



Ralph L. Eckerson Jr

August 19, 1939 - January 7, 2024

Mr. Ralph Lucas Eckerson, 84, a long-time resident of Jonesboro, GA, passed away on January 7, 2024 in Tuscaloosa, AL. He was born in West Groton, MA, on August 19, 1939, graduated from Groton High School in 1957, served in the U.S. Navy and then worked in technology for the Department of the Army, majority of the time he worked at Fort McPherson until he retired in 1994.

Ralph devoted his life to his family, and was a wonderful husband, father, granddaddy, great-granddaddy, brother, uncle and friend. He was an avid reader, loved watching westerns and Hallmark movies, cherishing time with family – especially his adored great-grandkids Throughout his retirement he found joy in wood-working, tending to a well- manicured lawn, visiting the homebound and shut-ins from his church, loved cutting up with his dear friends and “breakfast buddies” from Jonesboro, and enjoying an occasional nice dip in the pool. Whether sharing tales of the “good ole’ days” growing up in New England or recounting the best banana split from Kimball’s Farm, Ralph’s generosity knew no bounds. He was always more concerned about the welfare of others rather than himself. He retained his kindness and silly sense of humor to the end.

He is survived by his children: Veronica Adams (Greg Hartsell) of Macon, GA, Lucas (Cindy) Eckerson of Griffin, GA, Denise (Rick) Griffin of Tuscaloosa, AL,

and Dana (Marla) Shepard of Manhattan, KS; 10 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren (2 on the way), several nieces, nephews and extended family. He was predeceased by his wife, Carol Stone Eckerson; father, Ralph Eckerson Sr.; mother, Louise B. Eckerson; sisters, Carol May Bywater and Nancy Lee Carlson.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11 AM on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, in the Chapel of First Baptist Church of Jonesboro. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the Church. Dr. Lanny Loe will officiate. Interment will follow the service at Sherwood Memorial Park. Flowers accepted or those who wish may make a donation to the Missions Fund, care of First Baptist Church Jonesboro, PO Box 773, Jonesboro, GA 30237.

Cemetery Details

Sherwood Memorial Park and Mausoleum

6841 Tara Blvd
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church
147 Church St
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Funeral Service

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church
147 Church St
Jonesboro, GA 30236

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *My deepest sympathy is extended to Ralph's family. I'm sharing in your sadness as you remember the wonderful man he was and all the lives he touched. He was my mother's nephew (Jean), a good friend to me, and beloved by many.*



Melissa Ann Sassano - January 14, 2024 at 03:31 PM

NM

“ *Ralph was one of my dearest friends and I will miss being able to talk to him. He was a friend to all my family for about 60 years. After my husband died, Ralph was always there to support me in any way possible, including blowing leaves.
Love to all of you family,
Nancy Vickery Morgan*

Nancy Vickery Morgan - January 11, 2024 at 05:32 PM

JS

“ *Joanna S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph L. Eckerson Jr.*

Joanna S. - January 10, 2024 at 06:37 PM

CH

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the family of a true friend and beloved brother in Christ. Be comforted by memories of a life well lived, challenged by a legacy of faithful service.*

CharlesCunningham - January 10, 2024 at 01:32 PM

RS

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Ralph was a man to be admired and will be missed.

