



## Donald Walter McWaters

April 11, 1939 - October 1, 2023

Donald Walter McWaters of Lithonia, Georgia passed away at home on October 1, 2023 at the age of 84 after a long battle with cancer.

Donald was born on April 11, 1939 to James Walter (Bo) McWaters and Jewell Shumate McWaters in Lithonia, Georgia. He was a lifetime resident of his beloved Rock Chapel community.

After he graduated from Lithonia High School in 1958, he went on to work for Atlanta Gas Light for 35 years.

In 1959, Donald married his high school sweetheart, JoAn Higginbotham and went on to have one child Andrea Dawn.

At a young age Donald discovered his love for dogs. He began raising hunting beagles as a young man and spent many years traveling around the southeast judging beagle field trials for the American Kennel Club. His award winning beagles served him well in his passion for hunting rabbits. This became one of his favorite past times to eventually share with his grandchildren.

Some of his other favorite pastimes included picking the guitar, singing, telling stories and tending to his lands. After retirement, at the age of 65, he found

his dream farm in Tignall, Georgia and spent the next 18 years raising cattle.

Donald is preceded in death by his parents and son-in-law Anthony Eugene (Tony) Weatherford.

Donald is survived by his wife JoAn H. McWaters of Lithonia, Georgia; Daughter Andrea M. Weatherford of Loganville, Georgia; Grandchildren: Anthony Jr. and Amanda Puckett Weatherford of Monroe, Georgia; Andrew Weatherford of Lander, Wyoming; Great Grandchildren: Anthony Eugene (Tripp) Weatherford III and Adeline Rae Weatherford of Monroe, Georgia; Sisters: Joyce and Bill Johnson of Cumming, Georgia; Gwen and JD Boozer; Janice and Paul Wall all of Monroe, Georgia; Rhonda and Ben Duren of Eatonton, Georgia; Brother Benny and Theresa McWaters of Covington, Georgia; Sisters-in-law: Sandra and Mason McConnell; Joyce Berger all of Stone Mountain, Georgia; Numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to  
Rock Chapel Cemetery Association  
PO Box 1004  
Lithonia, GA 30055

or Alpha-1 Foundation  
3300 Ponce de Leon Boulevard  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
[www.alpha1.org/donate](http://www.alpha1.org/donate)

A Celebration of Life will be held at 3:00 PM on Friday, October 6, 2023 in the Loganville Chapel of Tim Stewart Funeral Home. The family will receive friends 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM at Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Road, Loganville, GA 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign the online guest registry at [www.stewartfh.com](http://www.stewartfh.com).



# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 6. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Tim Stewart Funeral Home Loganville  
670 Tom Brewer Road  
Loganville, GA 30052  
(770) 466-1544

## Celebration of Life

OCT 6. 3:00 PM (ET)

Chapel of Tim Stewart Funeral Home Loganville  
670 Tom Brewer Road  
Loganville, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Walter McWaters*



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**Tim Stewart Funeral Home** - October 05, 2023 at 04:36 PM

RG

“ *My favorite memories of Uncle Donald almost all include music. Our family holidays were filled with music and singing and the impact on my life and my children's lives is still ongoing because of the influences and encouragement from him. When I watched the video I was just lovingly reminded of the power of family. I love you all so much and will hopefully get to see you soon! My heart and prayers are with you tomorrow as you celebrate the life of Uncle Donald.*

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**Roslyn Giannoni** - October 05, 2023 at 09:48 PM

PS

“ *With deepest heartfelt sympathy and much love,  
Peggy Bryant Sheppard*

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**Peggy Bryant Sheppard** - October 05, 2023 at 09:43 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Walter McWaters.*

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October 05, 2023 at 06:19 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald Walter McWaters.*



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October 05, 2023 at 06:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Walter McWaters.

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October 05, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Walter McWaters.*



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October 05, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ 122 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Tim Stewart Funeral Home** - October 05, 2023 at 04:26 PM

MF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Prayers going up for the whole family.  
We love y'all Jonathan. Mark and Lorri Ferguson.

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**Mark Ferguson** - October 04, 2023 at 09:31 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Donald Walter McWaters.



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October 04, 2023 at 08:02 AM