



Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr.

July 8, 1934 - December 24, 2025

Tommy was a beloved and devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was an inspirational leader and an extraordinary administrator who used his talents in the banking business, in service to his community, and in his church and denomination. He was frequently sought out for his wise counsel from people in all spheres of his life. The foundation of his life was his active and devoted Christian faith and care for others.

Tommy was born at home in Columbus, Georgia, and moved to Atlanta with his parents at a young age. He attended Emory University and ultimately earned a B.B.A. degree from Georgia State University, where he was later named the 1986 Distinguished Alumnus from Georgia State's J. Mack Robinson College of Business Administration. He served as President of the Georgia State Alumni Association and as a member and past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia State University Foundation.

In 1954, while still in college, he began working at The First National Bank of Atlanta. It was at the bank that he met Beth Ann, and they were married five years later. During this time, Tommy served in the United States Army at Fort Jackson, SC, in 1957 and following in the Army Reserves through 1968. He held the rank of First Lieutenant.

For 40 years, Tommy served in varying roles of increasing responsibility with First National, First Atlanta Corporation, Wachovia Bank, Wachovia Corporation and in the industry at large through the Robert Morris Associates, the national association of bank loan and credit officers. Tommy served as a

national director and President, as well as various roles in metro Atlanta, southeastern and southern chapters. He also served on the Board of VISA USA, VISA International and various other corporate boards.

Following the merger with Wachovia Corporation in 1985, Tommy served as Vice Chairman, Chief Administrative Officer and Director, Wachovia Bank of GA, Executive Vice President of Wachovia Corporation overseeing consumer credit services, and at his retirement in 1994 held the positions of Chairman of the Board of Wachovia Corporation of Georgia and Wachovia Bank of Georgia, N.A.

Following his retirement, Tommy served as Special Counsel to two Presidents of Mercer University Macon and Atlanta. During his tenure he was influential in the establishment of the McAfee School of Theology. He served two terms on Mercer's Board of Trustees and as President of Mercer University's President's Club. He was a Trustee of Atlanta Baptist College which merged with Mercer in 1972.

Tommy was committed to community service and contributed through board membership for many local organizations. He served as president of the Board of the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. For his long-term contribution to the scouting tradition, he was presented with the Silver Eagle Award.

Tommy's remarkable church and denominational contributions were born of deep faith and offered with humility. He served as the Church Treasurer for the First Baptist Church of Chamblee, now the Johns Creek Baptist Church for 53 years. He was named Deacon Emeritus, having served many deacon terms and multiple chairmanships. Spanning 50 years, he was the Chair of multiple Building Committees in both Chamblee and Johns Creek. He quietly served as a trusted advisor to pastors and denominational executives.

Mr. Boland was beloved by many who attended Camp Rutledge, a church camp sponsored by First Baptist Church Chamblee and its successor, Johns Creek Baptist Church for more than four decades. He wrote the Camp Staffer's Manual and served as Camp Director for many years. The Camp

Rutledge experience inspired future pastors, missionaries, dedicated church laity, businesspeople, and civic leaders who saw true Christian community modeled summer after summer.

Tommy invested his time and expertise in the establishment of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship having served as a founding Director and Director Emeritus of Baptists Today/Nurturing Faith, a founding member and Trustee of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Foundation, and as the Interim Executive Coordinator following the tenure of his cherished friend, Dr. Cecil Sherman. In years prior to this, he served as a Trustee and Treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Foundation.

Tommy was preceded in death by his parents, Clifford Edwin "Ed" Boland and Helen Robinson Boland, and his sister, Dorothy Susan Boland. He is lovingly remembered by his wife of 66 years, Beth Ann Campbell Boland, his daughter, Susan Boland Butts (Don), Thomas "Edwin" Boland, Jr. (Tereasa), grandchildren Samuel H. Butts, Sarah E. Boland and Thomas "Tommy" Edwin Boland, III, brothers Daniel W. Boland and Fred N. Boland.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Johns Creek Baptist Church on January 10, 2026 at 2:00 pm. A reception to greet the family will follow in the Family Life Center. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Johns Creek Baptist Church Facilities Endowment Fund, The Thomas E. and Beth Ann Boland Endowed Scholarship Fund at McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, or to The Thomas E. and Beth Ann Boland Endowed Scholarship at Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

Cemetery Details

Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

Johns Creek Baptist Church
6910 McGinnis Ferry Road
Alpharetta, GA 30005

Tribute Wall



“ Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr.



Northside Chapel - January 06 at 10:30 AM

AS

“ Ann S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..

Ann S. - January 22 at 09:23 AM

DB

“ Dan, Mark, and Katie Boland purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..



Dan, Mark, and Katie Boland - January 07 at 08:59 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..



January 06 at 04:30 PM

SE

“ Sean planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..

Sean - January 06 at 04:30 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..



January 03 at 02:36 PM

JC

“ J.c. C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..

J.c. C. - January 03 at 02:36 PM

SE

“ Sam Slade, Esq. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..



Sam Slade, Esq. - January 02 at 01:10 PM

SE

“ Sam Slade, Esq. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Thomas "Tommy" E. Boland Sr..

Sam Slade, Esq. - January 02 at 01:10 PM

JW

“ Farewell Tommy. Tommy Boland has been many things to many people and many organizations in a lifetime of notable achievements. Beginning in the early 1950s, long before his long list of accomplishments in his professional pursuits, Tommy was mentor to an exuberant and rowdy group of young boys in the Royal Ambassadors (RA) organization of the Baptist Church of Chamblee. I was lucky enough to be a part of this group that Tommy took under his wing. Tommy's leadership gave a gift of recognition and support to many of us in need of a strong example of good. Tommy taught many of us to drive in his yellow and white, 1953 Chevy when we could barely see over the hood ornament. He was a counselor, a confidante, a spiritual leader, a teacher. More than any of that he was a friend.

While we have been a continent apart physically for most of our adult lives, I have never felt the loss of that friendship. Tommy was a good man. He gave much to many and I have been a most grateful recipient of this connection. My heart goes out to Beth Ann and to the rest of Tommy's family. This is a great loss for them, but also for many of the rest of us.

Thank you Tommy for all you have given to so many over such a long time.

Jim Westbrook - December 27, 2025 at 11:08 AM

BB

“ Tommy was a true gentleman, and I have been blessed to know him and his family through church. Tommy was highly respected and respectful, and a godly man. He was a role model to many. He was a faithful servant to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Rest in peace, Tommy. You deserve it.

Barbara Brown - December 27, 2025 at 09:21 AM

GS

“ Mentor, friend, example of the best of what a Christian should be. So proud to call him friend. He was advisor and counselor and an inspiration. My life is much better because of him. I thank God for sending him and his family my way.

Greg Samples - December 26, 2025 at 06:27 PM

PB

“ One of the finest people I have ever known in my life - my lifelong friend, mentor and confidant, I will never forget you!

Phil Brown - December 26, 2025 at 05:33 PM

BB

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Barbara Brown - December 26, 2025 at 06:24 PM