



## Wayne Sasser

April 1, 1926 - October 17, 2017

Harold Wayne Sasser passed away peacefully at home in Conyers, GA, surrounded by his family on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. He was 91 years young. Wayne grew up in the rural south Georgia town of Sardis, population 580 in 1930. He was the eldest of nine children born to Laura Elizabeth (Bessie) and Cardell Sasser on April 1, 1926.

Times were hard in the 20's and 30's. Wayne was needed to help pick cotton, grow their food, tend the animals and help with the moonshine business. Schooling had to take a back seat, but Wayne's true passions were discovered right there on that farm-horses and guitars. He got a Sears & Roebuck guitar and learned to play it.

When WWII called, Wayne willingly answered by joining the Army. As he used to like to say, 'I never had it so good.' He had good clothes, shoes to wear, all the food he wanted to eat and a bed all his own to sleep in every night. The physical conditioning was nothing compared to what he had been used to on the farm, and it was hard for him to understand why some of the other guys complained so much. With frozen feet in England, he almost underwent amputation. But he was able to persuade the doctors otherwise and went from the trenches to being a driver for Army officials.

After serving our country, he came home to find that his family had moved to

Atlanta due to hard times. Wayne found work as a laundry man, but longed to return to the country. He finally got to do that in 1955 when he bought a little Jim Walter house on 5 acres way out in Conyers, GA. The Bar S Ranch was born. There was no I-20, no paved roads. Why, there were still hitching rails in downtown Conyers! It was ideal for him. He was able to start accumulating his animals again-horses, pigs, goats, chickens and gardening. And by this time, he was regularly playing in a band with friends and teaching his son, Larry, to play the guitar and dobro. Subsidized by driving a school bus, the laundry route became less and less and the horse training became more and more, until it was all horses.

Finally, Wayne's dream had come true. He had his horses, his son on the Grand Ole Opry, and daughters out showing horses and starting their own way in life. Every chance there was, the family got together to sing and play and continued until August, 2017. And the horse business-no one had a better reputation as a horseman and show judge. He won so many titles that it would be impossible to list them all here. Some say he was the original horse whisperer. Was this man a success? All who know Wayne would have to say a hearty, 'Yes!' He exemplified a love for life that many strive for, but few attain. And he did. He may have hated mending all those pasture fences, but he loved what was inside the fences of his world-his family, God, country, music and life. He influenced countless young people through 4-H, the school bus, church and teaching them about horses and God.

Surviving are his children, Larry Sasser (Evelyn), Conyers, GA; Gayle Kreckman (Chuck), Newnan, GA; Sonja O'Neal (Rick), Villa Rica, GA; Trina DeRosia (Clint), Conyers, GA; and Sharmin Barton, Conyers, GA; 9 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. Also surviving are his siblings, Elizabeth Collins, Stockbridge, GA; Charles (Dot) Sasser, Conyers, GA; Helen Castleberry, Atlanta, GA; and Roy (Joanne) Sasser, Richmond Hill, GA. Wayne was preceded in death by his spouses

Estelle Wofford White, Amina Brooks Sasser and Elsie Gough Sasser; his parents, Bessie and Cardell Sasser; brothers, Donald Sasser, Herman Sasser, Jimmy Sasser and Cardell Sasser; and grandsons, Stacey Sasser and Michael Barton.

Funeral Services will be held Friday, October 20, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. at Scot Ward's Green Meadow Chapel with Pastor Howard Greer officiating; interment will follow at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens. Family will receive friends Thursday, October 19, 2017 from 5 until 9 p.m. and Friday from 12 until 3:30 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home. Condolences may be submitted on-line at [www.scotward.com](http://www.scotward.com). Scot Ward Funeral Services, 699 American Legion Rd., Conyers, GA, 770-483-7216.

# Cemetery Details

## Green Meadow Memorial Gardens

677 American Legion Rd NE  
Conyers, GA 30012

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **19**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

OCT **20**. 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

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

## Service

OCT **20**. 3:30 PM (ET)

Scot Ward's Green Meadow Chapel  
699 American Legion Road  
Conyers, GA 30012



# Tribute Wall

BF

“ Larry, even though I only knew your dad from the times he would come to our shows to hear you play, I could tell that he was a man dedicated to his family. You made him so proud with your playing the steel guitar.

