



Mr. Duane A. Wiedman

June 5, 1929 - April 18, 2015

Duane A. Wiedman, formerly of Gainesville, GA and lately of Alpharetta, GA, died Saturday, April 18, 2015 just shy of his 86th birthday.

He was born in Hopkins, MN on June 5, 1929 and was a 1947 graduate of Hopkins High School. He served in the U.S. Air Force for four years holding several positions and stationed at various bases throughout the country. After retiring from the service he worked in the U.S. Government for 18 years retiring as Finance Director of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, which later became the Department of Health and Human Services. Following his retirement from the government he worked in private industry first in the technology sector for Burroughs, Sogitec, and Westinghouse Data Systems, later as a tax accountant and a hotel manager.

He met his wife, the former Betty Geraldine Shipp of Hartselle, AL, while stationed at Craig Air Force Base in Selma, AL where they worked in the same office. They were married in Decatur, AL, September 22, 1951. They raised their two children primarily in the Washington DC area, and later lived in Daytona Beach, FL and Cumming, GA.

Mr. Wiedman was known for his lively sense of humor, his fun-loving story telling, his knack of befriending total strangers, and his good nature. He was passionate about family, the Washington Redskins, 5 o'clock cocktails, fishing, The Alabama Crimson Tide, and Atlanta Braves baseball. He was a member of the Cumming First United Methodist Church and NARF (National Association of Retired Federal Employees).

Mr. Wiedman is survived by his wife of 63 years, Betty "Jeri" Wiedman; two children, David R. (Hollie) Wiedman of Milton, GA and Diana W. (Cliff) Dalrymple of New Market, VA; six grandchildren, Matthew D. Wilder, Jessica S. Wilder, Allison M. Wilder, Heather N. Wiedman, Brittany D. Wiedman and Bradley D. Wiedman. Also, five sisters, Evon Culshaw of Hopkins, MN, Lois Strauder (Robert) of Tulsa, OK, Judy Horton of Marina Del Ray, CA, Mary Smasal (William) of Eden Prairie, MN, and Nancy MacLennan (Larry) of Winona, MN.

He is predeceased by his parents, Ray and Frances Wiedman and a brother, Cliff Wiedman of Chanhassen, MN, and a sister, Janice Shimml of Excelsior, MN.

A memorial service will be held at Northside Chapel, 12050 Crabapple Rd, Roswell, GA with a private viewing for family preceding the service. In lieu of flowers, donations in the memory of Mr. Wiedman can be made to the National Alzheimer's Association at <https://act.alz.org>, Embracing Hospice of Cumming at 8013 Majors Rd, Cumming, GA 30041, or a charity of your choosing.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **21**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory
12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Duane A. Wiedman*

October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Diana, Dave and Jeri,
I'm so sorry to hear about "The Mayor of Niceville" . He is one of my all time favorite people. He never failed to crack me up no matter what we did or where we went. They definitely broke the mold with him. He has been in my thoughts all last week, you all have. I found myself laughing out loud last week thinking back on one of the many stories he told and the ones we shared in making. I miss you all...stay strong, he is shaking it up in heaven, that's for sure! Love to you all, Ken B.*

Ken Barnett - April 23, 2015 at 12:56 PM



“ *To Jeri, Diana and Dave and all the Wiedman Family,*

I am so sorry for your loss. I will miss Duane's great sense of humor, his wit and personality and all the wonderful memories I have of both he and Jeri.

I shall always treasure the vivid wonderful time of having Jeri and Duane as my neighbor. The laughter and ball games we shared, and the talks with Duane about places he had been. I can taste the great cakes and pies he gave to me.

You are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Carol Moore

Carol Moore - April 21, 2015 at 12:39 PM

CS

“ Duane... Uncle Butch... "The Golden Gopher" certainly lived life to the fullest and believed in having fun! At times he was Sonny Jurgensen (ruptured Achilles and all) and at other times he was the Mayor of Niceville. Whatever just playful ruse of the day, he always had a twinkle in his eyes, and innocent mischief and fun in his heart. He was loved by many and will be missed.

C. Roy Shipp - April 21, 2015 at 08:35 AM

AB

Another incredible sentiment...

Angie Barnett - April 21, 2015 at 10:48 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mr. Duane A. Wiedman.



April 21, 2015 at 08:06 AM



“ Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of Mr. Duane A. Wiedman.



