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6135 Winchester Road
 Irvine, Kentucky 40336-8517
 Phone (606) 723-5012, Fax (606) 723-2743
 Email: <news@estilltribune.com>

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 Tracy Randall Patrick
 Delores L. Rowland, Editor

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OMAHA WORLD HERALD
 KOERBA



Maudie's Naughties



Hunting Trip

Bubba takes Junior and Howard down to Caney Branch to do some rabbit hunting. They stop at the farm of a man Bubba knows and he gets out to ask permission to hunt. "That will be fine," says the farmer, "But, I need you to do something for me. My old mule standing down at the barn is 20 years old and sick with cancer, but I don't have the heart to kill her."

Bubba replies, "Sure," and heads back to the truck. While walking back, however, he decides to pull a trick on the boys. He drives down next to the barn, gets out and tells the boys, "That old cuss told me we couldn't hunt, so I'm going to teach him a lesson." Bubba cuts loose with his shotgun on the old mule.

But more shots start ringing out in all directions. "I got the cow!" says Junior.

"And I got all of his chickens," adds Howard.

Inheritance

Ma and Pa decide they're getting on in the years so they call Junior and Bubba in to talk about their will. "We've decided to leave the entire farm to Bubba," they tell them.

"See there," says Bubba, turning to Junior. "I told you that you were their favorite."

Stranded In The Snow

A man from the city gets stranded up Needmore after the big snowfall and goes to Pa's house to ask for a place to spend the night.

"That's fine," says Pa. But I ain't got no daughter for you to sleep with like you always hear in them jokes."

"Oh!" says the city guy after thinking it over, "Just how far is it to the next house?"

"I Cannot Tell A Lie"

Howard Green and Junior are pranking around and push over the old outhouse behind the barn. They take off running to the woods and after hanging around a couple of hours come back to the house where they are met by Pa.

"Did you boys push over the old outhouse," asks Pa. "Yes, we did," replies Junior. "George Washington chopped down the cherry tree and his dad forgave him because he told the truth."

"That's true," says Pa. "But George's dad wasn't in the cherry tree when he chopped it down."

Proper Training

Farmer Green is down at the arena for a tractor show and uses the bathroom alongside two other men. One man finishes and washes his hands clear up to his elbows and uses about 20 paper towels to dry. "I'm from the East," he says, "They taught us how to be sanitary!"

The second man quickly wets the tips of his fingers, grabs a single paper towel and says, "I'm from the West, they taught us how to be environmentally conscious."

Green finishes his business and as he walks straight out the door, he says, "I'm from Needmore. They taught us how not to pee on our hands."

Hitchhiker Cow

Pa is driving his old pickup up Needmore when he sees a hitchhiker with a cow. Pa stops and the hitchhiker says, "Will you give me a ride up the holler."

"Sure," replies Pa. "But, you'll have to leave the cow here!" "No, sir," the hitchhiker replies. "I'll just show her to the back bumper. I promise she will not slow you down."

Up the holler they go with the old cow just behind. She seems to be doing very well, so Pa kicks in the old pickup. The cow stays right with him, so Pa kicks in the old pickup again and again. Finally, Pa decides the cow is a little winded, so he tells the hitchhiker, "Maybe we'd better slow down, she's got her tongue hanging out!"

The hitchhiker asks, "Is her tongue hanging out to the right or to the left?"

"To the left," Pa replies.

"Well, you'd better pull over, she's trying to pass you."

No Bull!

Two cows are at a feed barrier, happily munching total market ration. One of the cows turns to the other and says "I was artificially inseminated this morning."

The other cows says "No, I don't believe you."

The first replies "Yep, honest, no bull."

Chute Won't Open

Pa is walking one Sunday when he sees a parachutist jump out of a plane over Buffalo Point. The parachute doesn't open up right and the man drops straight down where he luckily gets caught in a tree. Pa runs over to the man and says, "What happened?"

"My chute wouldn't open," the man replies.

"That's understandable," says Pa. "Nothing opens here on Sunday."

Special to The Estill County Tribune

Retired NASA Manager Recalls Tragedy



Hugh H. "Hamp" Wilson

I toured the nation as part of a team to explain that new regulation. Also, my duties at NASA Headquarters required me to brief foreign embassy personnel on NASA's procurement policies and explain how they could participate in our procurements. As a result of those briefings, my wife and I were often guests at receptions at several Embassies.

Moving from Headquarters to Marshall Space Flight Center in 1985, I served as the Director of Procurement until I retired in 1988. During that time frame, I led the team that negotiated the contractual settlement resulting from the Challenger accident.

Approximately six months after arriving at Marshall, I was in my office being interviewed by a GAO auditor and had just told him of my concerns about some of their prior findings, when my wife called to inform me of the Challenger accident. That was most unusual because my wife hardly ever called me at the office. Immediately after that call I turned on my desk radio to hear the news, after which

the auditor offered to terminate the interview, and I agreed, but reminded him of my prior comments and concerns.

For the next three years, I was totally immersed in completing that project and started the process by issuing a "Stop Work Order" to Morton Thiokol, the manufacturer of the Shuttle Main engines after it was determined that those engines were the cause of the accident. At the same time contractors and movies in the Huntsville area called to offer their support including the use of their equipment to view the pictures of the accident.

I spent the next three years leading the team that negotiated the settlement agreement for that accident which resulted in Thiokol accepting a \$10 million reduction in profit/fee under the contract and to perform approximately \$409 million of work required to fix the problem and to replace the motor hardware lost in the Challenger accident.

As tragic as losing the Challenger was, it still brought about the ability of the NASA team to show that fellow Americans could again resolve problems and literally "rise above!"

Hugh H. "Hamp" Wilson, son of the late Hugh and Ruby Wilson, is a graduate of Irvine High School where he played basketball for the Irvine Golden Eagles. He was honored with induction into Estill County's Hall of Fame in 2005. He now lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with his wife, the former Peggy Park.

Hamp is a retired Senior NASA Manager, industry consultant and trainer. He holds an undergraduate degree from Rollins College and a Master's degree from the Florida Institute of Technology, where he was a former instructor in their graduate program. As a result of his Challenger settlement effort, he was awarded NASA's Medal for Outstanding Leadership, one of its highest awards.

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