*It showed on his face every minute you were on stage.*

*I know that you will miss Wayne, but know that he will still be watching and smiling every time you sit behind your steel, wherever that may be.*

*Love ya pal,  
Bill Ferguson*

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**Bill Ferguson** - October 20, 2017 at 11:13 AM



“ Larry and all the Sasser girls and family. So very sorry to hear of your dads passing, he was a very fine man, friend, horse person and one of the most fairest judges I ever knew. We had a whole lot of good times at the horse shows over the years, have known Wayne for about 45 years. I'll always remember the time he and I went to the Railspiltter show in Springfield, Ill. We were in my truck and trailer, I don't remember what lead up to it but I had let Wayne drive and we were in Tenn. and I had fallen asleep and woke up and saw a road sign that made me ask him where we were and he said something I told him that's not the way we're suppose to go, he said this is the way to Springfield, Mo. I told him Ill. not Mo. Just so happened I had a copy of App.News and showed him Springfield, Ill. We went a couple hours out of the way. We always had a good laugh about that. Sorry we can't make the service but I had somemore back surgery this week and not up to riding in a car for very long. Ya'll are in our thoughts and prayers. Jimmy, Lynda and Vicki Whitaker

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**Jimmy Whitaker** - October 19, 2017 at 08:01 PM

SO

*Jimmy and Linda,*

*We will miss you and will be praying for a speedy recovery for Jimmy. Daddy loved y'all and your friendship meant a lot to him. He was especially proud that you had a Rowdy baby.*

*Love and hugs,*

*Sonja and all the Sasser family*

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**Sonja O'Neal** - October 20, 2017 at 08:07 AM



*I learned more about how a horse should perform from Wayne when we went to the Railspiltter show than you'll ever know. I really looked up to him, everyone should have a mentor as good as he was.*

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**Jimmy Whitaker** - October 20, 2017 at 10:16 AM



*Sonja send me some contact info either facebook or email.  
bbody1968@hotmail.com*

**Jimmy Whitaker** - October 20, 2017 at 10:19 AM

SO

*Sjoneal@bellsouth.net or Sonja Sasser O'Neal on fb. We definitely miss daddy, but know we will see him again. Hugs...*

**Sonja O'Neal** - October 21, 2017 at 01:28 PM

MI

“ *Sonja and Family, we are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with you during this time. Mindy, Kyle and Mike Hannigan*

**Michael** - October 19, 2017 at 02:42 PM

SO

*TY Mike! We know he is in a better place now, but we will miss him.*

*Hugs,*

*Sonja and the Sasser family*

**Sonja O'Neal** - October 20, 2017 at 08:09 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



October 19, 2017 at 02:27 PM

TO

“ Todd & Marie Castleberry, Shawn & David Owens purchased the Rays of Light Spray for the family of Wayne Sasser.



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**Todd & Marie Castleberry, Shawn & David Owens** - October 19, 2017 at 02:04 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.



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October 19, 2017 at 01:34 PM

JH

“ Gayle, I am so sorry for your loss. I know what this is like and you will miss him forever. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. Tommy and Judy Hill

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**Judy Hill** - October 19, 2017 at 01:29 PM

GK

*Thank you so much, Tommy and Judy. I was very blessed to have him as my father and I know he is rejoicing as we speak.*

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**Gayle Kreckman** - October 21, 2017 at 11:35 AM

SO

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Sonja** - October 19, 2017 at 12:31 PM

SO

“ 2 files added to the album *Sasser Family Videos*



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**Sonja** - October 19, 2017 at 12:30 PM

JW

“ *Dearest Sonja, So sorry to learn of your dad's passing. What a wonderful life! The photos are such a tribute to a life well lived. I remember your family fondly from many years ago. I am praying for you and your family and rejoicing that Mr. Sasser is with our Lord.*  
*Joan Hinton Wadsworth*

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**Joan Hinton Wadsworth** - October 19, 2017 at 10:33 AM

SO

Joan,

*I have heard from several "kids" who rode Daddy bus. I am thrilled at how many have reached out and shared sweet memories. Those of us who also were neighbors got to enjoy even more of Daddy's fun spirit. Thank you for the kind words! Daddy is definitely in a better place but he left a giant hole for us.*

*Love to you and your family,*

*Sonja and the Sasser family*

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**Sonja O'Neal** - October 20, 2017 at 08:18 AM



“ 65 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Scot Ward Funeral Services** - October 19, 2017 at 09:48 AM

