



## Walter Winston Skinner

September 6, 1934 - December 8, 2016

Dr. Walter Skinner, 82, died Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 at his home near Moreland.

Walter Winston Skinner Sr. was born Sept. 6, 1934 in Donalsonville, Ga., the only child of George Washington Skinner and Golden Zorn Skinner. His father was a logger, and the family moved numerous times while he was growing up.

He graduated from Luthersville High School in 1954. He earned a bachelor of science degree from West Georgia College in 1963. His masters of education in 1965 and doctor of education in 1971 were from the University of Georgia. He taught briefly in Clayton County and was counselor and dean of students at Brunswick Junior College. After obtaining his doctorate, he taught educational psychology at Georgia State University.

In retirement, he became a licensed psychologist and practiced in both Newnan and Columbus.

Beginning when he was in high school, he was a member of the National Guard unit in Newnan. During Operation Desert Storm, he was called to active duty, serving as a psychologist in the hospital at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, and at Martin Army Hospital at Fort Benning. He retired with the rank of major.

He met Sara Jane Trammell when they were in the seventh grade in Luthersville. They married on Aug. 10, 1957. In the 1970s, they purchased and restored Cedar Hill, an antebellum home near Moreland. Dr. Skinner was diagnosed with a brain tumor 10 years ago, underwent surgery and was able to live at home thanks to the care of his family and devoted caregivers including Teresa Mackert, Priscilla Hill, Debbi Haynes, Elsie Thaxton, Norma Bennett and Eula Nesbitt.

The funeral service will be Monday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. at Central Baptist Church, where he was an active member for many years. Dr. Winford Hendrix will lead the service, with Dr. Joel Richardson giving the eulogy assisted by Rev. Ruth Cuellar, Rev. Rhodes Skinner and Rev. Winston Skinner. Rev. Anne Cronic will lead music with Cris Avila and Dr. Carmen Skaggs. The family will receive friends Sunday evening at the funeral home from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Grandchildren will serve as pallbearers, and interment will follow at Luthersville Cemetery with military honors.

Memorial contributions may be made to Rainbow of Love, 75 Hearthstone Dr., Newnan, GA 30263.

Survivors include his wife, Sara Jane Skinner of Moreland; sons and daughters-in-law, Winston and Lynn Skinner of Newnan, Robert and Lisa Skinner of Moreland, Rhodes and Tracy Skinner of Moreland; grandchildren, Sallie and Jim Kight of Newnan, Jane and Jaswanth Sreeram of Menlo Park, Calif., Ry Skinner of Newnan, Rachel and Nick Evans of Cleveland, Cessily Skinner and Julie Schumacher of San Diego, Calif., Joshua and Emily Skinner of Newnan, Luke Skinner of Moreland, Noah Skinner of Moreland; great-grandchildren, Clair Lynn Kight, Quinn Kight, Rohan Sreeram; brother-in-law, Young and Linda Trammell of Conyers; sister-in-law, Menlia Trammell of Luthersville; nieces, nephews and cousins.

McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson St., Newnan, 770-253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## Luthersville Cemetery

13 Church Street  
Luthersville, GA 30251

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com

## Service

DEC 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Central Baptist Church  
14 West Broad St.  
Newnan, GA 30264

# Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Walter Winston Skinner*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - December 11, 2016 at 11:46 AM

EN

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Eula Nesbitt** - December 15, 2016 at 12:04 PM

LS

“ Sara Jane and family,  
I am deeply saddened by our loss of Walter; but I know he's having a good old time in Heaven! Walter was one of the finest individuals that I have ever known and I am so fortunate that he married into the Trammell family, which makes me a Cousin, his consistent greeting to me. The word , Cousin, was always accompanied by that unique smile!  
A man of integrity, Christian love, and encouragement, I don't think I would ever have attempted to enter a "delayed decision program" and earn both T-4 and T-5 certifications simultaneously. Since I was a Trammell, Walter had no doubt I could and his confidence kept me moving at a fast pace for 18 months. Of course, Walter and you have always been ready to help me in any way, from parenting Lisa to being family who also are treasured friends.

Words are so inadequate, but simply know that I love you and your family. Although I was late in knowing that Walt had passed away and was not with you at visitation or the funeral, I hope to see you soon.

