



# Arvid Myklebust

April 10, 2024

Arvid Myklebust, father, husband, brother, friend, farmer, and scholar of Blacksburg and Craig County, Virginia, originally from Uskedal, Norway, entered God's eternal glory on the afternoon of April 10, 2024.

Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering and inductee in the First Class of Virginia Tech's Faculty Entrepreneur Hall of Fame, Arvid, was also the 2018 Outstanding Alumnus in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from the University of Florida.

Arvid co-founded a NASA Institute and three successful technology companies. He published over 70 technical papers, directed over 50 Masters and Ph.D. students, and was a frequent speaker on Computer-Aided Design.

Arvid, a Son of Norway, a lover of life, and a student of the arts was also a long-time practitioner of Raja Yoga and read Eastern and Western Philosophy and Theology.

Most importantly, Arvid was the husband of Joan Ferrari Myklebust, nee Ferrari. Together they shared five children including Torolf Myklebust, June Myklebust, Michael Lee Johnson, Amy Marie (Bradley) Brittain, and Sandra Claire (Adam) Sowder. Surviving grandchildren are SØlve, Brian, Noah, Jack, Cody, Ean, Samantha, Teddy, and Henry. He is also survived by his sister,

Gunn Loyd, and brother, Roy Myklebust.

Family and Friends are invited to gather at McCoy Funeral Home on April 14, 2024, at 1:00 PM for visitation and 2:00 PM for a celebration of life officiated by the Rev. Dr. J. Adam Sowder and Minister Dwayne Wenthe. Internment will follow at Chestnut Grove Church Cemetery in New Castle, Virginia.

# Cemetery Details

## Huffman Memorial Park

Cumberland Gap Road  
New Castle, VA 24127

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 14. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home  
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
(540) 552-3211  
mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net  
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

## Celebration of Life

APR 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home Chapel  
150 Country Club Dr S.W.  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

# Tribute Wall

MA

“ Arvid was a friend. We knew each other for many years and got together from time to time to talk about engineering (I have a VT ME degree), airplanes, health, and Norway (which I had a chance to visit a few years ago). I didn't learn of his passing until after the memorial gathering, which I'm sorry to have missed. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him; it will be for me.



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**Michael Abraham** - April 19, 2024 at 09:05 AM

JB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Jan Helge Bøhn** - April 15, 2024 at 03:47 PM

JB

“ Arvid has had a big impact on my life. In late-September 1992, at a dinner in Rensselaerville, New York, we went around the table introducing ourselves, and after I had done so, he burst out: “I’ve heard of you, and I have a job for you!” And so, I switched major and became a faculty member in mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech. I still have that job all these years later, still using his office furniture that I inherited after his retirement. Arvid was and remains my mentor, role model, friend, and fellow charter member of the local Sons of Norway chapter in Salem, Virginia. We are both Norwegians that emigrated to the USA and ended up in Blacksburg. And, yes, it is true, the first time I ever had lutefisk was with Arvid and Joan in their home in Blacksburg. Not surprisingly, it was delicious, given what a great and serious chef Arvid was, especially when it came to Norwegian food and his own grass-fed beef. I still follow Arvid’s advice to healthy living, including taking my daily dosage of vitamin C. His memories surround me every day, and he will always be with me in my thoughts. Thank you, Arvid!

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Jan Helge Bøhn - April 15, 2024 at 03:37 PM

SW

“ I was glad I could make it to the services and graveside yesterday. It was very moving and fitting for Arvid. He was one of those individuals that was a force for good. As was said yesterday he held himself to high standards and expected everyone to do the same. There was a book that captured my first meeting (first of many) & the book was something like "An Anthropologist sits among Engineers" which was the start of our work together over the next 30 years. That was about the NASA ACSYNT Institute which spun off the Phoenix & AVID LLCs. Some of my best work was done with Arvid. I regret not coming to visit him in the last year.

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Sam Wilson - April 15, 2024 at 10:33 AM

JA

“ Juan A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arvid Myklebust.

Juan A. - April 13, 2024 at 10:07 PM

ME

“ We remember a good neighbor and interesting conversationalist who understood and liked to sharing farming stories with those of us who came from farms (or who married someone with a farming background).  
Marion & Roger Ehrich

Marion Ehrich - April 13, 2024 at 04:25 PM

LL

“ A great mind,  
a kind heart,  
and a wonderful sense of humor.  
He will be missed.

laura loyd - April 13, 2024 at 03:47 PM

RS

“ Prayers for all of his Family, especially Joan!  
Arvid was such a good friend and especially a great neighbor for many years.  
Definitely a very smart man.  
He was always a great support for Simmonsville Volunteer Fire Department, always wanted to make sure he would get his chicken bar-b-q tickets from Jack Lipes or myself and other members.  
He was so supportive of me when I bought my '91 Ford F-250 from him, he wanted to make sure it was used on the farm and not turned into some sport vehicle.  
Rest in Peace my Dear Friend.

Richard Smith - April 13, 2024 at 02:49 PM

AA

“ Andres A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arvid Myklebust.

Andres A. - April 13, 2024 at 02:16 PM

BF

“ When I worked in Craig County Circuit Court, Mr Myklebust came in several times to do searches of his property. He was so kind and so smart. He was a blessing to a hectic day.

Becky Francisco - April 13, 2024 at 11:35 AM

KL

“ Gracious Uncle Arvid and Aunt Joan who invited a very nervous young man to the family farm to meet my parents. Your warm hospitable nature helped water the seeds for the family to grow. Favorite memory, a sunset swim in Palm Beach enjoying your knowledge and appreciation of the finer things in life. You were many things to many people thank you for being such a loving brother to my mom.



KRISTINE LOYD - April 13, 2024 at 09:51 AM

RM

“ My fondest memory of my brother, Arvid, is when he and I went to the drive-in in his 1934 Ford model B hot-rod and watched James Bond in Dr. No.

*I was 11 at the time and it was the coolest thing!*

Roy Myklebust - April 13, 2024 at 04:44 AM

AG

“ Angie Guthrie-Ponton purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Arvid Myklebust.



Angie Guthrie-Ponton - April 12, 2024 at 08:07 PM

AG

“ Angie Guthrie-Ponton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arvid Myklebust.

Angie Guthrie-Ponton - April 12, 2024 at 08:07 PM

LF

“ Everyone had a great time at Arvid’s huge party at the farm in 2012.



Lloyd Family - April 12, 2024 at 04:55 PM

LL

“ Love, Ken, Laura, Karina & Isabelle Loyd purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Arvid Myklebust.



Love, Ken, Laura, Karina & Isabelle Loyd - April 12, 2024 at 03:40 PM

JA

“ Jose A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arvid Myklebust.

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**Jose A.** - April 12, 2024 at 02:47 PM

GL

“ Gunn L. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arvid Myklebust.

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**Gunn L.** - April 12, 2024 at 01:29 PM

PP

“ Phyllis P. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arvid Myklebust.

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**Phyllis P.** - April 12, 2024 at 12:39 PM