MB

“ Trina,

*To you and your family from ours: Heartfelt condolences on the passing of your father. What an amazing man! All of you are in our thoughts and prayers. Mark & Carol Beavers*

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**Mark Beavers** - October 19, 2017 at 07:28 AM

TD

*Mark,*

*Thank you for you comments, he was truly an amazing man that will be missed. The out pouring of support ant love from my family at Rollins touched me and my family.*

*Trina and the Sasser Family.*

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**Trina DeRosia** - October 21, 2017 at 07:35 AM

SS

*Good evening Trina,*

*Just learned about your Dad, prayers going up for you & your family.*

*Suzi Lowder Shackelford*

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**Suzi Lowder Shackelford** - November 01, 2017 at 08:50 PM

SO

“ 2 files added to the album Sasser Family Videos



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**Sonja O'Neal** - October 19, 2017 at 01:02 AM

SO

“ 87 files added to the album Sasser Family Pictures



Sonja O'Neal - October 19, 2017 at 12:40 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.



October 18, 2017 at 07:35 PM



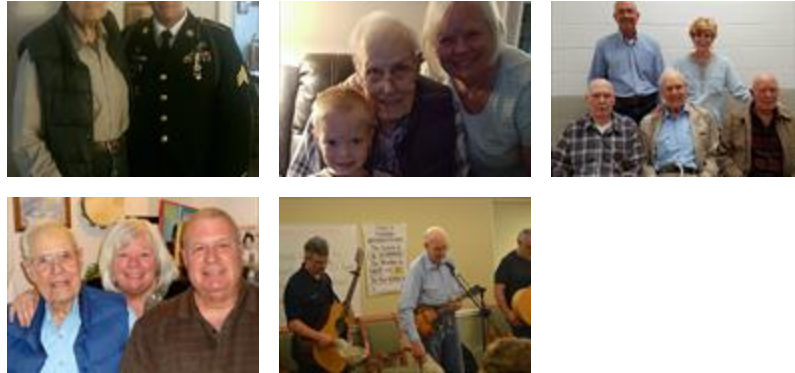
“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.



October 18, 2017 at 04:56 PM

SO

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



Sonja - October 18, 2017 at 04:40 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray* was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.



October 18, 2017 at 03:28 PM

GK

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Gayle Kreckman - October 18, 2017 at 01:50 PM

CB

“ Sharmin:  
*I am so sorry for your loss. I know your dad was well loved and will be greatly missed. I would love to see you sometime. Take care,  
Carrie Bailey*

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**CBailey** - October 18, 2017 at 12:28 PM

SO

Carrie,  
  
*Thank you for the kind words. Sharmin is in the hospital and unable to reply. I will share your comments with her.*  
  
*Thanks again for thinking of us at this sad time.*  
  
*Sonja and the Sasser family*

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**Sonja O'Neal** - October 21, 2017 at 01:31 PM



“ *Stately Croton was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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October 18, 2017 at 12:22 PM

ST

“ *Smart Source & Smart Source Rollins Team purchased the Reflections of Glory Wreath for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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**Smart Source & Smart Source Rollins Team** - October 18, 2017 at 12:01 PM

AJ

“ *Alfreda Jeter purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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**Alfreda Jeter** - October 18, 2017 at 11:51 AM

FS

“ *From Jimmy & Nancy Shipp purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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**From Jimmy & Nancy Shipp** - October 18, 2017 at 11:45 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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October 18, 2017 at 09:07 AM

DK

“ *Donna Schrock & Randy Knickerbocker purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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**Donna Schrock & Randy Knickerbocker** - October 18, 2017 at 07:50 AM

AR

“ *This was one sweet man my family Love him The Horne family*

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**Annette Robinson** - October 17, 2017 at 10:54 PM

SO

*Annette,*

*Thank you for the kind words. Daddy loved your family, as do we. Y'all's love and support through the years has been wonderful. Hugs to you all.*

*Sonja and the Sasser family*

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**Sonja O'Neal** - October 21, 2017 at 01:34 PM

DJ

“ *Dennis and Jeannie Judy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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**Dennis and Jeannie Judy** - October 17, 2017 at 07:54 PM

WS

“ *With Deepest Sympathy purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Wayne Sasser.*



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**With Deepest Sympathy** - October 17, 2017 at 04:33 PM