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Moores remembered fondly

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UNION – As officials investigate how Warren and Madge Moore died, friends of the couple want people to remember how they lived.

“I don’t want people to know his name because of the way that he died, I want people to know who is because of the way that he lived,” said Mayor Don Kirby.

The Moores were found shot to death in their Indian Hill Road home Friday night.

Their 39-year-old son, Michael, was also shot and is recovering from his injuries. Police have not named any suspects in the homicides.

Warren, 66, and Madge Moore, 65, were high school sweethearts at Hume-Fogg Technical & Vocational High School in Nashville, Tenn.

On his Web site, Warren Moore called his wife “the love of my life,” and he still carried her high school yearbook photo in his wallet.

Union City Clerk Kathy Porter, who worked with Warren Moore for 14 years, said he and his wife were still very much in love with each other after 45 years of marriage.

She said they were always laughing, and Moore always told his wife and sons that he loved them before he got off the phone with them.

“I want people to know how much he loved his family,” Porter said. “He was a family man, so close to his sons and his granddaughters.”

He always bragged about his sons, she said. Warren S. Moore III, 43, is an associate professor of English at Newberry College in South Carolina.

Michael Moore is a former Williamsburg, Ohio police officer and former Warren County sheriff’s deputy. He was fired in March 2004 after being charged with, and later convicted of, drug-related activities.

Madge Moore was outgoing, Porter said, and “funny – just very easy to talk to.” Warren Moore took care of his wife as she suffered from multiple sclerosis and diabetes in recent years, friends and neighbors said.

“They were very loving, very caring. They would help anybody,” said Gail Goebel of Florence, who lived next door to them for 10 years.

The Moores also doted on their granddaughters, 13-year-old Rebecca and 12-year-old Emily. On his Web site, Warren Moore called them “two of the reasons I live.”

He was an avid supporter of U.S. troops, having grown up as a self-described “Army brat.” His father, a career officer, served in WWII and the Korean War, according to his Web site. Moore served in the U.S. Air Force.

Born in Greenwood, S.C., Warren Moore considered Nashville his hometown and planned to be buried there, Porter said.

He was retired from a 40-year-career in information technology, but he had dabbled in a variety of things. He rebuilt boats, was a painter with degrees in fine arts and English literature, was an avid hiker, camper and competitive swimmer and always aspired to be a writer.

He served the city of Union for 27 years, including four terms as mayor. He had been the city administrator for three years before his death.

“For the longest time, Warren Moore was synonymous with Union city government,” said Kirby, who succeeded him as mayor in 2003. “He was the face of our city for a long, long time. His friendly, down-home attitude is something that I think we still have a sense of here.”

He tried to keep politics out of city government, a tradition that has persisted in Union. He was also a key figure in the 2000 Union Town Plan, a plan for long-term city growth.

When the state widened U.S. 42, Moore knew it would open the city up to development like never before.

“He had the foresight to say, ‘Let’s do it the right way,’” Kirby said. “That’s going to be a huge legacy of his that we’re really not going to see for another 10 or 20 years.”

City officials are working on plans to honor Moore in a long-term way.

“Warren loved the Union community,” Porter said. “It was like his second family.”
Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.
