



Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater

September 18, 1934 - December 25, 2016

James Marion "Buck" Rainwater, of Bowdon, Georgia, passed away on December 25, 2016. He was 82.

James was born on September 18, 1934 in Bowdon, Georgia to the late James Garfield and Nell Brown Rainwater. A lifelong resident of this area, he graduated from Bowdon High School in 1953. He was a veteran of the United States Army where he served in France during a time in which he said "not a shot was fired anywhere in the world." Upon his discharge and return to the States, he enrolled at and graduated from John A. Gupton School of Mortuary Science in Nashville, Tennessee. He then returned to Bowdon where he, along with his wife, Martha, opened Rainwater Funeral Home in 1967. From then until his retirement, he worked to serve the people of Bowdon, West Georgia, and East Alabama community whom he cared for and loved greatly.

James was an active member of the community and was a member of the Jaycees and Lions Club, Bowdon Lodge F&AM No. 206, where he received his 60 year member, and was past President of the Bowdon Athletic Booster Club. He was past Chairman and Member Emeritus of the Bowdon Hospital Authority and was a devoted member of Bowdon Baptist Church where he was a member of the Fellowship Sunday School Class. He was also a member of the infamous Downtown Men's Club. As a professional, he was a member of the Georgia and National Funeral Directors Association.

James is survived by his wife, Martha Young Rainwater; his children and their spouses, Lee and Shannon Rainwater of Bowdon, Amy and Kele Sewell of Bremen, Georgia, and Alan and Traci Rainwater of Bowdon; his grandchildren, Sydney Golden, and her husband, Josh, Ben Rainwater, Blake Rainwater, Luke Rainwater, Will Rainwater, Carson Sewell, Grace Rainwater, Aileen Castro, Luis Castro, Nikole Dunn, Nicole Swanger, and her husband, James, and Laura Sewell; his great-grandson, Jackson Swanger; his sister and brother-in-law, Brenda and Jerry West of Bowdon; his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Bob and Peggy Young of Heflin, Alabama; his nieces and nephews, Dean and Jennifer Robinson, Kay Wilder, Greg and Carol Young, and Patricia and Brian Reed.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at Bowdon Baptist Church. Bro. Justin Richards and Bro. Darnell Teal will officiate. Mr. Danny Hutcheson will offer a eulogy. Music will be provided by Patsy Bentley and Bryant Turner and Kelly Murray. Lawrence Williams, Mike Mallory, J.T. Craft, Steve Prater, Josh Golden, and Greg Young will serve as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be the Fellowship Sunday School Class, the BHS Class of 1953, and his friends from the funeral community. Entombment will follow in the Bowdon City Cemetery. Prior to the service, his body will lie-in-state at the church from 12:00 p.m. until the funeral hour.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. till 7:00 p.m.

Flowers will be accepted, but those who wish may make contributions to the Bowdon Baptist Church Building Fund (205 Mill St., Bowdon, GA 30108) or the Bowdon Schools Educational Foundation (bowdoneeducationfund.org).

Cemetery Details

Bowdon City Cemetery

Johnson Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rainwater Funeral Home
317 North Carroll Street
Bowdon, GA 30108
(770) 258-7239
info@rainwaterfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rainwaterfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

DEC 29. 1:00 PM (ET)

Bowdon Baptist Church
205 Mill Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall

DA

“ *My old buddy has left for a better place. I will always remember the days (and nights) I spent with Buck. He was the best boss I ever had and a good friend. He could make me laugh in the most strangest places. He would always tell me Shad, don't get in a hurry when the time comes it will take care of its self. I wish miss bid daddy a lot.*

David Shadix

dauidshadix - December 29, 2016 at 06:10 PM

LB

Randy and I were so sad to hear of Mr. Buck's passing. We will be thinking of you and your family during the days and months ahead. I know my dad greeted him in Heaven and are catching up on old times. He sure thought a lot of Buck. I will always be grateful for the love and respect you and Mr. Buck showed my dad when he passed away. God bless you all in this sad time! Love, LeAnne and Randy Buchanan