Love,  
Lou Anne

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**Lou Anne Storey** - December 15, 2016 at 09:13 AM

DJ

“ Dear Winston and Family,  
We are so sorry to hear of your Daddy's death. We didn't know him, but we know you and if you are like him, he was a good person. May the good Lord give you peace, love and unstanding during this very difficult time.  
God loves you ans we do too,  
Don and Mildred Jones

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**Don and Mildred Jones** - December 12, 2016 at 02:16 PM

PG

“ *Sara Jane, Winston, Robert, Rhodes & families. My heart is sadden by your loss. I'm sending prayers, love & hugs to the entire family. Dr. Skinner was a true southern gentleman in every way & Sara Jane you were his southern belle. He will be deeply missed by all that knew him. Ben & I both love the Skinner family's. May God continue to wrap his arms & give peace to all.*  
*Love to all,*  
*Pat & Ben Grubbs*

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**Patricia T. Grubbs** - December 12, 2016 at 11:19 AM

WZ

“ To the family of Walter Winston:

*Carolyn and I are so sorry we can't be there. We simply could not risk driving in a windy rain most of the day. However, we want to express our love and sympathy to the entire family. Walter Winston has always been an inspiration to me having been the first in our family to receive advanced degrees in education. That achievement encouraged me to do the same and so we both reached the doctorate level and taught for most of our careers. My favorite aunt was Walter Winston's mother, Aunt "Golden." I remember spending one Christmas with her, GW, and WW. I remember it because I received a "Lash Larue" cowboy outfit with guns and whip and a black hat, and even boots! What a Christmas!*

*Walter Winston was such a caring person and he cared for my DAD--was there for his inauguration into the Georgia fiddler's hall of fame and of course for his funeral, even when it was difficult for him to travel. My apologies for not risking a windy rainy day! But Walter Winston will always be remembered for all the good he did for people while on this earth. He loved people and even counseled me during a difficult time with my immediate family. Anyone who cares for people, especially in counseling, is special. So today I say to the family: "Be proud of your husband, father, friend, and loved one. He was a great man from humble beginnings. He lived well, loved hugely, and ministered with great integrity. God bless you all."*

*Walt and Carolyn Zorn  
Knoxville, Tennessee*

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**Walt Zorn** - December 12, 2016 at 06:40 AM

DH

“ I feel so honored to have had the privilege to be one of Mr Walter's caregivers for the last 2 years. Growing up in Luthersville I had always known who the Skinners were, but did not know them well. I am so happy Winston asked me if I could sit with his dad for just 2 days until the regular caregiver got better. That 2 days turned into 2 years during which time I got to really know 2 of the most amazing people I have ever met. Mr Walt and Miss Sara were the perfect couple. He was a kind, thoughtful gentleman. I never saw him angry. I will miss him so much. Thank you for letting me be part of his life

*Debbi Hayne*

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**Debbi Haynes** - December 11, 2016 at 08:35 PM

TR

“ I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Skinner's passing. Keeping all the Skinner family members in my thoughts and prayers.

*Sincerely,  
Therese Reddekopp*

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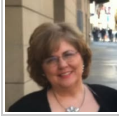
**Therese Reddekopp** - December 11, 2016 at 08:06 PM

GS

*Dear Winston, Lynn, Sallie, Jane, Sara Jane, Robert, Rhodes, and your families:  
Our most sincere sympathy and condolences upon the loss of your dear family member and patriarch. Dr. Walter Winston Skinner was a very honorable and devoted family man, Christian and community leader. He was respected and admired by all who knew him. May your wonderful memories of him bring you peace and comfort now and the future. With love to you and yours, The Gloria Dawn Strickland Family in Wisconsin*

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**Gloria Dawn Stricklabd** - December 13, 2016 at 01:54 AM



*Dear Sara Jane and all the family. We send much love to you. Walt was such a treasure to us. We know he is having quite a reunion in heaven with many loved ones, but we also know that Tom Thompson was up front and center to greet him.*

*With love and deep respect from Barbara Thompson Danner, Nathaniel Thompson, Lynn Thompson Smith, and Jon Thompson.*

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**Barbara Danner** - December 13, 2016 at 07:37 PM

CC

“ We must all remember our blessings to have had the privilege of knowing Dr. Skinner. He leaves such a beautiful legacy through his family- his children and his grandchildren and his great grandchildren. He had great insight into many aspects of life, most especially the intellect to marry Miss Sara Jane. His good life is reflected in all his exceptional family and in how he and his family have been such a fine example in our community. He and they have touched so many lives for the better.

