



## Wayne L. Payne

January 3, 1936 - April 11, 2021

Wayne L. Payne, age 85, was born January 3, 1936 in Colorado City, Texas and went to the arms of his Savior on Sunday, April 11, 2021 in Greensboro, North Carolina after a courageous battle with COVID-19 and pulmonary fibrosis.

Wayne met the love of his life, Lois, in Millington, Tennessee while serving in the United States Navy as a Naval Aircraft Technician. During his service he was honored with 2 Medals. Wayne seamlessly stepped from one type of service into another. He went from protecting and serving his country to protecting and serving peoples' souls.

Wayne and Lois were members of the Church of Christ. They devoted their life to the growth of the church and to the support and care of people around the world, including a lifelong commitment to the churches in Nigeria, West Africa. Wayne helped educate and mentor other preachers and teachers to carry on Christ's work. He was an extremely humble man trying his best to example his Savior.

One of Wayne's passions was learning. He was an honored graduate of The University of North Alabama and The American University with the accomplishment of 3 degrees. His final degree was in Forensic Science, which was his passion outside of his love for his Lord Jesus Christ.

Later in his life he worked with and retired from AT&T as a fiber optics engineer. This work led him to live in Dallas, Texas, Bangkok, Thailand and San Antonio, Texas.

As a loving and conscientious man, Wayne enjoyed membership in local associations and was especially devoted to the Lions Club and the Helen Keller Institute. This commitment was strong to the point that he was an eye donor at the time of his passing. He was a humanitarian, a true example to live by, and a precious gift from God!

He loved fishing, history, playing the guitar and harmonica, talking to others about their life's journey, and reading. He has been lovingly described by many as a legend in his own time.

Wayne's unquestionable devotion to his faith in God and his family, never wavered. His life was a living example of the Bible verse, Ephesians 4:32 — "And be ye kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

He shared his God given talent as if it were the air that he breathed until his breath was no more. His compassion for others was beyond what most people could comprehend. It was never about him. It was always about others and how he might help and encourage them to live their lives to God's glory. Dad always said, "God doesn't make mistakes, and it is up to us to respect and honor what God has in store for us".

Wayne was an incredible son, father, husband, brother, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, friend, but most of all, Christian. He will be honored and remembered, around the globe for years to come. The best way to honor the life he shared is to go out and do the same, glorifying God and living His purpose in your life. He will forever live in the hearts of many.

A memorial for Wayne L Payne will be held at 2 PM on Saturday, May 15, 2021 at Pinkard Funeral Home in Haleyville, Alabama, located at 1308 21st Street. Visitation will precede the memorial at 1 PM. The service will be officiated by Jeffrey Burnett. The interment will be at the Winston Memorial Cemetery, 96 County Road 36, following the memorial service.

Due to Wayne's commitment and contribution to the growth of the church in Nigeria, a memorial service is also being held in his honor by the brethren in Nigeria.

Wayne was preceded in death by his loving wife of 59 years, Lois Gay Payne; brother, William (Bill) Garten Payne; parents, Jessie Garten Payne and Neva Ince Payne; Mom, Madge Payne; Granddaughter Barbara Collins.

Wayne is survived by his 3 daughters, Teresa Knight (Mark), Tammie Ventura, Terri Aillet; 1 honorary son, Wayne Payne Felix Bassey Jr (Dorathy); 2 sisters, Virginia Priddy (CC), Betty Miller; 1 brother, "Buddy" David E Payne (Kathy); 6 grandchildren, Heather Llewellen (Robert), Skyler Collins, Ryan Collins, Dwayne Collins (Melissa), John Cox (Mandy), Emily Moore (Jay); one honorary grandson, YeAbasi Bassey; 19 great grandchildren, Brianne Hardy, Haley Hardy, Meaghan Llewellen, Robert Llewellen, Kaylee Collins, Carlee Cox, Lily Kate Cox, Emerson Moore, Lawson Moore, Sutton Moore, William Salter, Ethan Salter, Nathaniel Salter, Shelby Grooms, Austin Collins, Makenna Collins, Jessica McGowen, LeAnn McGowen, Mikey McGowen.

Honoring Wayne as pallbearers will be Christian friends and family members: John Cox, Skyler Collins, Ryan Collins, Shane Motes, Robert Marcum.

His children would like to express special thanks to the Specialty Hospital Medical Team and Staff in Greensboro North Carolina, who cared for their Father with much attention and compassion, and to Dr. Karl Thomas, MD and

Dr. Ali Hijazi, MD for their exceptional medical care that was delivered with sincere passion and empathy.

They also want to take this time to thank the members of The Winston Salem Church of Christ, other church members across the United States and in Ibadan, Nigeria for their constant outreach of prayers and acts of compassion during their Dad's journey.

He will forever live in our hearts. We love you Dad and what a glorious reunion we will have when we all meet with you again!

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 15. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Pinkard Funeral Home - Haleyville  
1308 21st Street Hwy. 195 P.O. 592  
Haleyville, AL 35565  
(205) 486-7662  
pinkardfh67@centurytel.net  
<http://www.pinkardfh.com>

## Memorial Service

MAY 15. 2:00 PM (CT)

Pinkard Funeral Home - Haleyville  
1308 21st Street Hwy. 195 P.O. 592  
Haleyville, AL 35565  
(205) 486-7662  
pinkardfh67@centurytel.net  
<http://www.pinkardfh.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pinkard Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Wayne L. Payne*



---

**Pinkard Funeral Home** - May 13, 2021 at 06:00 PM

SH

“ *So sad to hear about Wayne. He loved the Lord, his family, his church, and his friends. He was truly a great man. He and his family were very important to me and added so much to my life. Shannon C*

---

**Shannon** - August 12, 2022 at 02:12 PM

MH

“ *Margaret Payne Hetrick lit a candle in memory of Wayne L. Payne*



---

**Margaret Payne Hetrick** - May 14, 2021 at 11:11 PM



“ 67 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pinkard Funeral Home - May 13, 2021 at 05:54 PM



“ Robert Marcum lit a candle in memory of Wayne L. Payne



Robert marcum - April 29, 2021 at 08:32 AM

RM

“ In November 1974 want Wayne taught me how to be able to go to heaven. I had never attended church. I wanted to but let me so many I was confused about which church to attend. I thought it was go to the church of your choice. GOD sent his precious son down from heaven to suffer and die for us and to establish his own church. The church of Christ. But over the years even many churches of Christ have fallen victim to Satan. They have changed. The teaching that CHRIST taught and have changed the church into a fellowship hall, a recreation hall Maby not give money to orphans homes which they have no Bible authority to do so. The church is we're we go to worship not to eat or socialize it is to worship and praise GOD in song and remember how he gave his life that we might live. I knew Wayne for 50 years I know that he believed exactly as I do. In 1974 he baptized me into Christ. He taught me the things I needed to know. He was the greatest influence on me to begin. Teaching and preaching. I have been preaching now for 30 years not every Sunday but when needed. I am always ready to teach and preach anywhere I am called to do so . Thanks to my brother Wayne Payne. I loved him I can never repay him the Dept I owe him for helping me to know what to do to go to heaven.

---

**Robert marcum** - April 29, 2021 at 08:25 AM