April 21, 2015 at 12:29 AM

GE

“ Duane was a truly Beautiful human being...funny, caring, loving and gentle. I loved him dearly and will have him in my heart forever! I know Gerry and his family will forever have a special place where he resides in their heart. I am so sorry for your loss. We all lost a wonderful , special person. I am so sorry I cannot be there but my heart will be with you! God Bless All of You and a special hug for Gerry.....Gwen

Gwen Eloshway - April 20, 2015 at 09:03 PM

BS

“ I met Duane when my grandson played baseball with Bradley. I remember he always was so warm, kind and his sense of humor was over the top! Jeri, Dave, Holly and family you are in my thoughts and prayers

Barbara Schwartz - April 20, 2015 at 07:10 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Mr. Duane A. Wiedman.



April 20, 2015 at 06:45 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Duane A. Wiedman.



April 20, 2015 at 11:58 AM

“ Working with and Dave and being in business together over the last (almost) thirty years has meant that I have been blessed to get know Dave's wonderful family. Of course that means Holly and their wonderful (no longer little!) children and his Mom and Dad - what great people and characters - especially Duane.

Two anecdotes that capture Duane's personality and spirit stand out for me just now . . .

The first goes way back to the late '80's when Dave and I were trying to get our first company going. We barely knew what we were doing and survived by counting every penny and through sheer stubbornness, usually to make up for our blunders. Once we made the foolish decision to give trade credit to a well known and we assumed, "solid", liquor store chain based in Atlanta. I won't mention the name to protect the guilty. Anyway, no matter what we tried we couldn't get them to pay us the \$1,600 they owed for a point-of-sale scanner we'd sold them; all our usual "normal-course-of-business" accounts receivable collection efforts went nowhere. Unfortunately for us, \$1600 bucks was big deal at the time - we did not want to lose that money . . .

Like Dan said below, Dave's Dad was staying with them at the time, while he worked in Atlanta. Dave told Duane about our collection issues and they hatched a plan to collect our money! One night after work, Dave and his Dad paid a visit to their flagship liquor store. Dave walked over to the register and found the manager who had felt free to ignore us up to now, while Duane kind of posted up just in the background, hands in the pockets of classic "trench coat" (it was winter time) and trained a semi-disgusted gaze in the manager's direction. He looked imposing - I won't say "menacing" - to say the least.

Briefly Dave stated his business and made one more demand for our bill to be paid. The manager, after sizing up Dave, backed up by Duane - quickly decided to pay up. He actually took Dave into a

walk-in cooler and counted out the "cold, hard cash", while Duane, hands deep in his trench coat pockets, loitered by the register.

As they exited the store, Dave heard the manager mutter to another liquor store employee about why he decided to make the payment : "Well, I had, too. He brought his man with him!"

The other was in '07 just after my brother passed away unexpectedly. I got the nicest phone call from Duane, offering words of condolence and sharing stories about my brother from the old days, when we all worked together. It was nice to hear him reminisce at that particular time - very heartwarming for me. But that was Duane, friendly, warm and sincere.

It was so nice hearing from him that day, I asked how he was, etc., and finally (for some reason) I asked, "Mr. Wiedman, you're doing so well, you're so happy and you've brightened me up today - what's your secret?"

Without missing a beat he said, "Well I'll tell you, Travis - I never drank cheap liquor!"

I laughed so hard, I thought I was going to run off the road.

To Jeri, Diana and Dave and all the Wiedman Family, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Travis Collins

Travis Collins - April 20, 2015 at 11:08 AM

DK

“ One of my favorite stories of Dwayne "Butsy Metzle" Wiedman was the time he came to live with Dave and I in our apartment. As many of you know, the Wiedman's were all huge Redskin's fans and when they won the Superbowl in 1987, Dave just had to get the Wheaties cereal box that had QB Doug Williams on the cover. It was the apartment's crowning nic-nack (if you can imagine that) and Dave would always show it off proudly.

One day when Dave was passing the box around to show some friends he noticed the box was lighter than normal and he came to find out that the contents of the Wheaties box were missing and more importantly, his "valuable" box which was in mint condition was now worthless. For months Dave blamed me, his longtime friend from grade school for opening the box because he thought it was some subversive act by a closet Dallas Cowboy fan. We came to find out about a year later, that it was in fact Duane who ate the contents one night because "it was late and I was hungry!".

Duane was like a second father to me. I have been part of the Wiedman family since the 8th grade and I too will miss his great sense of humor, his welcoming personality and all the wonderful memories I have of both he and Jeri. Godspeed Duane.

Dan Komitor

Dan Komitor - April 20, 2015 at 08:59 AM

HW

“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Hollie Wiedman - April 19, 2015 at 10:00 PM

HW

“ *Thanks to my wonderful father-in-law I have married the man of my dreams and been embraced by an amazing family. I will miss your wicked sense of humor and your fun-loving nature. You were the best father-in-law a girl could have. I love you.*
Hollie

Hollie Wiedman - April 19, 2015 at 09:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Duane A. Wiedman.*



April 19, 2015 at 01:07 PM