Many may not realize through his hobbies that he has gifted us all with historical accounts detailing one of his passions-trains, especially the A &WP line which went through Moreland. His graciousness, good nature, kind words, and encouraging smile will be missed; how lucky we are to have had those shared with us! When I hear the train rolling through Moreland and its many whistles, I will know that it has one more engineer guiding it safely along the track.

"Thank you Lord the life of this good man; he has been a good steward of Your Will and a good shepherd here this life. Commend his precious soul now to a higher service."

"God Bless all the Skinners at this time and comfort them."

Love and prayers continue for all our friends, the Walter Skinner family!

Carol Chancey

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Carol Chancey - December 11, 2016 at 06:45 PM

DH

Beautifully written. This describes him perfectly.

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Debbi Haynes - December 11, 2016 at 07:31 PM

HD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Sorry to hear of your loss.

Hazel Dominick - December 11, 2016 at 06:25 PM

LM

“ I remember in 9th and 10th grade, we always wanted to know if Dr. Skinner would be going along to chaperone our field trips. His charming presence and warm smile made those long days at History Fair and literary competitions better. I am sure he has entered a better place, but will be missed by so many here on earth. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Lisa MacNabb McGregor

Lisa MacNabb McGregor - December 11, 2016 at 05:17 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Walter Winston Skinner.



December 11, 2016 at 01:27 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Walter Winston Skinner.



December 11, 2016 at 12:55 PM



“ 120 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - December 11, 2016 at 11:35 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you now and the days to come.*

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**Norman Hunter** - December 11, 2016 at 11:12 AM

JH

“ I'm very thankful that Dr Walt was a part of my life. I missed him sitting near me in church, as I will Bob too next time I'm home. Dr Walt is one of the people who inspired me to stay the course and follow my calling. He once explained the importance of being a part of an organization that holds an ethics policy, no matter what role in ministry I pursue. On that note, I will complete my application for board certification in Medical Chaplaincy this year in his honor. Though we all knew this day would come, it doesn't make it easy. I was waiting for my plane to Iwakuni to render immediate grief counseling and pastoral care to sailors who had just participate in a Dignified Transfer of a great and well loved Marine Pilot, when I received this news, and it hurt, but I knew I needed to be there for these sailors which gives me strength just as he would. I'm so thankful that I was able to see him before I left for Japan. Miss Sarah Jane, you are in my prayers, and I look forward to sitting with you in church when I visit next summer.

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**Joshua Hickman** - December 11, 2016 at 05:53 AM

MT

What a wonderful legacy and such a truly remarkable person. I cannot begin to say how much Charles and I appreciate and love this family. I always called Walter (Cuz) and he called me Cuz back. I remember so many occasions when both he and Sara Jane have helped us out when times were difficult. Many hugs and love to Miss Sara Jane, Winston, Robert and Rhodes and their families. Saying special prayers for you.

Love Mollie and Charles Trammell

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**Mollie Trammell** - December 11, 2016 at 04:04 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Walter Winston Skinner.* ”



December 10, 2016 at 11:31 PM



“ *J.P. & Pam Ballenger purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Walter Winston Skinner.* ”



**J.P. & Pam Ballenger** - December 10, 2016 at 10:46 PM



“ *3 files added to the album New Album Name* ”



**Tracy Skinner** - December 10, 2016 at 09:13 PM



“ *You are all in my prayers.* ”



**Shannon McDaniel** - December 10, 2016 at 08:53 PM

RB

“ Sara Jane, Winston, Robert, Rhodes and families -  
Prayers going up in your time of grief. May God wrap His comforting  
arms around each of you.  
Love and hugs to each of you!

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Rev. BettyJean Bowers - December 10, 2016 at 08:35 PM

RB

“ Sara Jane, Winston, Robert and Rhodes and families -  
Prayers going up in your time of grief. May God wrap His comforting  
arms around each of you.  
Love and hugs to each of you!

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Rev. Betty Jean Bowers - December 10, 2016 at 08:33 PM

FF

“ Thoughts and prayers are with the family.  
Pray that God will comfort you during the  
days ahead.



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Francis Futral - December 10, 2016 at 05:11 PM

DB

“ Rhodes and Robert.....I was so sorry to hear that your Dad. I pray  
for comfort for each and everyone and that your memories of times  
together help make your coming days a little easier.

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Donna Williford Burger - December 10, 2016 at 04:20 PM