



John Wayne Raiford

June 25, 1942 - March 18, 2025

North Augusta, SC—Funeral Services for Mr. John Wayne Raiford, 82, who entered into eternal life on March 18, 2025, will be conducted this Saturday at 11 o'clock from the Sweetwater Baptist Church with Dr. Paul W. Noe officiating. Interment will follow in Pineview Memorial Park.

Wayne made North Augusta his home for most of his life. He attended Saluda High School and was proud to be a Saluda Tiger! Wayne was known as “53” by his much-loved coach, Mooney Player and considered Coach Player as one of the most influential people in his life for teaching him to live with integrity and confidence in the gifts the Lord gave him. For many years Wayne regularly met with some of his fellow Tigers known as the Over the Hill Gang. Wayne joined his father’s business, Raco Oil Company, in the early 1960’s and soon grew the business to 15 gas stations. He ventured into carwashes, laundromats, mini-warehouses and even built the Sleep Inn in North Augusta. In later years he developed subdivisions in Aiken and Edgefield Counties including his favorite, Three Runs Plantation in Aiken. Wayne was best known by his community as Wacky Wayne of Wacky Wayne’s Fireworks. He entered the fireworks business in 1962 and in later years gained a partner and best friend in Kent Phillips.

Wayne was a fisherman and a hunter and had a room full of large trophy animals from trips to Alaska, the Northwest Territories, Spain, Zimbabwe and

South Africa. As a young man on a dive trip in the Gulf, he caught a world's record fish. Not realizing it was a world record; he ate it and shared it with his friends! He and Linda made a home in Edisto Island, SC where they enjoyed time with family and friends, and he spent many days deep sea fishing off the coast.

Most importantly, Wayne committed his life to Jesus Christ at the age of 30. He will be remembered for his love for the Lord and his love for people. He was well known for his generosity and was always willing to share his faith. Many came to know Jesus through Wayne's witness. For the past 30 years he started each morning studying God's word and listening to his favorite radio pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah. Wayne was an active member of Sweetwater Baptist Church.

Wayne lived his last 26 years on this earth with his beautiful wife, Linda Lee Raiford. He will be forever loved by Linda and his daughters, Leigh Ann Wagher (Travis) and Noelle Raiford (Mildred Nelson). Wayne was so proud of his two grandchildren, Caroline Kenrick Hall (Chris) and Robert Kyle Kenrick (Sarah). "Papa" will be greatly missed by his great grandchildren, Pace Kenrick, John Wayne Kenrick, Belle Kenrick, Channing Hall, and Creed Hall. Wayne was loved and admired by his sister, Wanda Parkin (the late Malcolm Parkin) and his brother, Tony Raiford (Mary). Wayne's beloved son, John Wayne Raiford, Jr., along with his son-in-law, Matthew Hamilton Keels, and his mother and father, John Wilson Raiford and Margie Durden Raiford were waiting to greet him as he began his eternal life.

Pallbearers include Travis Wagher, Kent Phillips, Joe Kirkland, Jay Bass, Jim Reece, and Allen Simmons.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home this Friday evening from 5 until 8.

Memorials may be made to Sweetwater Baptist Church, 198 Sweetwater Road, North Augusta, SC, 29860.

Cemetery Details

Pineview Memorial Gardens

450 West Five Notch Road
North Augusta, SC 29841

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 21. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Posey Funeral Directors
1307 Georgia Avenue
North Augusta, SC

Funeral Service

MAR 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sweetwater Baptist Chapel
198 Sweetwater Road
North Augusta, SC 29860

Tribute Wall



“ *Posey Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of John Wayne Raiford*



Posey Funeral Directors - March 21, 2025 at 09:46 AM

CC

We have lost a Great man. Wayne will never be forgotten. He has always had a special place in my life. He was with me when my dad passed in 1967 and his kindness was always with me. My prayers to all of his family in your time of loss.

Chris D. Connell - March 22, 2025 at 08:40 AM

MS

“ *I used to Work for Wayne at Taco back in the 1970's and his Son Wayne worked with us too and we had a Blast Working there. It was So much fun. I Never forgot about Both of them. I Liked you Both. Thank you for giving us High school kids a job. You were Both Great Guys in my Book. Just good people.*

Mark Strickland - March 23, 2025 at 10:13 PM

JC

“ I was so sorry to hear of Wayne’s passing. He and Linda were outside the front doors of Sweetwater Baptist Church many Sunday mornings to greet us and others. I did not know of his funeral today as we have been out of touch several months due to Bill’s surgeries and illness. I hate that I missed it. Much sympathy to Linda and the rest of his family.

