



William Ray Perkins

September 12, 1927 - January 8, 2010

William Ray Perkins, Sr., age 82, of Newnan, GA., died peacefully on Friday, January 8, 2010 at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Leon Perkins of Terrell Co., GA, his loving wife of 48 years, Pearl Davis Perkins, his sisters Lenny Perkins McPherson, Helen Perkins Fallin and brother, Luther Perkins. Ray was born and raised in Dawson, Terrell, Co., GA where he met and married Pearl Davis. Shortly afterward, Ray entered the insurance field as an agent for Independent Life Insurance Company. They moved their family to Albany, GA and lived there four years. Ray was then transferred to Newnan in 1958 as a district manager for Independent Life Insurance Company. His family joined the First Methodist Church of Newnan where he remained a faithful member for over fifty years. He was a district sales manager for many years with Colonial Life Insurance Company and then operated an independent agency before retiring in 1978. Following his wife Pearl's death, he was blessed by God with a loving second wife, Annette Hand Drake, whom he married in 1995.

He loved God, his family, his church, and his many friends. In his younger years he was an avid fisherman. Building his retirement home on a small lake in the Welcome community, he was able to pass his hobby on to his sons and grandchildren. His special interests were; gardening, cooking, and music. He kept a vegetable garden until last summer, supplying his family and friends with

the fresh tomatoes and other vegetables. He was renowned for his biscuits, and the family frequently gathered for food and fellowship. A self-taught guitarist, he founded a gospel band, the "Gospel Heirs" who played regularly for local retirement and nursing homes. Even when his health forced him to give up public performances, he still enjoyed strumming the guitar for pleasure with one or two old friends, or with his grandsons.

He is survived by his wife of fifteen years, Annette Hand Drake; his children, Elaine and Steve Luiz, Joyce and Joe Avery, Billy and Susan Perkins, Chris and Julie Perkins, and Greg and Connie Perkins, all of Newnan. He will also be missed by Annette's children, Pam and Greg Mackey of Lawrenceville, Eric and Wendy Smith of Newnan, and Chris Smith of Douglasville; his loving grandchildren, Tony and Stephanie Luiz and their two daughters Taylor and Sydney of Fortson, GA; Karen L. and Lance Dennis and their four children, Beau and Cody Wade, and Ansley and Cathryn Dennis of Newnan; Alison A. and Jim McKnight and their sons, Brady Barnes and Jay McKnight of Senoia; Craig Morris and Blake Morris of Newnan; Sara P. and Jason Dewberry and their sons Mason and Nathan Dewberry of Newnan; Rebecca P. and Christopher Giles of Milledgeville, GA; Christy Perkins of Newnan; Robyn, Will and Bryan Perkins of Newnan, Madison, Morriah and Christian Mackey of Lawrenceville; and Austin, Logan, and Caroline Smith.

Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.mckoon.com

Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 2 PM at the First United Methodist Church in Newnan with Dr. Med. Roach officiating. A private interment will be at Oak Hill Cemetery. A reception will follow the service at the First United Methodist Church Parish Hall. The visitation is Saturday evening between 6:00 - 8:00 pm at McKoon Funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the First United Methodist Church Building Fund, 33 Greenville, St, Newnan, GA 30263
McKoon Funeral Home 770-253-4580

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

JAN 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

Newnan First United Methodist Church
33 Greenville Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Elaine and Joyce, I did not know your father, but Jimbo says he was a wonderful man. Please accept my condolences for your loss.
Junie

Junie Austin Merkle - January 13, 2010 at 08:07 AM

WW

“ We were saddened by the death of Brother Ray, but for him it was Graduation Day. Now comfort comes from our wonderful memories of time spent with him, and the fact that we know we will see him again. Our loss on earth is Heaven's great gain!! We know he would have loved the service on Sunday afternoon because it was "Him"; the church, family, friends, and music that he loved so very much. We count it our privilege to have known Brother Ray. He, Annette, and family have truly been a blessing in our lives.

Wayne and Rena Walker - January 12, 2010 at 05:30 PM

NW

“ Billy, Susan and Family, Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.... Nancy Walls SPIRAC (USA) INC.

Nancy Walls - January 12, 2010 at 06:38 AM

BW

“ Please accept our deepest sympathy. Ray lived a long and full life and leaves the legacy of many outstanding children and grandchildren.