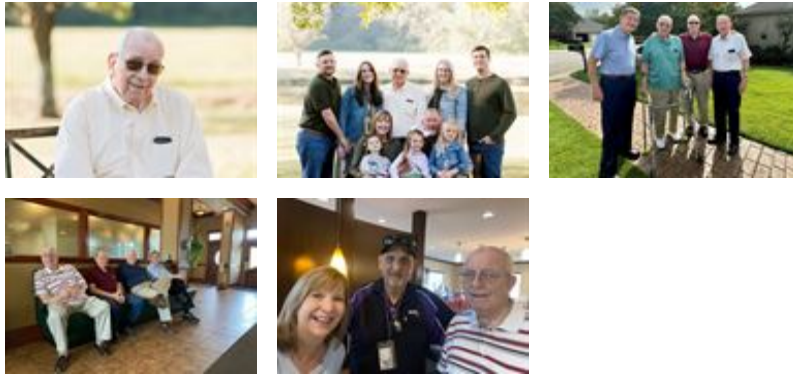
Condolences,

Ron, Natalie, & Alec Sapp

Ron Sapp - January 10, 2024 at 07:54 AM



“ 36 files added to the album LifeTributes



Ford Stewart Funeral Home - January 09, 2024 at 06:50 PM

KP

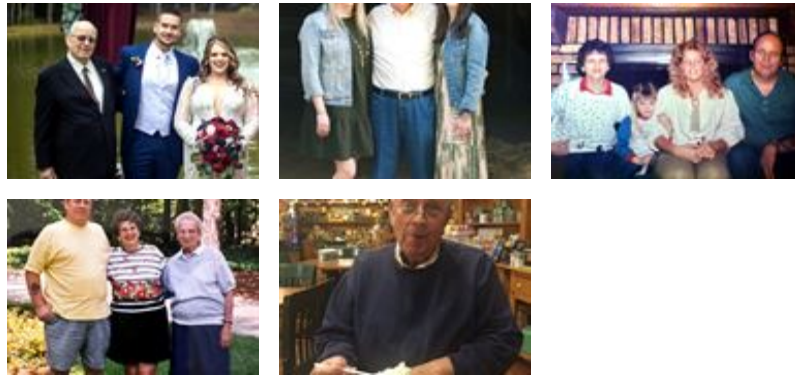
“ *Ralph was a good neighbor. We had some great conversations out at the grapevines. Was saddened when he moved away. His memory should be upheld as a light we all could follow. My deepest sympathy to his family.*

Ken Phillips

Kenneth Phillips - January 09, 2024 at 05:27 PM



“ 26 files added to the album LifeTributes



Ford Stewart Funeral Home - January 09, 2024 at 05:26 PM

RS

“ *Ralph, a great friend, a loving husband, a caring father and grandfather, he gave his heart to all who knew him. A good man. Ralph's life touched so many people and he gave his time and efforts to help support them and to laugh and cry with them. Proverbs says, "Watch over your heart with diligence. For from it flows the springs of life." I think about Ralph and all the "Springs of Life" that came from him. For 35 years, I watch his love for people-family, friends, neighbors, breakfast buddies, waitress's, repairmen, fellow workers, the elderly, shut-ins and yes, even strangers. God commands us to love one-another-well Ralph sure had that one down cold. I think about all the good times, meals and trips that he, Carol, Sue and I spent together and how Sue and I became so intertwined with each of their families .Good Memories! He was my good friend for 35 years and I will miss him, but I believe he is celebrating with his love ones today. That makes me smile and my heart feel happy. I give all his family my sympathy for your loss, but to my good buddy I say "Parrk the Kar".*

*With Love for my friend
Ronald Sapp*

Ronald Sapp - January 09, 2024 at 02:11 PM

RF

“ Ronald Sapp and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ralph L. Eckerson Jr.

Ronald Sapp and Family - January 09, 2024 at 09:49 AM



“ Reflections of Glory Wreath was purchased for the family of Ralph L. Eckerson Jr.



January 09, 2024 at 09:49 AM

JC

“ Ralph and I were classmates through all our growing up years in Groton, Massachusetts. I last saw him at our reunion back in September 2022. We always had great conversations. May he Rest In Peace.

Jane Croteau - January 09, 2024 at 09:42 AM

TM

“ To the family of Ralph, we are so saddened to hear of his passing. Ralph was a great friend and classmate of the Class of '57 Groton High School. Ralph would keep in touch with many of his classmates and friends from his hometown regularly. It was such a pleasure to chat and relive all the good times. May you rest in peace buddy. This world has truly lost a great friend.

Tom and Kathy McDowell - January 08, 2024 at 09:11 PM

AL

“ *Mr. Ralph you sure will be sooooo missed. I will cherish all the visits to the funeral home to see us and just checkin in to see how we were all doing. You will be greatly missed by so many. My thoughts and prayers will be with your family in the days a weeks ahead.*

Love, Allie Lovett

Allie Lovett - January 08, 2024 at 04:18 PM