



James Carleton Vaughn, Jr.

July 24, 1942 - July 6, 2024

James Carleton Vaughn, Jr, of North Augusta, was released to Heaven on Saturday, July 6th, attended by his loving family. Private interment will be held at Sunset Hill Cemetery in North Augusta. Funeral and Memorial services will be conducted on Thursday, July 11th, at 11:00 AM at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 2230 Walton Way, Augusta, Ga. The family will receive friends in the Church Parish Hall following the Service.

Carleton was the oldest child of the late James Carleton Vaughn and Mary Elizabeth Davenport Vaughn of North Augusta. He graduated in the top 10% of the Class of 1960 at North Augusta High School, while active in numerous organizations. He remained active in the Class reunions and maintained his connection with North Augusta throughout his life.

After receiving his BBA in Accounting at the University of Georgia in 1964, he earned his JD in law there in 1966, one year ahead of schedule. He served as an officer in the US Army from 1966 to 1970 in the Judge Advocate General's Corp, achieving the rank of Captain. He completed his professional education at Southern Methodist University, receiving a Master of Laws in Taxation in 1971. He was the top graduate in that program. When returning to Augusta in 1971, Carleton joined a local law firm and in 1975 he opened his own firm where he practiced law until he "mostly retired" in 2023.

Carleton was a skilled private pilot, earning his basic airman's certificate in high school. As with all his passions, he chose not just to enjoy, but to excel, earning ratings for high performance, instrument, and multi-engine aircraft. He was an avid, lifelong golfer and was an honorary member of the Augusta Golf Association where he assisted in fundraising and photo documentation of their events. For 30+ years he was a fixture at the Augusta National for Masters week. He volunteered with score reporting and was the Head of Score Reporting for the majority of those years. He enjoyed the camaraderie of the other volunteers (everyone knew Carleton) and each year worked diligently to improve the accuracy of the reporting.

Carleton participated in many nonprofit and charitable organizations throughout his life. His primary dedication was to the Exchange Club of Augusta, where his work would impact a broad range of needs in the Augusta area and provide sustained support for worthy organizations. He was a member of the Exchange Club for over 50 years and held a leadership role in all levels from Committee Chairs, Secretary, Treasurer and President. He was also recognized nationally by being bestowed "The Andrew Award" which recognizes a very few special member volunteers who work behind the scenes and do not seek personal recognition for their efforts.

Throughout his life, Carleton was a faithful Christian. In every church in which he was a member he was also a servant. He grew up in the First Baptist Church of North Augusta and received a perfect attendance pin (which included reading your lesson, bringing your Bible, and attending church and Sunday school) for 12 consecutive years until he left for college. At Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church he taught Sunday School, served as an Elder and served on numerous committees, including as the Chairman of the Search Committee. At Good Shepherd, he continued actively participating as an adult Sunday School teacher and a licensed lay Eucharistic minister.

He is survived by his beloved wife Rita (Rhea) Morgan Vaughn. He and Rhea enjoyed many happy days and evenings at the Augusta Country Club when they gathered often with friends for fellowship and dinner. Carleton enjoyed family time with Rhea's adult children - Cecelia Morgan Raines, Frances Ann Morgan Nordmann, and Herbert Lynwood Morgan. Carleton was blessed to have 3 children by his first wife (Edwina Goolsby O'Neal) - James Carleton Vaughn, III (Marjorie), Edwin Campbell Vaughn (Kim), and Louise Vaughn Joyner. He also had grandchildren Joshua Vaughn, Stephanie Vaughn, Win Vaughn, and Cannon Joyner. He was predeceased by his wife of 25 years - Billie Leigh Holding Vaughn. During those years he actively participated in the rearing of Billie's children - John William Thornton, IV, Andrew Holding Thornton, MD, Bradford Hunt Thornton, and Virginia Thornton Merrill. He is survived by his sister Elizabeth Davenport Sharpe, MD and her husband Kenneth Allan Sharpe, MD and their 3 children – Robert Allan Sharpe, MD (Abby), Emily Davenport Eling, RN (Adam) and Sarah Pennell Sharpe. He is pre-deceased by his sister Mary Louise Vaughn Vallotton (Maxwell) and survived by her 2 children, Joseph Maxwell Vallotton, Jr. (Allison) and Elizabeth Vallotton Yarbrough (Jim). It would be hard to remiss not mentioning Holly Barrie (Rod) who worked with Carleton for 48 years and is as much of a part of his family as anyone.

