

Eric:

Dad was the third oldest in a family of 10-8 boys and 2 girls. He was raised very poor. His Dad was a pipe smoker as were most of his brothers. He ran across a Dunhill in the '50's and he was hooked. He started buying every one he could find. He was working at Commerce Union Bank in Nashville when he met Mom. For someone with an 8th grade education he did well. He enjoyed working for himself. His first business was a Datsun dealership; the first in Tennessee. He eventually sold the business and opened up an independent insurance agency. He eventually sold this also and opened 310 Pipe and Tobacco in 1975 right off the square in Murfreesboro. He had 3 sons and Winston Churchill was his idol. He lived at Number 10 Downing Street in London, hence the name of 310. He bought and sold pipes, mixed his own blend of tobaccos and continued to buy Dunhill pipes. At one point he had over 800 pipes, but at the height of his collecting I remember about 550 Dunhills. He was 100% convinced that Dunhill was the best pipe made. He eventually retired and sold the shop. He continued to "wheel and deal" out of the house where Mom still lives. He sold many pipes out of the house after he retired. He and Mom went to London courtesy of Dunhill and got to meet Richard Dunhill. He was an exceptional man. He taught Sunday School for 27 years, made furniture, was a good guitar player, was an avid gardener and was a 33rd degree Mason and past master of the Masonic Lodge close to where he grew up. He enjoyed poetry and was a fan of American poets. He loved crossword puzzles and was a superb checker player. He also survived 2 heart attacks. He ended up selling the remainder of his pipes to Uptown Smoke Shop in Nashville when his health was in decline. His nickname was "Mr. Dunhill". He did much to promote the Dunhill brand in America. He had many close friends (you included) with whom he kept up with over the years. One of his favorite Dunhill shapes was a 792-he described it as a large LB bowl with an oval shank. I have a Bruyere 792 that was his. Dad died in 2009 at the age of 86-a long and fruitful life to be sure.

ALL THE BEST,

CRAIG