OUR FRIEND, SEWALL TYLER

1936-2018

by John Leydon

On March 9th, we lost our friend Sewall Tyler who died from complications of a stroke suffered late in February. A family friend, who knew Sewall's days were numbered, hand-built a coffin he thought Sewall might like and his son, Thomas, and some friends loaded it - with Sewall inside into the bed of his beloved 1930 'A' Pickup for one last ride around his Middleburg farm.

Sewall would have loved it! and so, fittingly, closed the chapter on a man who may well have been one of the longest continuous 'A'-owners in the George



Washington Chapter of MAFCA/MARC having owned and driven Model 'A's all his life from his teen years on. Sometimes I think Sewall was *born* in a Model 'A'.



We all knew Sewall as that devoted member who never let his deafness deflect for a moment his enthusiasm for our hobby and the many enjoyments our little club had to offer picnics, meetings, Sully Plantation Shows, winery tours, *et al*, and we will miss him. But I wonder if other members knew how versatile Sewall was in other aspects of his life his academic and athletic accomplishments at the Hill School and Episcopal in Alexandria, his Captaincy of

the Soccer team there before enrollment at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (yep, that's Sewall - #63! one of three sports, including baseball and football, in which he lettered) and his BA degree from Bridgewater before starting his professional career with Purina and Southern States. (His son, Ken, flags Sewall as an unwavering "life-long and long-suffering Redskins fan"!). As Model 'A' enthusiasts, we knew of Sewall's woodworking from the beautiful tool boxes and shift knobs we bought from him (and received as presents from him) over the years, but the range of crafts Sewall - as a master woodworker - could and did produce were not only exquisite but prolific. Lucky you, if you ended up with one when you had the chance.

Yes, space in *The Scrip* is limited, but it would be remiss to close without mentioning Sewall's willingness anytime, anywhere to come to the rescue of any of us needing a hand with our buggies There's many an 'A' still on the road because Sewall took the time to come over and get it up and running. Thanks, Sewall.

To his wife, Nancy, his sons Ken, Richard and Thomas ... and his grandkids: Jordan, Logan and JT, the Club extends its kind wishes, sympathy and fond memories.

