



## Mr. Rhodes Waller

February 7, 1939 - January 21, 2022

Glower Rhodes Waller Jr., 82, of Roswell, GA, peacefully passed on January 21st, 2022, surrounded by loving family in his own home.

A native Atlantan, Rhodes was born on February 7th, 1939, to Sara Shelton Waller and Glower Rhodes Waller, Sr. He was always proud of his father's service as a Marine Corps veteran, who fought with the Fifth Marine Division at the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Rhodes grew up in East Point, and had fond memories of the family farm in Fayetteville. He was proud to have attended the Marist School, and graduated from Russell High School in 1957. He worked his way through college, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Management from The Georgia Institute of Technology in 1962.

Upon graduation from Georgia Tech, he attended U.S. Naval Officer Candidate School at U.S. Naval Base Newport, Rhode Island, and commissioned an Ensign on December 21st, 1962. Ensign Waller attended Naval Officers Communications School, and was subsequently assigned to the USS BOXER (LPH-4). He received commendation in June 1963 for actions during the Haitian Contingency, and was promoted to Lieutenant Junior Grade on June 20th, 1964. Despite being prone to seasickness, he would spend twenty eight months on sea service before leaving active duty in

December 1965. He was appointed to the rank of Lieutenant on July 1st, 1967, and was honorably discharged from the Naval Reserve in June 1973.

He enjoyed a highly successful industrial sales career with Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corporation. He coordinated with the Atomic Energy Commission, Nuclear Division at Oak Ridge, Tennessee--requiring "Q" clearance of utmost national importance. Following 46 dedicated years and being selected as the salesman of the year on several occasions, Rhodes received a bronzed driving shoe upon retirement.

Rhodes was a man of great integrity, who was known for his gregarious and fun loving personality, and sometimes--an off beat sense of humor. He was a celebrity amongst those who knew him, and you knew when he was around by his booming baritone voice. Having never met a stranger before, he was referred to as Handsome Rhodes--most often times by himself.

He was an avid supporter of Georgia Tech athletics, member of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association and Georgia Tech lunch bunch. He was also a member of Northbrook United Methodist Church, the Atlanta Touchdown Club, and Ansley Golf Club.

He is predeceased in death by his parents Sara Shelton Waller and Glower Rhodes Waller, Sr., and his daughter Elizabeth Hanshew (Bryan). He is survived by his wife of almost 45 years, Heath G. Waller. He is also survived by his sister Sally Gladden (Steve) of Chapin, SC; brother Thomas Waller (Sara Anne) of Fayetteville, GA; his daughters Heath Eckerd (Bill) of St. Simons Island, GA, Rebecca Rogers (Michael) of Williamsburg, VA, Sara Rippel (John) of Madison, MS, and Mary Barnes Monte (Alexander) of Kailua HI; and his son Brandon of Williamsburg, VA. He is also survived by Thirteen grandchildren: Xena Brown and Annabelle Hanshew; Jake and Brooks Braswell; Gabriel, Matthew, Elijah, and Zeke Rogers; Jackson Rhodes, Ansley

and Alice Heath Rippel; and Charleston and Rhodes Monte.

Memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 29th, at 2:00 PM, at Northbrook United Methodist located at 11225 Crabapple Road, Roswell, GA. Reception to follow immediately after memorial service at Settindown Golf Club located at 1608 Settindown Drive, Roswell, GA. Internment of remains with full military honors will take place on Monday, January 31st, at 9:00 AM at Georgia National Cemetery.

A block of rooms has been reserved for out of town guests at Embassy Suites by Hilton Alpharetta, phone 678-566-8800.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Northbrook United Methodist Church or to the Salvation Army.

# Cemetery Details

## Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

# Previous Events

## Celebration Of Life

JAN **29**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Northbrook United Methodist Church  
11225 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Rhodes Waller*

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October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM

AF

“ I just received the word now of Rhodes' passing. My sincere condolences to all. Rhodes was a unique, delightful, awesome person.