LeAnne Buchanan - January 07, 2017 at 10:20 AM

WA

“ *Words cannot describe the sadness that overcame Sue and me when we learned of Buck's passing. We lost a friend, philosopher, and fashion designer whose talent set a precedent that unfortunately was never fully accepted by some. I can't remember a time he wasn't wearing a smile, unless it was a grin that was a little suspicious. The memories of those miles spent going to Athens or those away places like Knoxville, Oxford, Nashville, and Jacksonville will flood my memory for as long as I live. He held court over that ragtag bunch in those vans as if he were king of the world. I feel so privileged to have been a part. We love you, Buck.*

Wilburn

Wilburn Albright - December 29, 2016 at 10:23 AM

CC

“ *Thank you Buck for your service to West Georgia and the surrounding region. You were always kind and compassionate to the families. You will be greatly missed. May God bring comfort and strength and surround all of the family with His love in this difficult time.*

Chaplain Ralph Cook - December 29, 2016 at 07:25 AM

DC

“ Dottie Grizzard Cavender lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Dottie Grizzard Cavender - December 28, 2016 at 08:44 PM

PJ

“ BUCK WAS A LONGIME AND BELOVED FRIEND. REGRET HEALTH ISSUES PREV ENT ME FOM COMING. PRAY GOD'S COMFORT FOR YOU ALL. PARNICK JENNINGS,SR.,ROME,OWNER, GOOD SHEPHERD FUNERAL HOME AND GFDA president 1970.

PARNICK JENNINGS,SR. - December 28, 2016 at 03:16 PM

SH

“ So sorry for your loss! Dwight and I had a lot of respect for Buck! Always friendly and loved to tell some jokes! He loved his Red Devils and always supported them. He was a character especially with that Willie Craft. Love Dwight and Sherri Hochstetler.



Sherri Hochstetler - December 28, 2016 at 02:09 PM

EW

“ We are so sorry to learn of Buck's passing. In other years, we always enjoyed seeing Buck at GFDA conventions andit was a pleasure to visit and "catch up" with him. We have missed him the past few years. Our sincere condolences to Martha and all the family. We love you!!
Larry & Evie Whitfield
Whitfield Funeral Homes

Evie W. Whitfield - December 28, 2016 at 01:59 PM

GM

“ Gordon/Mary McLeroy lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Gordon/Mary McLeroy - December 28, 2016 at 01:38 PM

Sheila
Grimaldi

“ *Sheila Grimaldi lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Sheila Grimaldi - December 28, 2016 at 12:11 PM

Sheila
Grimaldi

My condolences to the Rainwater family. Mr. Rainwater will be missed tremendously.

Sheila Grimaldi - December 28, 2016 at 12:28 PM

RW

“ *Our LOVE, Prayers and Thoughts are with the Family at this difficult time. We loved him and was proud of our relationship with Buck, he was a great person and my memories of working with him will always be cherished.*



Roy & Brenda Wooten

Roy & Brenda Wooten - December 28, 2016 at 10:07 AM

JG

“ *Jimmy & Sara George lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Jimmy & Sara George - December 28, 2016 at 09:52 AM

JS

“ *Praying for comfort and strength for all. What a legacy for his family who have always treated me like family.*



Joy Sewell - December 28, 2016 at 08:39 AM

WJ

“ Wanda Jennings lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



wanda jennings - December 28, 2016 at 06:15 AM

JS

“ Johnny And Mary Anne Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Johnny and Mary Anne Smith - December 27, 2016 at 10:16 PM

SH

“ Scarlett Heard lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Scarlett Heard - December 27, 2016 at 07:16 PM



“ I'll always cherish memories of Buck And Willie at Bowdon Hospital making staff laugh and comforting families.He will be missed.

Barbara Rollins - December 27, 2016 at 03:31 PM

KC

“ Our prayers and condolences to the Rainwater Family during this time of loss. Your daddy was a wonderful man who will be greatly missed.

Kayron Miles Chambers - December 27, 2016 at 02:29 PM

WO

“ My father, Arthur Godwin, cared very deeply for Buck and was so very proud of what he accomplished with Rainwater Funeral Home. I have no doubt that the two of them are together now telling tales and sharing laughs over their beloved Bowdon!