Bobby and Geraldine Welch - January 11, 2010 at 03:47 PM

SG

“ *Billy, Greg, Chris and family, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Steven Grenga*

Steven Grenga - January 10, 2010 at 07:26 PM

CB

“ *Elaine and Joyce, I was so sorry to hear about your daddy. I know how special he was to you and what a great person he was. Now all those wonderful qualities are his gift to you and the whole family to have forever. Y'all are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Cissy & David*

Cissy and David Bureau - January 10, 2010 at 03:33 PM

LW

“ *To The Perkins family, We are in prayer with you as you walk through the days ahead. We have always admired how Ray developed such a marvelous family unit. That is not always easy in these times but the Perkin's family did it. I am sure his love of family is still present and through your faith and your family life you will have his spirit with you. What better gift can a father, grandfather give to his family. Ray did that! Lois and Ed Wyrick always have Ray's spirit*

Lois and Ed Wyrick - January 10, 2010 at 01:53 PM

JN

“ *You all are in our thoughts and hearts today as you are grieving. Please know that we love you and would love to hug each one of you to comfort you. God bless your whole family. With many hugs and much love, Joe and Dee Nixon*

Joe and Dee Nixon - January 10, 2010 at 11:54 AM

NM

“ Julie & Sara, Please accept my condolences for your loss. I'm no longer in Newnan, but try to keep up with my friends. God loves you. Nora

Nora Maloy - January 10, 2010 at 09:44 AM

TW

“ Elaine, You and your family are in my prayers. I did not know your dad but I remember the Gospel Heirs entertaining at Savannah Court when my mother was there. God bless you and your family

Terry Wyche - January 09, 2010 at 09:10 PM

Jl

“ I only knew Mr. Perkins those few days in the hospital. In that time he showed the great love for Lord, family, and the church. There will be a fond memory in our hearts.

John Irvin - January 09, 2010 at 09:05 PM

GK

“ We had some really good times singing together. He was such a wonderful example of Christ to so many, and I loved him very much. My deepest sympathy to Annette, Sarah and the rest of the family.

Gayle Kreckman - January 09, 2010 at 07:28 PM

RM

“ To the family of Ray Perkins, I am sorry to hear of your loss of your father. We have had to deal with that this year and our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time. We are pleased to have a member of your family in our family, Alison, she is like all the Perkins family she makes you feel at home. May God bless you at this time, always, Ray & Julianne

Ray & Julianne McKnight - January 09, 2010 at 04:44 PM

RC

“ *Annette: So sorry to learn of the loss of your husband. The next days will be hard, but you can work through it. I am so glad you are a woman of faith. Faith in God is such a help to all of us when faced with difficult times. I will remember you when I pray. Fondly, Ruth Wilson Campbell*

Ruth Wilson Campbell - January 09, 2010 at 04:18 PM

DT

“ *Billy, Susan, and Family, Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Doug, Meta, Rebecca, and Emily*

Doug and Meta Thompson - January 09, 2010 at 03:57 PM

RO

“ *Miss Annette, We were so sorry to hear of your loss and want you to know how very much you are being thought about in sympathy, friendship, and love.*

Roger & Debbie Olmstaed - January 09, 2010 at 01:40 PM

NG

“ *Annette, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. This will be a tough time for you, and I will be praying for and thinking of you.*

Nancy Abercrombie Gowen - January 09, 2010 at 12:32 PM

WF

“ *We were very saddened to hear of your loss and want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you all. With Much Love, From the Head Family*

Warren & Connie Head & Family - January 09, 2010 at 11:55 AM

TF

“ To everyone in The Perkins Family - We are very saddend to hear of your loss, please know our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

The Glazier Family - January 09, 2010 at 09:43 AM

JW

“ We have been praying since we heard of Uncle Ray's illness -- our thoughts and prayers continue to be with you during this difficult time. We have so many fond memories of Uncle Ray -- of his friendliness, graciousness, sense of humor, leadership, hospitality, outgoing personality, and so much more. Most of all, we will remember him for his faith and dedication to His Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and the wonderful witness he was for Him. Just as his faith has helped him and inspired him through his life, we know that God's love through Christ will help you through this "storm" in your life and will see you through the days and years ahead. May you experience God's comfort and peace in a mighty and wonderful way. We will see you tomorrow at the funeral as Uncle Ray's life is celebrated and--though we are sad about his death--we will rejoice that He is in heaven rejoicing forever. In Christ's love, Tommy and Janice (Weatherly) Williams

Janice Williams - January 09, 2010 at 09:38 AM

EC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ellen Channell - January 08, 2010 at 10:55 PM

JL

“ We are heart broken having learned today about Mr. Ray's life ending in our world. We wish to express our sincere condolences to our dear Miss Annette & all of Mr. Ray's & Miss Annette's families. It is our prayer that the families & friends will be comforted by remembering just how much Mr. Ray enriched all of our lives. We love you Miss Annette, & may you be uplifted by the love & support of family members & friends.

Juanita & Bobby Linch - January 08, 2010 at 10:53 PM

JM

“ God has taken unto himself a kind and gentle man. There will surely be beautiful guitar music in Heaven tonight!! Our condolences to the Perkins family with much love, Jim and Nancy McGuffey

Jim & Nancy McGuffey - January 08, 2010 at 08:26 PM

MM

“ Please know all of you will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Margaret McKnight - January 08, 2010 at 06:22 PM