



Sydney (Syd) Willett

May 1, 1939 - April 23, 2025

Sydney (Syd) Willett, age 85, of Peachtree Corners, Georgia, passed away on April 23, 2025. Syd was born on May 1, 1939, in the village of Wallasey in northwest England, the son of the late William Oliver and Gladys Ellen Willett.

He grew up across the Mersey River from Liverpool, England. In October 1961, he married the love of his life, Barbara. In 1975, they immigrated to Montreal, Quebec, Canada, with their two young daughters. For 18 years, they lived in St. Thomas, Ontario, where they formed lifelong friendships. In 1995, Syd's career brought the family to the United States, where they lived in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. Upon retirement, they settled in Roswell, Georgia, to be near their eldest daughter and her family.

From a young age, Syd was a gifted artist, with a talent for capturing the beauty of nature through his artwork. In his early twenties, he joined the Merchant Marines and sailed the Mediterranean, often writing love letters to Barbara. After completing his service, he pursued a career in engineering, which became his lifelong profession.

Syd was known for his quick wit and unstoppable sense of humor. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, often delighting them with imaginative stories. He had a reputation for being a reliable friend and a constant source of support for those in need.

Syd is preceded in death by his loving wife Barbara, his parents William and Gladys Willett and his four siblings: Doreen Thompson, Joyce Kelly, Jean Patterson, and George Willett. He is survived by his loving daughters, Samantha Murray (Kevin) of Peachtree Corners, GA, and Kerry Willett-Vali (Mark) of Oakville, Ontario, Canada; and his beloved grandchildren: Patrick, Emma, Madeline, and Rachel.

A funeral service to honor the life of Sydney Willett will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 2, 2025, in the Chapel at St. Brigid Catholic Church in Johns Creek, Georgia. Reception to follow at The Neely Farm Club House, 6151 Neely Farm Dr., Peachtree Corners.

Please visit www.northsidechapel.com to share memories and leave condolences for the family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Canadian Cancer Society. Flowers may also be sent from Syd's favorite flower shop, FlowerCraft, Inc, 3667 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd., Chamblee, GA, 30341, 770-458-7937.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAY 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Brigid Catholic Church
3400 Old Alabama Road
Alpharetta, GA

Tribute Wall

RS

“ *Richard Cook & Debbie Cook Smith purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Sydney (Syd) Willett.*



Richard Cook & Debbie Cook Smith - April 30, 2025 at 04:25 PM

LV

“ *Love Scott, Kelly, Cora & Colin Vali purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Sydney (Syd) Willett.*



Love Scott, Kelly, Cora & Colin Vali - April 30, 2025 at 11:45 AM

SS

“ *Sending my deepest condolences and love to you all, during this very difficult time.*

Sadie Smith - April 30, 2025 at 09:27 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sydney (Syd) Willett.*



April 28, 2025 at 03:42 PM

RO

“ Please accept my deepest condolences during this incredibly difficult time. My heart goes out to you and your family.
Robert M.

Robert - April 28, 2025 at 01:07 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sydney (Syd) Willett.



April 28, 2025 at 12:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sydney (Syd) Willett.

April 28, 2025 at 12:49 PM

FC

“ Syd was our brother in law we had great times with Syd and Barb When they lived in Canada.
Moving to the states we kept in touch with phone calls and face time Best was going to Mexico a number of times will miss you.
Love Norma & Fred Crawford

fred & notma crawforc - April 28, 2025 at 12:37 PM

SR

“ My heartfelt condolences to Syd's family and friends. May all the memories of your time together bring you comfort and love during this difficult time.

Sherryl Roach - April 28, 2025 at 11:46 AM

HK

“ Thinking of my lovely cousins, Samantha and Kerry and their families at this sad time and sending love to you all from here in England.

I have many wonderful memories of my lovely, funny Uncle Syd, he always made me laugh, even as a young child while him, Aunt Barb and their lovely girls were still living here in England. Then I remember well, Uncle Syd taking his family and emigrating to Canada, in his words “To give them a better life” and he certainly did that in so many ways! I enjoyed spending Summers in Canada and my very first barbecue was there, with Uncle Syd in charge of the cooking, steak and corn on the cob, and his huge home grown tomatoes. The girls and I would play in the yard afterwards, and Uncle Syd would take great pleasure in hosing us down haha. They were such good family times, when my Nan Gladys and my Mum Joyce got to spend time with their darling Son and brother. In more recent years I was fortunate enough to go and stay with Uncle Syd and Aunt Barb and reminisce of days gone by, it was such a lovely thing to be able to do and I am so grateful I got to spend that time with them both. Uncle Syd was more often than not outside tending to his beautiful garden or tormenting Aunt Barb with his wicked sense of humour. They are now reunited and together for eternity, rest in peace Uncle Syd. Love from Hazel (Kelly) xx

Hazel Kelly - April 27, 2025 at 05:21 PM

HB

Thinking of you all ... i have lots of memories from when you lived in same road on the wirral... you mum and Dad where lovely x

Helen Boulton - April 28, 2025 at 06:46 AM

TS

Our deepest condolences to the entire family. To Kerry, Mark, Emma and Mads, so very sorry for the loss of your dad, father-in-law and grandfather. I have fond memories of him coming to visit you each summer. Barb would put on tea and Syd would show us his latest project, be that wallpapering or building a beautiful playhouse in your backyard. May they be reunited together. Love, Tiffany, Jason, Sean and Kevin xoxo

Tiffany Spencer - April 28, 2025 at 08:38 AM

JR

My condolences to all who knew Mr. Willett, his family in particular. A fascinating life story, and a legacy to be proud of. Our thoughts are with you and your family Kerry.

jeremi roth - April 28, 2025 at 04:01 PM