



## Joe Daniel Elkins

January 16, 1947 - July 28, 2025

Joe Daniel Elkins, of Morrow, Georgia, met his Savior, Jesus Christ, on Monday, July 28, 2025. He lived a long and meaningful life, marked by quiet accomplishments, unwavering service, and a steadfast faith. His wife and family now look forward with hope to their reunion in heaven.

Born in the hills of eastern Tennessee, Joe's walk with faith began during his high school years at Hapeville, where he was born again in Christ at the age of 17. A frequent visitor to the original Dwarf House, he once offered Mr. Truett Cathy critical feedback on a fried chicken sandwich that would one day become a staple of American fast food.

He attended Georgia State University briefly on a tennis and cross-country scholarship, but left college to volunteer for the U.S. Army. Joe served with distinction in Vietnam, completing two tours as a signal corpsman and supply sergeant. During those years, his world broadened. He traveled to Thailand, Tokyo, and Australia. And like his father before him, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service.

After returning home, Joe settled in Morrow, Georgia, where he bought a home and remained for the rest of his life. He dedicated his professional career to public service, retiring as Deputy Director of Water and Sewer for DeKalb County. But his ministry went beyond infrastructure. For a time, he

self-produced an AM radio program called The Old Rugged Cross and ministered to prisoners through visitations and sermons, offering hope to those the world had forgotten.

In 1995, Joe was part of a World Team Tennis team that claimed the world championship. He also loved to fish—with light rods and lighter line—favoring the challenge and patience it demanded. Saturdays in autumn were his favorite time of year. He would wander the southern Appalachian Mountains with his wife in search of colorful leaves, while always finding a way to listen to Georgia Bulldog football. His favorite ball caps simply said “Jesus,” and he wore them often—he had dozens.

A man of hearty appetite and humble tastes, his favorite meal was pinto beans, fried potatoes, and cornbread—simple Southern fare, made sacred by tradition.

Joe Elkins leaves behind a legacy of faith, family, and service. He is survived by his wife, son, three step-children, numerous grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, extended family members, and cherished friends who will remember him with love and gratitude.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, July 31, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Ford-Stewart Funeral Home. A funeral service will follow on Friday at 11:00 AM in the Ford-Stewart Funeral Home Chapel. Joe will be buried at Sherwood Memorial Park immediately following the service.

# Cemetery Details

## Sherwood Memorial Park and Mausoleum

6841 Tara Blvd  
Jonesboro, GA 30236

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUL 31.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ford Stewart Funeral Home Inc.  
2047 Highway 138 S.E.  
Jonesboro, GA 30236  
(770) 210-2700  
fordstewartfh@aol.com  
<https://www.fordstewartfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

**AUG 1.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Ford Stewart Funeral Home Inc.  
2047 Highway 138 S.E.  
Jonesboro, GA 30236  
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# Tribute Wall



“ A man after the heart of the LORD Jesus and a servant to all that came across his path. As a neighbor, his cars, his mailbox and his yard spoke of his Love for his Savior. He made it plain who he served - The LORD JESUS CHRIST. See you on the other side my friend. Rest in peace. You fought a good fight and now is laid up for you a crown in glory.

Robert and Alice Wilson - August 01, 2025 at 01:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joe Daniel Elkins.

July 31, 2025 at 11:39 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joe Daniel Elkins.



July 31, 2025 at 11:39 AM