Julie Curl - March 22, 2025 at 07:55 PM

LS

“ Libby Strom-Eubanks lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford



Libby Strom-Eubanks - March 21, 2025 at 10:36 PM

LF

“ Love, Lawrence & Partridge families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



Love, Lawrence & Partridge families - March 21, 2025 at 05:09 PM

RS

“ Reynolds and Debbie Stewart purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



Reynolds and Debbie Stewart - March 21, 2025 at 03:45 PM

RS

“ Reynolds and Debbie Stewart planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

Reynolds and Debbie Stewart - March 21, 2025 at 03:45 PM

MG

“ Morton Civil Group purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



Morton Civil Group - March 21, 2025 at 02:08 PM

MG

“ Morton Civil Group planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

Morton Civil Group - March 21, 2025 at 02:08 PM

SM

“ Sammy & Amy Morton purchased the Rainbow of Remembrance Spray for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



Sammy & Amy Morton - March 21, 2025 at 01:42 PM



“ Sammy & Amy Morton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

Sammy & Amy Morton - March 21, 2025 at 01:42 PM



“ Express Sympathy and Condolences "I Have You in My Heart" with Butterfly Wind Chime was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.

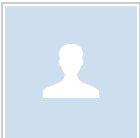


March 21, 2025 at 12:53 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 21, 2025 at 12:53 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 21, 2025 at 12:06 PM



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



March 21, 2025 at 11:56 AM



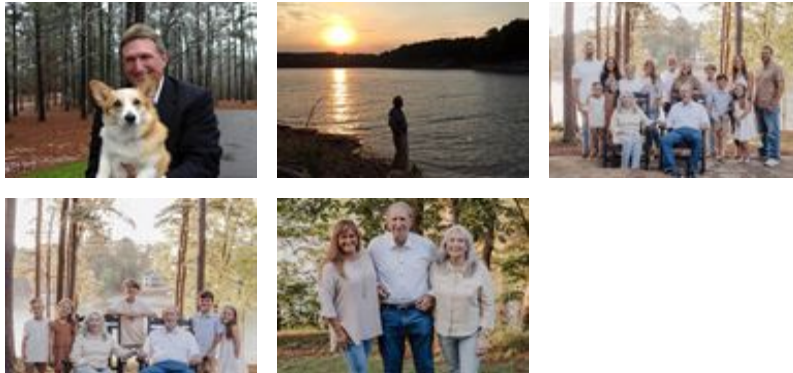
“ John Kemp, III lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford



John Kemp, III - March 21, 2025 at 09:44 AM



“ 147 files added to the album LifeTributes



Posey Funeral Directors - March 21, 2025 at 09:44 AM

MF

“ Mandy Faulkner lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford



Mandy Faulkner - March 21, 2025 at 08:57 AM

TM

“ We have lost a marvelous man. Wayne was very generous in all ways. His Christian life was a beacon for all of us. Heavenly rewards are his. Linda and family, may the Great Comforter be with all.

Tommy Moore - March 21, 2025 at 08:30 AM

PP

“ Praying for you, John and Kris Prior purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



Praying for you, John and Kris Prior - March 21, 2025 at 08:10 AM



“ Wayne was one of the most humble men that you'd ever meet. The world truly lost one of the good guys. My heart goes out to the family and the Sweetwater community. My condolences for this loss.



Chad Simmons - March 20, 2025 at 09:50 PM

JM

A generous, kind-hearted man, Wayne loved his family and his friends. A multi- talented business man, he had his hand and expertise in a myriad of enterprises, but he gave the credit to his Lord and Savior for his talents in making good business deals.

Many will miss his presence, but will remember his good qualities and multiple kindnesses.

May his legacy point people to place their faith in Jesus Christ and allow Him to guide them.

John and Lois Morgan - March 21, 2025 at 10:18 PM

EL

“ Thank you for your kindness and compassion, for always treating us like your family even though we were not. I will never forget you, and the kindness in your heart. There were so many things I never got to tell you, but hope someday I will be able to. I can't believe you are gone, but never will be forgotten. Thank you for all the memories you and Mrs.Linda created for us as kids, those are the same beautiful memories I will remember you by. Our condolences to the family.



