



TOWN OF MOUNT JACKSON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE :
Monday, December 11th, 2023

MOUNT JACKSON, VIRGINIA – It is with deep sadness and heavy hearts that the Town of Mount Jackson announces the passing of Town Manager Neil Showalter. Town Manager Showalter passed away peacefully in his Shenandoah County home with his wife, Lorie, and beloved pup, Tupac. He was 66.

Neil, a proud JMU Duke, began his journey with Mount Jackson on November 1st, 2009, as its Director of Finance, before being promoted to Town Manager in 2019. As a dedicated public servant, he personified diplomacy, empathy, and adaptability. He was passionate about improving infrastructure and beautification for the Town of Mount Jackson and making life better for his team and for the community. He had a keen eye for numbers and equally valued the relationships he developed during his tenure.

We are thankful for Neil's leadership over the years, his guidance and wisdom, and we will remember him for his infectious personality and love of life. He will be greatly missed by the Town of Mount Jackson staff.

"I am so saddened by the loss of our Town Manager, Neil Showalter. I lost my friend, and the town lost a great town manager. Neil went out of his way to guide me in decision making, always being so kind and helpful. He was the most thorough person I know. He has left a lasting impression on everyone that had the privilege of working with him and knowing him. He will be deeply missed. Thank you for everything, Neil." – Mayor Donnie Pifer

The Town staff will continue to work diligently to navigate this loss while not sacrificing service to the community. Assistant Town Manager, Olivia Hilton, joined the team in August of 2023 to transition into Mr. Showalter's role following his upcoming retirement. He helped to hand select Ms. Hilton as his successor.

Mount Jackson Mayor Donnie Pifer has ordered town flags to be flown at half-staff until further notice in memory of Town Manager Showalter.

All are welcome to join us for a celebration of life for Neil on Wednesday, December 20th at the Mount Jackson Town Office (5901 Main) from 5:00-7:00PM.

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