*I guess I'm 25 years or so younger than Rhodes, but I worked with him at Allegheny Ludlum Steel Company back in the 90s. I was a young sales person then, and he was the seasoned professional. Legend had it that Rhodes was the only steel salesperson in the country who, if he decided to quit and work for a competitor, could take his whole customer base right with him. That sounds about right. Everyone loved Rhodes.*

*As we all know, Rhodes was himself a living, breathing, wonderful story. And there we always Rhodes stories. Stories about him, stories being told by him, and for those lucky enough to spend any reasonable amount of time in his orbit, he was surely generating a new story or two and bringing you along for the ride.*

*Early in the 90s, the company we worked for had just installed its first voice mail system, and it took a while for everyone to get used to sending such messages. But with practice, everyone learned to truncate their messages and delivery style, realizing that the person on the other end had to spend a good part of the day listening to a collection of these things before they could move on and get to other work. Everyone except for Rhodes, that is. I and several other of the newer workers in the sales group used to delight whenever we received a voice message from Rhodes. He always started things in the same way - say hello, state your name, then location, then some anecdote about your most recent meal or notable activity, then finally the business of the day. For example:*

*"Hi A-RON (he always called me A-Ron instead of Aaron), this is Rhooodes Waller (the Rhodes is said fairly slowly with a long hold on the 'o', followed by a rapid-fire "Waller" - just delightful, this delivery). I'm driving east on the I-10 through the fine state of Mississippi. I just had a most delightful meal that included some*

*home-made biscuits and gravy and I was wondering if you might be able to provide me with price and delivery on 80,000 pounds of 304L stainless for our friends at Southern Tube."*

*Anytime we got a message from Rhodes, we knew we were in for that same 45 seconds of priceless, superfluous introductory material before the actual request.*

*You were one of a kind, Rhodes. Won't forget you.*

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**Aaron Fedarko** - April 01, 2022 at 03:26 PM

BB

“ *My deepest condolences to Heath and the family on the passing of Rhodes. Rhodes was my first cousin. His mother was my father's sister. I will always remember his gentlemanly style and grace, and I hear his deep voice as clearly as if he was speaking to me. "Bahbra, this is your cousin, Rhodes Waller." As if I could mistake his voice for anyone else! I will miss his sense of humor and wit. I'm so sorry he is gone.*



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**Barbara Shelton Briggs** - January 29, 2022 at 09:05 AM

TH

“ *I grew up in East Point Georgia and lived directly across the street from Rhodes on Winburn Drive when we were children. We were friends and played together in those early years. My sympathy for Rhodes family, including his brother, Tommy and his sister Salley.*  
*Terry Hammond*  
*Dunnellon, Florida*

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**terry hammond** - January 28, 2022 at 10:03 PM

JS

“ Rhodes was my first cousin. His mother was my father's sister. I remember him as sweet and funny and I can still hear his voice whenever I think about him. Here he is at approximately 3 years old, a sweet little boy who grew up into a sweet man.



Julie Shelton - January 28, 2022 at 09:41 PM

MH

“ Rhodes & I grew up in the same neighborhood. In fact the whole Waller clan was just across the street from my house. Our neighborhood was wonderful because we played together as children & later went to the same High School. Rhodes was always a delight to be with. He always presented a cheerful personality. He loved his family along with his Sister & Brother. I had the priviledge of talking to Rhodes a few month's ago, not knowing then that he had a severe illness. He was just as cheerful then as he was in the past. Some neighbors never continue their friendship through the years, but we all on Winburn Drive did. We were "ALL" blessed. Thank you Rhodes for being YOU!

Martha Ellen Hammond - January 27, 2022 at 07:38 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mr. Rhodes Waller.



January 27, 2022 at 03:11 PM

PW

“ Paige & George Word purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Mr. Rhodes Waller.



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**Paige & George Word** - January 27, 2022 at 01:33 PM

CM

“ Heath and family, please accept my sympathy for our loss.

*I enjoyed the privilege of traveling with Rhodes as he serviced A-L customers in his expansive territory in the 1980's and 90's. He was very wise and always a gentleman during our many road trips. A man of integrity and loyalty, I will miss his friendship and sense of humor.*

*I will always remember a tailgate Rhodes and Heath hosted at Bobby Dodd stadium on a Thursday night in Sept. of 1995. Rhodes gave his prized tickets for seats on the 50 yard line behind the Ga Tech bench to his guests and bought alternate tickets to maximize our experience. Yet another example of his generosity and thoughtfulness of others.*

*May God bless Rhodes and his family and may faith and the passage of time comfort all of you.*

*chip miller*

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**chip miller** - January 27, 2022 at 09:02 AM

LM

“ Rhodes was one of a kind! I worked with him for 20 years at Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp. and not only was he an outstanding sales representative but he never failed to keep us laughing. He was so loyal to his customers and made sure everything was done correctly. He had the quirkiest sense of humor and we all loved when he told one of his many stories. Rest in Peace, Rhodes and condolences to his family. He will be missed.



Linda Moore  
Cumming, GA

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Linda C Moore - January 26, 2022 at 12:45 PM