



Charles E Strickland, Jr.

June 21, 1937 - June 9, 2018

Command Sergeant Major (Ret) Charles E. Strickland, Jr. died peacefully on Saturday, June 9, 2018 after a brief illness. He was 80 years old. Mr. Strickland was married to the former Lila Frances Kelley of Lithonia, GA. They were married for 59 years and is preceded in death by the late Charles Ennice Strickland, Sr. (father) and Martha Florabell McHugh Strickland (mother) of Atlanta, Georgia.

Born on June 21, 1937 in Atlanta, GA, Mr. Strickland grew up in Lakewood Heights in Atlanta. He was an Eagle Scout at 15 years old and graduated Fulton High School in 1955. He later attended Georgia State University. He began work with The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (A&P Food Stores) in 1955 as stock clerk. He worked his way through the organization rising initially to Assistant Manager and then Manager of the A&P store formally located on Covington Hwy in Decatur, GA. He served in that capacity until 1969 when he was promoted to Pricing Coordinator for the Southeast Region of the United States. He worked for A&P for 42 years retiring in 1997 when A&P Food Stores closed operations in Georgia.

Mr. Strickland also became a member of the Georgia Army National Guard in February 1956 initially in Field Artillery with the 179th Field Artillery-Service Battery. Later he became a Military Policeman (MP) with the 170th MP Battalion. He served in that capacity for 34 years rising to the Army's highest enlisted rank of Command Sergeant Major (CSM). Mr. Strickland served the State of Georgia and our Nation during periods of civil unrest in the 1960's

and during the Cold War with the Soviet Union in the 60's, 70's and 80's. Command Sgt. Major Strickland retired in October 1990.

Mr. Strickland was a 50-year Master Mason beginning his Masonic journey in 1964 with Oglethorpe Lodge Number 655 where he rose to the sublime degree of Master Mason on August 25, 1964. Mr. Strickland worked through his Masonic journey rising to Worshipful Master in 1968. Mr. Strickland remained a member of Oglethorpe Lodge and became a member of the Eastern Star in Starlight Chapter #421 where he served as Past Patron. Mr. Strickland later sought more Masonic Light as a Royal Arch Mason and York Rite 32nd Degree Mason. Mr. Strickland later transferred to Stockbridge Lodge #691, Stockbridge Ga and Morrow Lodge for the Eastern Star.

Mr. Strickland had two sons, Charles E. 'Chuck' Strickland, III and David F. Strickland. Both sons were members of the Boy Scouts of America where Mr. Strickland served as Assistant Scout Master and Scout Master of Stone Mountain Troop 502. Mr. Strickland remained active in his retirement years serving as Secretary to Union United Methodist Church in Stockbridge GA and Secretary of Stockbridge Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Strickland is survived by his wife, Frances K. Strickland of McDonough, GA. They have two sons, Charles E. 'Chuck' Strickland, III and his children, Charles Chase Strickland and Charisma Kelley Strickland (Starlet B. Strickland, mother); David F. Strickland and his children, Ashley Danielle Strickland, Allison Tiffany Strickland (Leslie D. Strickland, mother) and Kimberly Michelle Strickland (Michelle Strickland, mother). Mr. Strickland had one older sister, Martha M. Gray and their three children, Marvin Gray (deceased), Carolyn Gray Mayhall, and Scott Gray (C.D. Gray, father). He is also survived by sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Pat and Jarrell Richardson of Clearwater, FL and their children, Jennifer Bryant and her family of Cincinnati, OH, Susan Johnson and her family of Clearwater, FL; nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral Services will be held Friday, June 15, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Union United Methodist Church where full Military Honors will be rendered by the Georgia

Army National Guard and Masonic Honors will be rendered by the Southeast Memorial Association; interment will follow at the church cemetery. Mr. Strickland will lie in state at the church from 1 until 2 p.m. prior to the service. A dinner will be provided by the members of his church following the services. The Rockdale County Sheriff's Office will provide escort services to the funeral at 12:30 p.m. Family will receive friends Thursday, June 14, 2018 from 2 until 4 p.m. and 6 until 8 p.m. and Friday from 11 until 12:15 p.m. at the funeral home. Flowers will be accepted or in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Union United Methodist Church. Condolences may be submitted on-line at www.scotward.com. Scot Ward Funeral Services, 699 American Legion Road, Conyers, GA 30012, 770-483-7216.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 14. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens
699 American Legion Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Visitation