-Elsie and Linda Delgado

elsie - March 20, 2025 at 09:02 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 20, 2025 at 05:16 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 05:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 20, 2025 at 05:01 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 04:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 20, 2025 at 04:08 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 03:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 20, 2025 at 03:07 PM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 20, 2025 at 02:37 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 20, 2025 at 02:37 PM



“ We will miss seeing Mr. Wayne out front welcoming us to church. Prayers for Ms Linda and the family. Jim, Denise, James, and Patrick Newman



Denise Newman - March 20, 2025 at 02:27 PM

CH

“ *Capital Development, Stan & Mason Harpe purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



Capital Development, Stan & Mason Harpe - March 20, 2025
at 02:14 PM

KC

“ *It is with great sadness that I learned of the passing of a brilliant man. His skill and talent as a developer of wonderful equestrian communities is admired. His wise rules, regulations and covenants are brilliant. My heart goes out to his family and friends. I will pray for him.*
God Bless J. Wayne Raiford
Kind regards,
Kathy Clark

Kathy Clark - March 20, 2025 at 01:57 PM

MB

“ *Mount Vintage HOA Board purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



Mount Vintage HOA Board - March 20, 2025 at 01:40 PM

MB

“ *Mount Vintage HOA Board planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Wayne Raiford.*

Mount Vintage HOA Board - March 20, 2025 at 01:40 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 12:23 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 20, 2025 at 12:23 PM



“ *Ken Brooks lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford*



Ken Brooks - March 20, 2025 at 12:02 PM



“ *Godspeed, Mr. Raiford. And thank you for developing the beautiful equestrian community of Three Runs Plantation. We do so love living within your vision of Heaven on Earth for horse people.*

Rita & Miguel Chavez - March 20, 2025 at 11:52 AM

LG

“ Laurie G. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



Laurie G. - March 20, 2025 at 11:39 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 20, 2025 at 10:42 AM

FJ

“ Faye Faulkner Johnson lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford



Faye Faulkner Johnson - March 20, 2025 at 10:40 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 20, 2025 at 10:36 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 20, 2025 at 10:36 AM



“ Joyce Babin lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford



joyce babin - March 20, 2025 at 10:18 AM



“ Marshall White lit a candle in memory of John Wayne Raiford



Marshall White - March 20, 2025 at 09:41 AM



“ Sending my condolences bound by prayer.

Pat Knight

Pat Knight - March 20, 2025 at 09:41 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 08:42 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 08:34 AM



“ *LeighAnn and Travis' sunday school class purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



LeighAnn and Travis' sunday school class - March 20, 2025 at 08:33 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.*



March 20, 2025 at 08:01 AM

JO

“ Wayne was one of the kindest, most generous people I have ever known. When he teamed up with my beautiful friend Linda they became a dynamic duo, living life, contributing to their community, and serving the Lord in every way. What a beautiful example of love they were to all of us. His light will shine in the love he has shone, his presence will be missed. My sincerest condolences to the family. With our love, Joni & Doug

Joni.clay1790@gmail.comJ - March 20, 2025 at 07:59 AM

JC

Rest in peace Wayne. We love you and we will miss you! Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Audi and Beverly

james clemens - March 20, 2025 at 07:19 PM

RW

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

Robert Whatley - March 20, 2025 at 04:11 AM

PK

“ No

Pat Knight - March 20, 2025 at 12:14 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 19, 2025 at 10:14 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 19, 2025 at 10:14 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with y'all during this time! We are so very sorry.

Don and Barbara McGee - March 19, 2025 at 08:26 PM



“ MM
Mike Mock
a minute ago
Linda, Leigh Ann and Noel,
On the 18th we lost a Great Man but Heaven received a Great Saint. He will truly be missed. Tonya, Nikki and I will keep the whole family in our prayers. We Love Y'all.

Mike Mock - March 19, 2025 at 06:27 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Wayne Raiford.



March 19, 2025 at 06:09 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Wayne Raiford.

March 19, 2025 at 06:09 PM

RM

“ Sorry to hear about Mr. Wayne, I did lots of painting for him. Praying for the family. Ricky Morgan

Ricky Morgan - March 19, 2025 at 06:03 PM

MM

Linda, Leigh Ann and Noel,
On the 18th we lost a Great Man but Heaven received a Great Saint.
He will truly be missed. Tonya, Nikki and I will keep the whole family in our prayers.

Mike Mock - March 19, 2025 at 06:24 PM