



## Joseph Gray Hollis

September 6, 1923 - February 27, 2012

Joseph Gray Hollis, Jr., age 88, of Newnan, passed away on February 27, 2012. A native Coweta County citizen, he was born September 6, 1923 to the late Joseph Gray Hollis, Sr. and Isaac Powell Hollis. He attended Newnan High School; graduating in 1940 and furthered his education at Georgia Tech where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. “Mr. Joe” was the personification of the young Americans who came to be identified as “The Greatest Generation” in the writings of Tom Brokaw. These young Americans came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build modern America. This generation was united not only by a common purpose, but also by common values--duty, honor, economy, courage and service, love of family and country, and, above all, responsibility for oneself. Joe served in the United States Navy from July 1, 1943 to June 23, 1946 and was on the USS Essex Aircraft Carrier during the years 1943 – 1946. Upon returning home from the war, he became the devoted husband of Katie Glenn Arnall – a marriage that lasted 65 years until her death in 2011. After returning to Newnan, he extended his public service by serving on the Newnan City Council. In 1959 he took over as President of the family owned Johnson Hardware Company and remained there until his retirement in 1991. During these years, he also served on the Board of Directors of Mobile Gas and Energy South, Inc. from December 11, 1959 to January 28, 2000. Additionally, he was on the board of C&S Bank and Coweta General Hospital. He was a founding member of The Jolly Boys in 1948. Joe’s great pastime

sport was his love of golf. He was a devoted father, grandfather and great grandfather. In addition to his parents and wife, he is predeceased by his son Joseph Gray Hollis III in 1986 and his sister Sara Gray Hollis Cole. He is survived by his daughters, Sallie (Jimmy) Mann, Glenn (Hunt) Fulwiler, Frances (Mike) Oven and Isaac (Kevin) Linsey. There are 14 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Also surviving is his brother James P. "Slugger" Hollis, Joyce Hollis and his sister-in-law Lucy A. Colvin. Mr. Hollis' caregivers have been a special part of his life and his family acknowledges Janet, Doris, Martha Nell, Penny, Shelia, Virginia and Pam for their exceptional assistance during his illness.

Funeral arrangements are by McKoon Funeral Home at 38 Jackson Street where the family will receive friends on Wednesday between 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM. The funeral will be on Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 11:00 AM at the graveside in Oak Hill Cemetery. Dr. Joel E. Richardson will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made in Mr. Hollis' name to The Coweta Samaritan's Clinic P.O. Box 963 Newnan, GA 30264 or to Central Baptist Church P.O. Box 1221 Newnan, GA 30264. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com). McKoon Funeral Home 770-253-4580.

# Cemetery Details

## Oak Hill Cemetery

96 Jefferson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-3744

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 29. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

## Service

MAR 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Graveside Oak Hill Cemetery  
96 Jefferson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall

DJ

“ All the Hollis Family, We are sorry to hear of Joe's death, but glad he is at Home with the good Lord and Katie. Joe was a super good Man and he always had a smile on his face at Johnson Hwd, actually he was Johnson Hwd. All of our Family sends their regrets to all of your Family. God loves you and we do too, Don and Mildred Jones

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**Don and Mildred Jones** - March 02, 2012 at 10:33 AM

GW

“ Sallie, "Slugger" and the rest of the Hollis family. I was so sad to read of the passing of Mr. Joe. . I remember him at Johnson Hardware and playing many rounds of Golf with him. He always had fun and a Smile on his face. He was such a Good Man to have known. He is now without pain and with his wife in Heaven. God's Blessings to all of you.

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**Gary Warren** - March 01, 2012 at 09:32 PM

LM

“ Sallie, Glenn and families, I am so sorry for your loss. I have fond memories of Mr. Joe. I will keep you in my prayers. Linda Mealor

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**Linda Mealor** - March 01, 2012 at 11:05 AM

ES

“ Dear Family. I am so sorry about Mr. Joe. I always enjoyed talking to him in the grocery store every Wednesday. He was a fine gentleman, and will be missed. Earlene Scott

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**earlene scott** - March 01, 2012 at 10:21 AM

BJ

“ We are so sorry to read of your father's death. He was always so nice to our children when they went to Johnson Hardware to see the big fish in the tank. He and your mom had such a great life together for many years. Know that he is in a much better place now. You all are in our thoughts and prayers.

Barry and Ruby Ann Jackson - February 29, 2012 at 07:04 PM

RM

“ To the Family - So sorry to hear about the passing of your father. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Ray & Julianne McKnight - February 29, 2012 at 06:13 PM

FF

“ Mr. Joe was always so nice to me when I was growing up here in Newnan. I remember buying baseball bats and other items from Mr. Joe at Johnson Hardware. I remember seeing him and Mr. Slugger in a golf cart following the golfers in a playoff up the old number one fairway at Newnan Country Club. It was fun watching those two have fun. Newnan has lost another good man. My prayers go out to all of the family. Frank Farmer

FRANK FARMER - February 29, 2012 at 02:21 PM

MJ

“ Sallie, I am so sorry to read of your dad's death. What a great life he had, and a "Newnan boy" to the end. Mary Ann

Mary Ann Jenkins - February 29, 2012 at 08:00 AM

SF

“ We were sad to hear of the passing of John's Grandfather. Our family sends it deepest condolences.

Steve Davis Family - February 28, 2012 at 08:30 PM

MP

“ *To the Family: I was so very saddened to hear of Mr. Joe's passing. He was much more to me than someone I delivered meals to on Tuesdays... he was my friend, and he will be greatly missed. He was so blessed to have a family who loved him so. He spoke of all of you every week and although he didn't remember people and things the way he used to, he always remembered you. I pray that each of you will know God's peace during this difficult time and rest assured that you did everything you could do for Mr. Joe, and you did it with much love.*

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**Mary Ellen Phillips** - February 27, 2012 at 09:50 PM

MC

“ *Sallie, Jimmy, Glenn, Hunt, Frances, Mike, Issac, Kevin, and all the grandchildren and great grandchildren of Miss Katie and Mr. Joe! Joe and I were so sad tonight, but then we started thinking about what a great time Miss Katie and Mr. Joe were having tonight--not just drinking a half of a beer, but--blowing it out with all their friends and family--we were no longer SAD, but really happy for your Daddy! We know that Mr. Joe is so glad to be reunited with his Katie!! We love you each and all. Thank you for sharing your Mama and your Daddy with us. Our relationship with them was so very special. We will treasure our visits and the wisdom that they gave us forever!! Love, Martha Lee and Joe*

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**Martha and Joe Child** - February 27, 2012 at 09:33 PM