John Anthony Angotti

John was born at Shinnston, Harrison Co, WV, on 29 Mar 1919. He was the son of Antonio Angotti and Rosaria Tarantino. He had four siblings.

John graduated from Shinnston High School. He attended and graduated from West Virginia University School of Pharmacy with honors. He put himself through WVU through a work-study program, cleaning cages of the animals at the Science department. John played men's basketball on the WVU traveling team. He was enrolled in the Army ROTC program and entered the Army Air Corps on 1940 as an officer. He achieved the rank of Colonel and was stationed in England in the 390th Bomb Group. He was awarded a Presidential award for his role in the bombing raid at Schweinfurt Germany, ball bearing factory in 1943.

Exiting the military, he took a pharmacist job in Charleston, WV. There he met Dr. J.W. Stokes, who talked him into moving to Hinton. He worked at the Big 4 drug store for Dr. Stokes, who co-owned the pharmacy with Drs. Ritter and Vansant. In 1964, he purchased the pharmacy and the building from Ritter Vansant Realty. He expanded the size of the pharmacy and added a soda and ice cream bar. The bar was a favorite of customers even to today, offering ice cream sundaes, fountain drinks and various treats. Many nights, he would leave his bed to go to his drug store to prepare an emergency prescription to help a citizen in need.

He married Wilma Grace Johnson at St Patrick's Church, Hinton, Summers Co, WV, on 10 Jan 1962. They had two children, Mary Jane Angotti and John Anthony Angotti, Jr.

He was the pharmacist for Camp Lightfoot, a summer camp on the Greenbrier River, built by Eastern Coal Company for coal miner's kids. He assisted Dr. Stokes in attending to the kids' medical needs. John was a sponsor of various kids' baseball, football, and basketball teams throughout his life in Hinton. He was instrumental in helping the Hinton High School sports teams with sponsorship funding. He will be long remembered as being one of the most influential community leaders of all time.

John Anthony Angotti died on 25 Mar 1989 at Fairlea hospital, Fairlea, Greenbrier Co, WV, at age 69. He was buried on 27 Mar 1989 at Fox Cemetery, Brooks, Summers Co, WV.

John Anthony Angotti We Salute You!