Wanda Godwin Oldfield - December 27, 2016 at 01:54 PM

MP

“ *Magan Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Magan Pruitt - December 27, 2016 at 09:27 AM

EP

“ *Edith Powers lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Edith Powers - December 27, 2016 at 08:16 AM

LC

“ *I personally never met Mr James but I know that he loved my kids Aileen Castro and Luis Castro like his own grandchildren and for that I am forever grateful! My condolences to Mr Lee Rainwater and the entire Rainwater family. Rest In Peace Mr James!*

Luis Castro - December 27, 2016 at 07:42 AM

LO

“ *Lori lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



lori - December 27, 2016 at 07:07 AM



“ To: ALLEN RAINWATER and family. Although I personally didn't really know your dad... My heart just broke for you all when I found out he passed. You all will be in my families prayers. I know that my grandparents (Milford and Annie Mae McGuire) thought the absolute world of him. I know that there had to be a special calling upon your dad in order for Jesus to have called him up to heaven so that your dad could personally celebrate the Lord's birthday with him face to face!!! Our thoughts and prayers will stay with you and your family! Now and throughout the upcoming year!!! Melanie (Norton) McCormick. BHS class of 94.



Melanie McCormick - December 27, 2016 at 03:05 AM



“ BUCK AND MARTHA ARE TWO OF THE SWEETEST PEOPLE I KNOW. THEY HELPED SO MUCH WITH THE CHILDREN IN THE BUS MINISTRY ALWAYS SMILING ALWAYS HELPING. THEY HAVE ALSO RAISED SOME OF THE FINEST CHILDREN I KNOW GODLY,GIVING,AND SO FULL OF INTEGRETU MR. BUCK WE ARE SURE GOING TO MISS YOU LOVE YOU MS MARTHA

Jana Blair - December 26, 2016 at 10:43 PM



“ Ann Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Ann Anderson - December 26, 2016 at 10:31 PM



“ Judie Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Judie Jackson - December 26, 2016 at 10:26 PM

TC

“ Tommy & Judy Cantrell lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Tommy & Judy Cantrell - December 26, 2016 at 08:46 PM

TC

“ Tommy & Judy Cantrell lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Tommy & Judy Cantrell - December 26, 2016 at 08:43 PM

SG

“ Susan McCaghren Gibbs lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater



Susan McCaghren Gibbs - December 26, 2016 at 08:35 PM

SH

“ James and Martha live in the same two family house once they were so good to Mama and Daddy , Ruth and Clyde Jordan james took care of them both when they passed. So sorry for your loss love you Sandra Jordan Henson .

Sandra Jordan Henson - December 26, 2016 at 08:24 PM

SM

“ Buck and Johnny have been friends for many years, and have had many good times. Johnny and I have you all in our thoughts and prayers. We pray the sadness you feel will someday soon be replaced with fond memories.
Johnny and Sandy McClurd
Ocilla, Georgia

Sandy McClurd - December 26, 2016 at 07:17 PM

KK

“ *Mr. Buck was a great man and always so good to me during our interactions. Your family has my condolences during this very difficult time.*



Kyle Kiser - December 26, 2016 at 07:15 PM

WD

“ *Buck was one of my first customers when I started Trinity Casket Co. I think it was because we were both John A Gupton boys. He was a joy to be around.*
Wayne Day
Ambulance & Coach Sales
Nashville Tn

Wayne Day - December 26, 2016 at 06:57 PM

KW

My condolences to the Rainwater family.

Kathy Snead Waldrop - December 26, 2016 at 08:12 PM

KM

“ *Buck was always a joy to be around. I loved the times I would go see Martha and Buck would come and join our visit. I was always happy to visit with them both. He will be greatly missed.*



Karen McCaghren - December 26, 2016 at 06:19 PM

JS

“ *Jane Williams Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Jane Williams Smith - December 26, 2016 at 06:10 PM

KF

“ *Kaye & Sam Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Kaye & Sam Ferguson - December 26, 2016 at 05:00 PM

JM

“ *Janie Meadows lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Buck" Rainwater*



Janie Meadows - December 26, 2016 at 04:42 PM