



James Wendell Whitlock

June 10, 1925 - December 29, 2015

James Wendell Whitlock (90) passed away peacefully on December 29, 2015, at Piedmont Newnan Hospital. A lifelong resident of Newnan, Georgia, he loved and proudly served his family, his community, and his country. He and Elva Allen, the love of his life and source of his strength, were married for 68 years.

Born to Winnie Williams and Edward Davis Whitlock on June 10, 1925, Mr. Whitlock was one of eleven siblings who grew up on a large farm on Roscoe Road. He graduated from Newnan High School and joined the US Navy in August 1944. After receiving Seabees training at Camp Peary, Virginia, he was assigned to the crew which planked the USS Tamalpais, a replenishment oiler supplying fuel and water to ships in the Pacific, achieving the rank of coxswain. Mr. Whitlock witnessed history as the Japanese surrendered to the Allies in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. The USS Tamalpais was an escort for USS Missouri, and he watched the ceremony from the highest vantage point aboard. Completing his enlistment as a member of occupation forces in Japan, Mr. Whitlock was honorably discharged in June 1946.

A 40 year career was spent in service to the people of Coweta County as Warden of the Correctional Institution and Superintendent of Public Works. His responsibilities included: managing a medium security correctional facility; building and maintaining Coweta's roads, bridges, culverts, and rights of way;

constructing all new county owned properties; assisting with School Board and municipal projects. During his tenure, the “Camp” was cited as a model for institutions of its type. Mr. Whitlock received recognitions throughout his career including: the second ever Man of the Year Transportation Improvement Award from the Georgia Department of Transportation (1982); the position of President of the Georgia Wardens Association (1983); Warden of the Year by the Georgia Department of Offender Rehabilitation (1984); Veteran of the Year by VFM Post 2667 (2007); the Golden Eagle from the Flint River Council Boy Scouts of America (2010).

Mr. Whitlock was a Mason, an affiliate of the Peace Officers Association of Georgia, a Charter Director of Bank of Coweta, and had been a member of First Baptist Church Newnan since 1938. An avid and skilled bird hunter and fisherman, he shared his passion for the sport and his respect for nature with his sons, his grandsons, and many young men in the community. The principles of fairness, integrity, honor and respect guided his life. Those who knew him enjoyed his mischievous sense of humor.

He is preceded in death by siblings: Verna Whitlock, Lucille Brown (Harvey), Kate Logan (Joe), Paul Whitlock (Louise), Edna Rooks (Harvey), Ed Whitlock (Martha), Dennis Whitlock, and Buford Whitlock; and by his grandson Captain Nicholas Schade Whitlock.

Surviving are his wife and their children: Clara Hackney (Ed), Jimmy Whitlock (Clare), Eddie Whitlock (Ame); sisters: Myrtle Jackson and Adell Miller (Carl); grandchildren: Kathryn Duckworth (John), Sarah Schmohl (David), John Hackney (Welby), James Whitlock (Kelli), Ashley Whitlock (wife of Nick), Allen Whitlock, Robert Whitlock, and Ragan Whitlock; great grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Ila Clare and James Whitlock, Shepherd and Clara Schmohl, Annie Duckworth, Shealy and Elsie Hackney; and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions are welcomed to:

First Baptist Church Newnan – Historic Sanctuary Fund

15 West Washington Street

Newnan, GA 30263

or,

The Captain Nicholas Schade Whitlock Foundation

P. O. Box 146

Newnan, GA 30264

www.whitlockfoundation.com/donations

The family will receive friends at the First Baptist Church Newnan on Friday, January 1, 2016, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. The funeral is Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 2 p.m. in the old sanctuary of First Baptist Newnan. Burial will follow at Forest Lawn Memorial Park. Arrangements by McKoon Funeral Home and Crematory (www.mckoon.com).

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

656 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 1. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Newnan Old Sanctuary
15 West Washington St
Newnan, GA 30263

Visitation

JAN 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Newnan Old Sanctuary
15 West Washington St
Newnan, GA 30263

Service

JAN 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Newnan Old Sanctuary
15 West Washington St
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall

EC

“ A GREAT CONTRIBUTOR WITH HIS SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE OF COWETA COUNTY. HE DID NOT NEED A GEORGIA TECH ENGINEER TO BUILD A BRIDGE NOR A BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO TELL HIM HOW TO MANAGE THE PRISON DEPARTMENT NOR HOW TO KEEP ALL THE ROADS AND EQUIPMENT AND HIS ASSOCIATES RESPECTED HIM AND strove to please him because he had the ability to deal with all walks of life. He and another employee of Coweta County Vernon "Mutt" Hunter have a legacy with their service guiding Coweta County to help make it the best run counties in Georgia. A salute from Ellis Crook

ELLIS CROOK - January 01, 2016 at 08:43 PM

DJ

“ Dear Elva and the Whitlock Family,
We are so sorry to hear of Wendell's death. Wendell was a friend to many people in this county and across the state. He and Don's Daddy worked on many projects together.
He will be missed. May the Good Lord give you peace, love and contentment during this very difficult time.
God loves you and we do too,
Don and Mildred Jones

Don and Mildred Jones - January 01, 2016 at 07:49 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Wendell Whitlock.*



December 31, 2015 at 10:44 PM



“ *Mr. Whitlock was a mountain of a man. The impact he made on this community through hard work and dedication will be remembered for generations. We need more people of character like this today. To Mr. Whitlock, thank you for your dedication and service. To his family, our condolences and prayers. - Ben Sewell*

Ben Sewell - December 31, 2015 at 05:01 PM



“ *Patty and Sean Randall purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of James Wendell Whitlock.*



Patty and Sean Randall - December 31, 2015 at 01:07 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Wendell Whitlock.*



December 31, 2015 at 12:49 PM

CS

“ Please accept our condolences, with deepest sympathy in the transition of your loved one.
Alphonso and Kesavia Smith & Family



Commissioner Smith - December 31, 2015 at 12:31 PM

GF

“ Gil Smith, Bill Ray & the US Foods Family purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of James Wendell Whitlock.



