



Mr. Hugh Ayers

March 26, 1929 - March 29, 2012

Major Hugh Bernard Ayers, USAF Ret., 83, of Bowdon, Georgia, died peacefully at his home Thursday, March 29, 2012 surrounded by his family that he cherished. Hugh was born March 26th, 1929 in Bowdon, Georgia to Joe Bernard Ayers and Gladys Garrett Ayers. Hugh attended Bowdon High School, West Georgia College, and the University of Georgia. In June 1951, Hugh joined the United States Air Force. He served with distinction and honor. He loved military life and chose to make it his life's career, retiring in 1971 with a rank of Major after 20 years of service to his country. A pilot and veteran of two wars, Korea and Viet Nam, Hugh flew planes (fixed wing, jet, and sea planes) and helicopters. He was known to occasionally fly his helicopter over his hometown of Bowdon, much to the amusement of friends and family. He loved the military and his country and served them both proudly.

On August 27, 1953 he married the love of his life Annie Ruth Fields also of Bowdon. Together they had two daughters and two sons. Hugh, Ruth and their children traveled as a military family and they were stationed in Alaska, Florida, Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Missouri, and Alabama. Hugh and Ruth made many lifelong friends along the way and stayed in touch with many of them over the years. Hugh loved spending time with family and friends. He never met a stranger and always saw the best of people, and has many, many lifelong friends that he cherished.

Following his retirement from the military, he had other careers as well. He was a business owner, a real estate agent, a tax assessor for Carroll County

and at one time had the largest poultry farm in the state of Georgia. Hugh was a member of the Bowdon First United Methodist Church. He loved his hometown of Bowdon, Ga. and could not wait to move back after he retired from the military. Out of all the places he lived, he always considered Bowdon his home because that is where his family and friends were. His favorite hobbies were weekly poker with his best friends, and bridge. Hugh was a professional bridge player, competing and winning several tournaments. He always said bridge was the best game ever invented.

He will be remembered for his fun loving personality, his kind and generous heart and the love he had for his wife, children and grandchildren. His family was his passion. Hugh is survived by his wife of 59 years Ruth Ayers, daughters: Leslie Ayers Lawley (Mark Lawley), Dr. Suzanne Ayers Iodice (Frankie Iodice), sons: Jeff Ayers (Dr. Betsy Ayers), and Jim Ayers.

Grandchildren: Tayler Evan Ayers, Katie Lawley, Rachel Lawley, sister-in-laws Louise Holland and Bertha Mae Fields, dear friends and cousins: David and Nelva Roop, and many nieces and nephews as well. Hugh was predeceased by his parents Joe and Gladys Ayers, and sister Annice Ayers Johnson.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at Bowdon First United Methodist Church. The family will receive friends in the church sanctuary from 12:00 p.m. till the service hour. Following the memorial service, Mr. Ayers' remains will be interred at Bowdon City Cemetery with full military

Previous Events

Service

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bowdon First Methodist Church
302 Wedowee Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall

KG

“ Dear Annie Ruth and family,
I was so sorry to hear of Hugh's death. I have fond memories of Hugh when I was a child and as an adult, and picture him with a big smile on his face, a common sight for all, I'm sure. We wish for you a special celebration of his life and please know that we will be thinking of you on Thursday at his service. He will be missed.

Sincerely,
Kim Galant
313 Saratoga Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Kim Galant - April 02, 2012 at 04:21 PM

TC

“ Tanner Hospice Care Staff would like to offer our condolences to you during this difficult time and to say thank you for trusting your loved one in our care

Tanner Hospice Care - April 02, 2012 at 09:41 AM

BA

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



Betsy Ayers - April 01, 2012 at 07:29 AM

JM

“ *Janie R. Meadows lit a candle in memory of Mr. Hugh Ayers*



Janie R. Meadows - March 30, 2012 at 04:30 PM