nesbitt** - March 02, 2018 at 09:54 AM

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“ To the family of Sweck, He truly left a legacy behind. I know that his teachings of science and chemistry sure helped mold my career as a nurse. He always made learning fun. I had the privilege of having him as my homeroom teacher. He was there for me even when I lost my father. There are so many things that he taught me that I am still thankful for even today. Praying for his family as they face this difficult time. Remember that God will sustain you and help you face the future without your loved one. Heaven has sure gained a precious soul.



**Stella "Faye" Teter Moyer** - March 02, 2018 at 09:27 AM

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“ Della Wilson Hoese lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Della Wilson Hoese** - March 02, 2018 at 08:39 AM

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“ So sad to hear of Sweck’s passing. Wayne has wonderful memories of him as his teacher and the pranks the kids pulled on him. He was always so nice to me and Wayne and I will miss seeing his smile and his stories. Hugs and prayers to Tammy and all his family. He was loved by all who knew him. Wayne and Patricia Huffman



**Patricia Huffman** - March 01, 2018 at 09:46 PM

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“ Tammy, Brenda, Debbie and Family,  
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Sweck was such a respected teacher and community icon. He will always be remembered for his special teaching style, bright smile, and wit. I know that he will be missed. I am praying for peace for all of you and again, my condolences-Dina (Judy) Carr.



**Dina Carr** - March 01, 2018 at 09:30 PM

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“ Alexandria Hurley lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Alexandria Hurley** - March 01, 2018 at 09:26 PM

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“ Randy Arbogast lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Randy Arbogast** - March 01, 2018 at 09:00 PM

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“ Lonnie Davis lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Lonnie Davis** - March 01, 2018 at 08:10 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of Sweck's passing, Tammie, Brenda, and Debbie. He touched so many lives in Harman and left behind a legacy of which you can be proud.

**Debi Conrad** - March 01, 2018 at 07:49 PM

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“ I never thought of Sweck as Mr. Swecker. I will always remember the first time that I had you in class in my 7th grade year and you were the Science teacher. You asked a question and called someone Daisy Mae. No one answered in our class because we didn't know who he was talking about. At them time we had 44 kids in our class. He asked the question again, standing in front of my desk, again I didn't answer. He hit my desk saying Daisy Mae I am talking to you, I said why are you calling me Daisy Mae, my name is Paula. His reply was I called your mother Daisy Mae. He told me later that he thought mom had told me he called her that.. Might not sound like much to anyone else but to a new comer from Whitmer it was a big deal. Everyone loved Sweck and he left his teaching skills in our heads forever. My thought & prayers to out to all of his family.



**Delbert & Paula Teter** - March 01, 2018 at 07:09 PM

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“ Mr Swecker you was one of the best teachers at dear HHS. You will be missed. Even though you wanted to know which one of us put our cigarettes out in your coffee Shop class. None of us smoked. You might have threw water at us. You had our respect. You told me once senior year I should take wielding instead of leaving. You said I would regret it one day. I do till this day. You gave us good advice. Tammy Debbie Brenda sending heart felt condolence. There was only one you. Rip and Thanks for everything. Anna Ruth Hedrick Wynn.

**annie wynn** - March 01, 2018 at 07:06 PM

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“ Joyce White lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Joyce White** - March 01, 2018 at 06:57 PM



“ Have a lot of great n wonderful fond memories of Mr. Swecker. Just saw him not over a month ago. It was great to see n talk to him again. He was a funny, but a sincere teacher at H.H.S. So sorry about your loss. Pray God give y all the strength,courage to carry on n be there for each other. Love,hugs n prayers. Go Rest High On The Mountain Mr. Swecker.

**Joyce White** - March 01, 2018 at 07:04 PM

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“ "Mr Swecker you will be missed" I dearly remember my time spent at your house and the times you took Brenda an I flying because you had to baby sit. How many kids can say that You are loved respected and cherished. I pray that God gives Debbie, Brenda an Tammy strength an holds them in his arms during this sad time.



**Betty Hubbard** - March 01, 2018 at 06:52 PM

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“ Sheryl Harper Grant lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Sheryl Harper Grant** - March 01, 2018 at 06:39 PM

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“ One of the finest men and teacher to ever come down the line, prayers to the family.

**Larry Nelson** - March 01, 2018 at 06:37 PM

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“ So many memories.....Science class....Vo-Ag....FFA....FFA conventions....FFA Leadership Camps....2 trips to Kansas City....tall tales....long talks....HE WAS LOVED! I'm here for all of you....just a phone call away. Love you. Prayers for you all.  
Pam Pennington

**Pam Pennington** - March 01, 2018 at 06:31 PM

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“ Paul And Denise Vance lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Paul and Denise Vance** - March 01, 2018 at 06:27 PM

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“ Sorry for your loss. He was an amazing man..



**Andrea Adamson** - March 01, 2018 at 06:20 PM

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“ So sorry Tammie and family,he was one of a kind ,will sure miss him.prayers and hugs,I'm here for you anytime you need to talk.



**Linda,Tony and Kyle** - March 01, 2018 at 06:04 PM

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“ Penny Varner Carr lit a candle in memory of Bayard Lee Swecker



**Penny Varner Carr** - March 01, 2018 at 05:37 PM