



Robert "Bob" Preston Lewis, Sr.

September 5, 1939 - July 8, 2025

Robert "Bob" Preston Lewis, Sr., age 85, passed away on July 8, 2025, at Piedmont Newnan Hospital. Born on September 5, 1939, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, he was the son of the late Preston Oliver Lewis and the late Jocelyn Mitchell Lewis.

Bob was a man who persevered and remained steadfast in all his pursuits—a life marked not only by accomplishments, but by dedication to duty, family, and kindness. A proud graduate of Georgia Tech, Class of 1962, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and participated in the Naval ROTC program where he was the battalion commander. Upon graduation, Bob was commissioned into the U.S. Navy, where he served as a naval aviator with Attack Squadron 76 (VA-76), piloting the A-4 Skyhawk. Over the course of more than 200 combat missions during the Vietnam War, he demonstrated extraordinary skill and bravery, earning three Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Air Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals, a Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

After his military service, Bob continued his career in aviation with Delta Air Lines, where he flew for 32 years. He was respected as a captain on the 727, 767, and MD-11 aircraft, admired not only for his precision and professionalism but also for his exceptional approach to customer service. Bob genuinely loved interacting with passengers and took pride in making their journey feel personal and pleasant—earning the trust of countless travelers who felt safer and more cared for with him at the helm. He retired as

an international captain on the MD-11.

Bob was a longtime, devoted Episcopalian. He worshipped at St. John's Episcopal Church in College Park, served as Building Chairman for St. Andrews in the Pines in Peachtree City, and held roles on the vestry and as treasurer of Holy Family Episcopal Church in Jasper. His faith was a guiding presence in his life, expressed through leadership, service, and heartfelt commitment to his church communities.

A talented architectural designer and builder, Bob owned his own business and designed and built more than 100 homes in communities south of Atlanta and at Big Canoe. He also shared his knowledge as an architectural drafting instructor at Appalachian Technical College in Jasper, Georgia, teaching for two years.

A champion of community service, Bob coached youth baseball for more than 10 years in Fayette County, served as treasurer of the Optimist Club in Jasper, chaired the Architectural Control Committee in Big Canoe, and participated in the VetConnect Program at Newnan High School-fostering mentorship and support for young people and veterans alike.

Though his career took him across the globe, Bob's heart was grounded in family and the simple joys of life. As a child, he cherished summers spent in Mentone, Alabama, where he embraced the mountain air, carefree days, and a deep connection to the outdoors that stayed with him throughout his life.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Delane McAllister Lewis; his children, Melissa (Harold) Louise Davis, Kimberly Ann Carter, Laura (David) Lewis McAlister, Robert (Pam) Preston Lewis, Jr., and William (Audra) Andrew Lewis; his brother, Henry (Margie) Mitchell Lewis; stepdaughter Catherine Lorraine (Joe) Lane; 23 beloved grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

He will be remembered as a loving husband, proud father, doting grandfather and steadfast role model. His legacy of courage, wisdom, craftsmanship, and warmhearted service lives on in all who knew him.

We are sharing the details for the upcoming funeral services to commemorate the life of Robert Preston Lewis, Sr.

A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newnan, GA. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall, offering a time for remembrance and fellowship.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia, where final respects will be paid. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com

The family requests that in lieu of flowers or gifts, donations can be made to Camp Laney for Boys Foundation, PO Box 289, Mentone, AL 35984.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory
(770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL 30. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
576 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Graveside Service

JUL 31. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Georgia National Cemetery
1080 Scott Hudgens Drive
Canton, GA 30114

Tribute Wall

BM

“ Bruce and Mary purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Robert "Bob" Preston Lewis, Sr..



Bruce and Mary - July 26, 2025 at 12:37 PM

DB

“ Sending my deepest condolences to Mrs. Delane and the entire family of Mr. Rob. I will always remember him as the sweet, loving (and jokester) that he was. He will truly be missed



Darlene Byrd - July 12, 2025 at 04:15 PM

JR

“ A wonderful tribute to a man, who had an amazing life! It was an honor to fly with Captain Lewis, when I was a flight attendant with Delta. So true, he was so good, to the crew and the passengers. My sincere, sympathy to the family !

Julia Rivers - July 10, 2025 at 01:40 PM

KK

“ What an amazing life filled with success and giving back to others in so very many ways. What better legacy can anyone leave, than touching so many lives in a positive way.

Kathy and Richard King - July 10, 2025 at 10:26 AM

JM

“ *Juliette & John McNamara purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Robert "Bob" Preston Lewis, Sr..*



Juliette & John McNamara - July 09, 2025 at 07:49 PM

BC

“ *I will always remember fondly - as will many - the days of playing baseball in the front yard of the house on Hood Avenue. Rest in Peace Mr. Lewis. Our condolences to Robert and the family.*

Brian Caldwell - July 09, 2025 at 05:56 PM

MD

A wise and wonderful human being; always ready to help any who asked, a proverbial fountain of wisdom about so many things. I loved him dearly.

Michael deCamp - July 10, 2025 at 09:06 PM