Gil Smith, Bill Ray & the US Foods Family - December 31, 2015 at 11:38 AM

NH

“ Whit was loved by so many people--what a beautiful tribute to this wonderful man who never met a stranger and who always "told it like it was". I know that my daddy, Henry Chapman and my husband, J.T. Haynes, Jr. and his daddy, J.T., Sr., all were waiting with handshakes and hugs when Whit crossed into that mansion in the sky. How I loved teasing him and being with him. My heart and prayers are with you, Elva, and your precious family. I know God will bring you the comfort you need at this hard time. Love, Norma Haynes

Norma Haynes - December 31, 2015 at 08:41 AM

SW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with ya'll during this difficult time.
Susan and Ronnie Whatley

Susan Whatley - December 31, 2015 at 07:16 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Wendell Whitlock.*



December 30, 2015 at 01:35 PM



“ *King Evans and CHA purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Wendell Whitlock.*



King Evans and CHA - December 30, 2015 at 11:11 AM



“ *To Mrs. Elva, Eddie, Jimmy and Family our condolences on your loss and our county's loss. Captain Whitlock did so much and gave so much to Coweta County through the years. Use to be when you needed something done in this county you went to one of two people and one of those was the Captain. He meant so much to me and my family through the years and taught me a lot especially about commitment, compassion, concern and a genuine love for our community. We had many conversations over the years, some in person, some over the phone and some while driving all over this county and with just about each one of those conversations a life lesson was passed. Of course it was up to you to find that lesson, understand it and utilize it. Captain was a mentor, a supporter but most of all a treasured friend. He will be missed. Our prayers to you all during this time. Love you, Mike, Bev Yeager & Family*

Mike Yeager - December 30, 2015 at 10:15 AM

RM

“ *Our family loves your family, Ray McKnight*

Ray McKnight - December 30, 2015 at 10:08 AM

EW

“ *So sorry to hear about Mr. Wendell. He was a great man and an asset to Coweta County. Please know that the family is in my prayers.*

Eva Wagner - December 30, 2015 at 07:41 AM

BW

“ *Please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of Mr. Whitlock. Take solace in the long, fruitful life he lived and the memories you have to comfort the family. We are thinking of you at this difficult time.*

Bobby and Geraldine Welch - December 30, 2015 at 05:56 AM

MS

“ *My thoughts and prayer's are with all of you.*

Mary Ann Shelnutt - December 30, 2015 at 05:01 AM

MT

“ *Capt'n was the personification of the word "gentleman." I remember when he had a "special" car tag made for Tom Luckie, but he never would have shown it to me. I had to see it from a commissioner who wasn't as much of a gentleman as was Capt'n.*

He commanded respect and that legacy shines through his children.

We lost another good one.

marianne thomasson - December 29, 2015 at 09:56 PM

RW

“ Ms Whitlock,jimmy, Clarie , Eddie and family .Mr Wendell was a special man who will be missed. He will be thought of in our minds and hearts with how he touched each of us over his years. I'm thankful to say our families have been very close thru three generations. Some of my memories of Mr Wendal and me if I may are

1: As a 14 year old leaving the Y with Eddie and going to Eddie's house on Temple to continue getting hammered in basketball. I meet two imposing figures for 1st of many times. King the German Shepard and Mr Wendall. From that day till today they both have my REPECT .

2: Mr Wendall schooling me bass fishing on his lake Wynn's Pond and my home lake at the house. I'm talking put on the bus with him and those ole balsa broke back plugs of his. I wasn't holding my mouth right I guess as him and addy would say.

3: Him breaking my Lewilian setter Zeb from running up birds. (Quial) for city folks)He got Zeb's respect to.

4: but more than those three memories is his love and grace for me the 1st time he saw me after the loss of each of my parents who he also loved.

Mr Wendal you were so special . Please give a big hello to our love ones in Heaven.

My prayers are with your family at this time for Gods peace and comfort

Love y'all

Royce Williams

Royce Williams - December 29, 2015 at 08:10 PM

IH

“ Precious memories will always linger of our times together at Wynn's Pond and with your support and guidance as I journeyed as a State Trooper. Always and forever, Ira Nell

Ira Nell Helton - December 29, 2015 at 07:27 PM

JB

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Jimmy and Pam Beavers

Jimmy and Pam Beavers - December 29, 2015 at 04:17 PM

NP

“ *Our prayers are with you. As you are going through your grief, you know he is holding your hands trying to help you. Just think of all the wonderful memories of this great man you will all have to share as the years go by. He will never be forgotten because he will always be looking over you.*

Larry and Nancy Pike

Nancy J Pike - December 29, 2015 at 11:06 AM

FF

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the Whitlock family. Mr. Wendell was one of a kind. He helped make Coweta County a special place. He was a very special man.*

Frank M. Farmer

FRANK FARMER - December 29, 2015 at 10:14 AM

BM

“ *It was an honor to have been able to follow in this man's shoes as Warden for Coweta County. Though I have not been able to fill those shoes as he did, he was most gracious every time we talked to thank me for my service but the truth be known, it was he who should have been thanked.*

He loved his God, his family, his county and his country and it was evident every time you saw him. Truly an inspiration for us all. Captain Whitlock, you will be missed but you have served faithfully and with dignity, now reap your rewards. "Well done, my good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:23

With our love, Bill and Bea McKenzie

Bill and Bea McKenzie - December 29, 2015 at 09:54 AM