



Lionel "Sam" Watson

June 22, 1927 - July 28, 2021

A Celebration of Life for Mr. Lionel A. "Sam" Watson, age 94, will be conducted on Saturday, July 31, 2021 at 11 A.M. in Williams Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mac Enfinger officiating.

Mr. Watson was a native of West Virginia, married, raised his son in Atlanta, and retired with his wife, Ann, in Milledgeville. Sam and Ann loved to fish, moving to Lake Sinclair after his retirement, where they enjoyed boating and fishing for many years.

After Ann passed away, Sam stayed in Milledgeville, and began a lasting friendship with Betty Hodges, also a widow, and they became each other's constant companions for many years until her death last year. They supported one another, sharing countless adventures and stories throughout their relationship.

Sam was predeceased by his parents, Lionel Hope Watson and Pearl H. Linton Watson and his wife, Ann Elizabeth McLain Watson; siblings, Joyce Satterfield, Marie Umina and Frances Watson.

Sam retired from the United States Air Force as a Major. He served his country as a pilot, where he flew the P-51 Mustang on patrol on the West

Coast after Pearl Harbor. He was a member of the Milledgeville Rotary Club and had perfect attendance for more than 40 years and was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Milledgeville.

Survivors include his son, James H. Watson and wife, Betsy, of Peachtree City; grandsons, Justin Watson of Marietta, Zachary Watson of Lithonia and Ethan Watson of Denver, CO.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in memory of Sam Watson to the First United Methodist Church of Milledgeville.

Express online condolences at www.williamsfuneral.net

Williams Funeral Home and Crematory of Milledgeville is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Heritage Memorial Park

371 Log Cabin Road
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-2148
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

Williams Funeral Home & Crematory - Milledgeville
1670 N. Jefferson St.
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-2148
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Tribute Wall



“ Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory created a Webcast will start approximately 10 minutes before the service in memory of Lionel "Sam" Watson



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - July 31, 2021 at 09:42 AM

TH

Just learned about Sam's passing. We only knew him a short time of his long life, but we are so grateful for the impact he had with us, our boys, and grandmother. He patiently sat and talked with my oldest son about war, and talked to the others about fishing! Most of all he loved my grandmother and made her final year joyous. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. - Tiffany Hodges and the Allen boys

Tiffany Hodges - August 09, 2021 at 10:02 PM

FB

“ Mr Sam was my neighbor and good friend. We talked often about fishing, the neighborhood and his military service. I introduced him to UTube and he introduced me to Tail Spin Tommy. What a joy he was!

Frank Batt - August 01, 2021 at 07:03 PM

JM

“ Sam was a friend to the community and loved to share his views on ways to improve it. His voice will be missed. Joan Minton

joan minton - July 30, 2021 at 07:30 AM

JT

“ I cleaned for Mr. Watson for 16 years. I remember all the laughs and conversations we had. I called him my grandpa from another family which tickled him so. He never forgot my birthday & helped me on numerous occasions. I will miss him dearly. To the family we were all blessed to know such a wonderful giving loving man. Thanks for sharing him with me



Jameca Taylor - July 30, 2021 at 04:58 AM