Carleton's presence will be missed by his many friends and colleagues whose lives he touched. His family certainly will miss his earthly presence, but are comforted knowing he is in the arms of our Loving Lord.

In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Exchange Club of Augusta Charity Fund, PO Box 3884, Augusta, GA 30914 or to the Church of the Good Shepherd. The Exchange Club of Augusta will be honorary pallbearers.

Posey Funeral Directors of North Augusta is in charge of arrangements (803-278-1181).

Cemetery Details

Sunset Hill Cemetery

600 Alta Vista Avenue
North Augusta, SC

Previous Events

Service

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Church of The Good Shepherd
2230 Walton Way
Augusta, GA 30904

Reception Following The Service

JUL 11 (ET)

The Church of The Good Shepherd
2230 Walton Way
Augusta, GA 30904

Tribute Wall

MH

“ I will miss him coming in the Richmond County Probate Court and giving me a hug and just being so sweet and kind, he was truly a blessing to be around. He will greatly be missed. Love Always:
Malinda Hixon Richmond County Probate Court.

Malinda Hixon - July 25, 2024 at 09:11 AM

CC

“ What a wonderful life. May God richly reward you. prayers to the family.

Chris D. Connell - July 24, 2024 at 09:37 AM

RS

“ Carleton J. Vaughan, Jr., Carleton, to his friends and colleagues, was such a nice, soft-spoken man with a ready smile for everyone.

I lost a friend, but he is now happy to face the Lord. My prayers are with him.

He did not leave here kicking and screaming. He just slipped away. He died with dignity and respect. Cancer beat his body, but love redeemed his soul.

You didn't see my tears after I received the message from Holly of Carleton's passing.

Our Lord Jesus arrived at Bethany three days after Lazarus' death. He went to the tomb of Lazarus. There, the scripture says, " Jesus Wept" (St. John 11:35). It is the shortest verse in the Bible. But its meaning is emphatic. Note that it does not say that Jesus shed a tear. He wept!

The Jews said, (John 11:36), See how He loved him. He displayed His love for Lazarus and His compassion for Mary and Martha. You will never know the value of a friend or family member until you lose one. Carleton was a friend.

Things I learned from Carleton

You can always smile. It makes you feel good and it brighten the day for others. It does not cost anything either. When you think about it, all the best things in life are free: a walk in the park; a sunset; a lovely flower; the touch of a love one; the words, I love you; salvation.

Don't complain, find a solution. I never heard Carleton complain.

My relationship with Carleton began nearly forty years ago.

Well, most times when you meet someone for the first time, you're a little apprehensive because you're curious about the person. You wonder if he or she is a good person, how much of yourself do you

put into the greeting and could there be a friendship between us.

Now, friendship is not an easy thing to grasp. It's not something you can see, touch, or put into words easily; it's something you feel. When I first met Carleton, I was faced with this diminutive man with piercing blue eyes. Carleton leaned towards me, and as he stretched out his hand to shake mine, he said, with a big smile on his face and a genuine glad to meet you look in his eyes, I then knew and felt that we would be friends, for Carleton surely had a gift of making you feel so welcome and at ease.

As the years went on, I have gotten to know this amazing man, how he was such a very kind and caring person with such a big heart and when you combined this with his humorous and cheeky nature, life was always a lot of joy and laughter around him.

Having worked closely with Carleton on numerous shared clients over the years, I saw how caring, compassionate, and respectful he was, not only to the people he worked with but also to our clients. Carleton would always be able to bring some brightness to their day and make them laugh. That is a gift, and he was so good at it. It was his nature, and that was one of the things I loved so much about him.

There was a short poem from school that has always reminded me of Carleton –

"I shall pass through this world but once, any good that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now, let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

One of the things Carleton would have wanted was for his family and friends to celebrate his life because he had no regrets. So I would ask everyone reading this to take a minute to reflect on all the happy and joyful moments, the love, the laughter, and sometimes the antics that Carleton brought to all our lives. Hold that in your heart and mind. Today, celebrate the memories and life of this most

amazing man.

As a lawyer, he could listen, genuinely comprehend, and provide solace and guidance. It was an exceptional talent. He possessed a deep understanding of the human heart and had a gentle approach to providing guidance that brought clarity and tranquility. The compassion he displayed extended beyond mere words; it was evident in their actions - offering assistance to those in need and providing comfort during difficult times.

