



John Albert Seaton

September 13, 1934 - July 3, 2022

North Augusta, SC – Memorial Services for Mr. John Albert Seaton, 87, who entered into rest July 3, 2022, will be conducted Saturday, July 16, 2022, at 2 o'clock at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church. The Rev. Dr. Eric Biddy officiating. Interment will be in the church rose garden. The family will receive friends at the church during a reception following the service.

John was born September 13, 1934, in Coventry, England, to the late Albert Victor Seaton and Nora Warren Seaton. Raised in Coventry during World War II, he was evacuated from the city as a young child. In spite of the risks, he chose to return home to his mother and recalled spending many nights as a child in his family's bomb shelter. Following the war as a young man, John sought every job opportunity to advance himself in life. He operated an ice cream van, selling treats to the communities in Coventry, worked for a dog racing track, taking bets, and was a bus driver in England and France. Due to his strong work ethic, John was able to fund and pursue his education in England at Coventry Technical College and the University of Birmingham. After receiving his degree in architecture, he had a long career serving as the director and chief architect at IDC Limited. In his work, he oversaw projects across Europe, traveling to France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, and other countries. One of John's most prestigious building projects was a state-of-the-art cigarette factory. He was appointed as architect and project manager for Phillip Morris to design and construct a \$350 million factory in Holland. John

also served as project engineer for Suntown Construction, a Taiwanese general contractor in Cairo, Alexandria and Port Said, Egypt. These projects consisted of a commercial complex, parking garage, multiple high-rise apartment complexes, an office building for the Saudi Oil Ministry, a high-rise hotel for the Ministry of Defense, as well the development of an entirely new city on the outskirts of Cairo.

In 1958 he married his first wife, Joan Blair, by whom he had two children, his beloved Gary and Nikki. John was a sports enthusiast and played rugby for the Coventry Welsh Rugby Club and was an avid cyclist. He would often cycle 100 miles per day to visit with family and for his leisure. For many years, John enjoyed riding his motorcycle and even toured through Europe.

In the early 1980's, John relocated to the United States with his wife Sho Ane Seaton. He continued his education with Aiken Technical College to receive his construction license. For twenty years, John was employed with Coventry Construction where he directed the design, management, and construction of numerous residential and commercial projects in the C.S.R.A. His projects included the design of the U.S.C. Aiken School of Mathematics, local area restaurants, and the design of houses for Senator Strom Thurmond and the entertainer, James Brown. John also served as principal architect and engineer with Parsons Engineering at their regional office in Aiken, SC. While employed with Parsons, he oversaw the Salt Waste Project at the Savannah River Site, where he was an integral part of the design and methods used to store nuclear byproducts. John was involved in other projects to include the development of the Edgefield Town Square and designing the James Brown Museum.

At the age of seven, he honed his musical talents in piano, voice and eventually composed several well-known musical pieces. As a close friend of James Brown, John shared his original composition, "Peace In The World,"

which Mr. Brown later recorded on his album "I'm Black." John's music was personally selected by Senator Strom Thurmond to be performed during a concert at the Aiken County Historical Museum commemorating Senator Thurmond's eldest daughter, Nancy Moore Thurmond, following her death. The commemorative concert comprised of performances by Sho Ane Seaton, the Augusta Symphony Wind Quintet and the Aiken Choral Society, which included his original music "Angle Nancy Moore" and "The South Carolina Song." Upon the death of Senator Strom Thurmond, his wife commissioned John to compose the song, "He Was Born to Be American," a march to commemorate her husband's life and was later premiered by the Augusta Concert Band. Additionally, he composed the music and lyrics, including "Master March," "Chopstick Rag," "Mama's Rag," "Can't Help Loving You," "Where Does Love Go," "Sho Ane's Song," "Living by the River," and many others.

In recent years, John assisted his wife in managing her fashion company, Sho Ane Design Studio. He was always actively involved in his community and was a communicant of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, where he sang in the choir. Not only a highly talented architect, designer and composer, John was an accomplished painter and amateur actor. As a true Englishman, one of his greatest joys was his garden, growing beautiful flowers and applying an artist's eye to its design. His many friends and family members have, over the years, enjoyed his and his wife's open-hearted hospitality at countless parties and dinners. His delightful sense of humor and zest for living brought joy to many. Above all, his deep and abiding love for his wife, Sho Ane, and his children was rock solid.

Survivors include his wife of 37 years, Sho Ane Seaton; a son, Gary Seaton and his wife Denise of Devon, England; a daughter, Nikki Seaton of Coventry, England; a stepson, Alex Seaton of Phoenix, AZ; nine grandchildren, Rachel,

Abby, Lewis, Isabella, Matthew, Daniel, David, Clarence and Alexandria; four great-grandchildren, Morgan, Maddie, Charlie, and Betty.

In lieu of sending flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, 605 Reynold Street, Augusta, GA 30901 or the Augusta Choral Society, www.augustacs.org

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

Cemetery Details

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery

605 Reynolds Street
Augusta, GA 30901

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 16. 2:00 PM (ET)

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
605 Reynolds Street
Augusta, GA 30901

Reception Following The Service

JUL 16 (ET)

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
605 Reynolds Street
Augusta, GA 30901

Tribute Wall



“ *Posey Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of John Albert Seaton*



Posey Funeral Directors - July 09, 2022 at 11:11 AM

BH

I knew John as a fellow member of Saint Paul's Church and Choir. He was always upbeat, pleasant and witty. I will miss this charming and exceptional man.
B. Hayman, MD

Bernard L Hayman - July 13, 2022 at 04:34 PM



“ *John Albert Seaton*

October 06, 2023 at 06:29 AM



“ *John Albert Seaton*

September 24, 2022 at 12:12 PM



“ *Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of John Albert Seaton.*

July 15, 2022 at 05:08 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Posey Funeral Directors - July 15, 2022 at 11:16 AM



“ *Linda Nalley Al-Jabere lit a candle in memory of John Albert Seaton*



Linda Nalley Al-Jabere - July 11, 2022 at 09:03 AM



“ 86 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Posey Funeral Directors - July 09, 2022 at 10:46 AM