JUN 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens
699 American Legion Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Visitation

JUN 15. 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (ET)

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens
699 American Legion Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Lie in State

JUN 15. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Union United Methodist Church
4600 Highway 138 SW
Stockbridge, GA 30281

Service

JUN **15**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Union United Methodist Church
4600 Highway 138 SW
Stockbridge, GA 30281

Tribute Wall

RG

“ *The am the son of a single mother, before being twice divorced was the norm. I attended Avondale High School. Back in the day, being a bag boy was the height of employment. Mr. Strickland hired me, a 16 year old boy, at the Covington Hwy. A&P and I LOVED working there through high school. It was more like playing than working. I wish I had located Mr. Strickland before his death. If a son would contact me, I have many funny stories to share. I can be reached at greeneron49@gmail.com. Ronnie Greene*

Ron Greene - September 16, 2023 at 12:33 PM

JH

“ *Dear Francis,
I just wanted to drop you a note I was thinking about Charles and looked him up on the internet and was sad to see of his passing. I still use every day (right beside my computer) the coaster he gave me from yall's trip to Holland. He taught me so much as a young business manger calling on him from A&P as well as real life lessons.*

He was truly a great friend and had a very kind heart.

My condolences to you and your family of your loss of a truly great man with a kind heart!

Sincerely,

Jayne (Elwell) Hollis formally with G.B. Sawyer brokerage of Atlanta and now with Nestle in Jacksonville Florida

Jayne Elwell Hollis - September 28, 2021 at 12:23 PM

RS

“ *Region 4 IRTM - US Fish & Wildlife Service purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Charles E Strickland, Jr..*



Region 4 IRTM - US Fish & Wildlife Service - June 14, 2018 at 08:46 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles E Strickland, Jr..*



June 13, 2018 at 10:24 PM

MR

“ *My brother was also a member of the National Guard and 179th Field Artillery. God bless all who served.*

Meldred Rutledge - June 13, 2018 at 06:13 PM

TA

“ *The Peachtree and Cumming Service Centers of AGL purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Charles E Strickland, Jr..*



The Peachtree and Cumming Service Centers of AGL - June 13, 2018 at 10:25 AM

DS

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



David Strickland - June 13, 2018 at 12:10 AM

RG

You look just like your dad. Chuck, please contact me at greeneron49@gmail.com. I have many wonderful stories to share about your sweet daddy. Ron Greene

Ron Greene - September 16, 2023 at 04:33 PM

FF

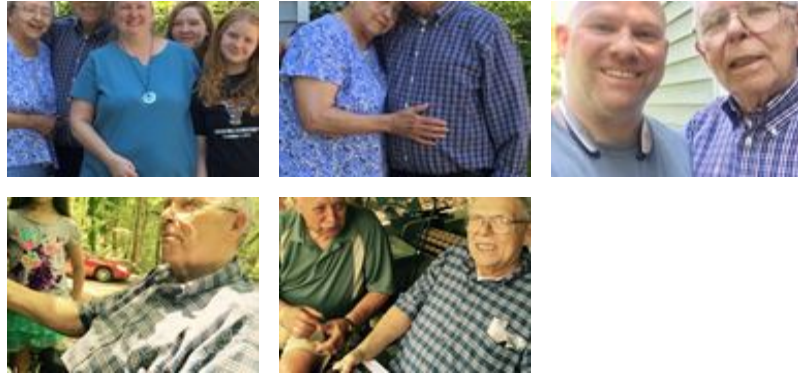
“ *Frances, David, Chuck Strickland & Family purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Charles E Strickland, Jr..*



Frances, David, Chuck Strickland & Family - June 12, 2018 at 07:07 PM



“ 60 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Scot Ward Funeral Services - June 12, 2018 at 01:59 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Charles E Strickland, Jr.*



June 12, 2018 at 09:25 AM



“ *David & Ann, Steven & Sherrer Thornton* purchased the *Secret Garden Basket* for the family of *Charles E Strickland, Jr.*



David & Ann, Steven & Sherrer Thornton - June 11, 2018 at 01:02 PM