As we say goodbye to

Ronald Keith Stair - July 13, 2024 at 12:54 PM

AF

“ *My memory of Carleton was that of serving with him as a LEM at Church of the Good Shepherd. He was so kind and faithful. He always brought a double-space print out of the scripture and gave it to those reading. What a blessing he was to all. Anne S. Floyd*

Anne S. Floyd - July 13, 2024 at 08:24 AM

JH

“ *I am thankful for Mr. Vaughn's service to our nation in the United States Army. It is men like Mr. Vaughn that selflessly served to safeguard our freedom and liberty. I offer my sincere condolences to his family, may he rest in peace.*

Jeff Hoefs - July 13, 2024 at 12:45 AM

EW

“ Vaughn Family,

I am so sorry to have missed seeing each of you as I am traveling and Jeanette is in Europe. I have known Carleton all my life with early memories at Exchange Club functions with Big Emory and grand daddy. As I became older, we attended Reid together and sporadically grabbed a drink or dinner at ACC. I always (as I know everyone else did) enjoyed his immediate smile, welcoming nature and great sense of humor. My hope is for all of you to focus on the benefit of having him in your life. Much love and care.

Emory, Jr.

Emory Williamson - July 12, 2024 at 08:09 AM

JM

“ He was my birthday cousin and our lunch partner. We will sure miss him.

Jerry Matheis

jerry matheis - July 10, 2024 at 03:58 PM

JM

“ Our deepest condolences. Jerry & Margaret Matheis

Jerry Matheis - July 10, 2024 at 03:23 PM

MB

“ Carleton and I were Chi Psi fraternity brothers at UGA and graduated the same year. When I transferred into Georgia from UNC in 1961-62 CV was the fraternity treasurer holding that position several years. During those years we were blessed to have Carleton in that position as most of us were too immature and irresponsible; not CV.

Fondly remembering you, Carleton.

Mac Brown

Charlotte NC

macbrown@yahoo.com

Mac Brown - July 10, 2024 at 01:07 PM

RW

“ May God bless this family in this time of sorrow.

Robert Whatley - July 10, 2024 at 03:27 AM

WB

“ Carleton Vaughn...Certainly, a stand-up image of a Christian fellow. I enjoy delightful times with Carleton at Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church.

God Bless us all...Bill Blau

William David Blau (Bill Blau) - July 10, 2024 at 01:57 AM

GT

“ Loved the guy. The only person shorter than me!

Gary Trammell - July 09, 2024 at 11:40 PM

CB

“ He was a prince of a man. Always humble and upbeat. Don't believe he had a mean bone in his body

Chuck Baldwin - July 09, 2024 at 09:07 PM

CL

“ *He will be missed by so many. As dear friend who never met a stranger. He was such a gentleman. My deepest sympathy to his entire family. Catherine Luckey-Ivey and Toby Ivey*

Catherine Luckey - July 09, 2024 at 07:19 PM

LH

“ *Carleton was a man of steadfast integrity. There was just one of him and we will miss him. Until we meet again!*
Leslie and Barbara Holmes

Leslie Holmes - July 09, 2024 at 06:19 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of James Carleton Vaughn, Jr..*



July 09, 2024 at 05:40 PM

DA

“ *I am saddened to learn of the passing of Carleton. I had the pleasure of being Carleton's flight instructor when he was working on his advance pilot ratings. He was a wonderful flight student. He and I became good friends. Carleton will certainly be missed by his many friends. Prayers for you, his family, during this time of loss. God bless you.*

Don Alexander - July 09, 2024 at 01:27 PM

JP

“ I will miss Carleton very much. Our time spent together at Good Shepherd as LEMs were simply the best. A man of dignity, great compassion and friendship.
My prayers go out to all his family. I will always have my memories of Carleton.
Jim Price

Jim Price - July 09, 2024 at 11:16 AM

PC

“ Pamela Crawford lit a candle in memory of James Carleton Vaughn, Jr.



Pamela Crawford - July 09, 2024 at 10:56 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Carleton Vaughn, Jr..



July 08, 2024 at 10:07 PM

WM

“ So blessed to have had Carlton as a dear friend. Robert and I have all of you in our prayers. A good man on this Earth. Heaven will be even better with Carlton there.
Robert and Wren

Wren Moody - July 08, 2024 at 05:14 PM