

## Richard Brookins

July 2, 1928 - April 28, 2018

Richard Jerald Brookins was born July 2, 1928 in Macon, GA, but lived most of his life in Milledgeville, GA. During the tough times of his childhood spent during the Great Depression, he was raised by his beloved Grandmother, Alice Blizzard Brookins, while his Mother worked out of town in a cotton mill. He worked at Allen's Invalid Home where he met and married the love his life, Hazel Davis Brookins and was married 54 years. He later worked at Central State Hospital and retired after 34 years of service. At CSH, he touched countless lives by befriending residents and teaching them many lifelong skills in Occupational Therapy. In his later years, he became a powerful advocate for the CSH Redevelopment Authority, serving as Volunteer Coordinator. He opened The Art Mart in 1963 and enjoyed many years making custom picture frames.

Richard was a Deacon at Northside Baptist Church and attended Freedom Church in his later years. He was a member of Carpenters For Christ and The Gospelairees , where he enjoyed playing the harmonica. He was a member of the Milledgeville Planning and Zoning Committee for the past 8 years and was a fierce watchdog for his Neighborhood Watch Program.

Richard was preceded in death by his Wife, Hazel Davis Brookins, Mother, Ruby B. Sanders, Step-Father, John Sanders and Half Sister, Virginia P. Nobles.

He is survived by Daughter, Gerrie Brookins Barnes, Son-In-Law, Bill Barnes, of Johns Creek, GA and Granddaughter, Ashley Lauren Barnes, of Buford, GA.

The family would like to offer their sincere gratitude to Ricky Brookins and Family and Jimmy Humphrey for their many expressions of care and kindness to Richard.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 2PM in Williams Funeral Home Chapel in Milledgeville with Rev. Tim Thomas officiating. A Visitation will be from 1 PM until the Service Hour.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Café Central, c/o Freedom Church, 500 Underwood Road, Milledgeville, GA 31061.

# Cemetery Details

## West View Cemetery

200 Ernest Byner St  
Milledgeville, GA 31061

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 1. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Williams Funeral Home & Crematory - Milledgeville  
1670 N. Jefferson St.  
Milledgeville, GA 31061  
(478) 452-2148  
[staff@williamsfuneralhome.net](mailto:staff@williamsfuneralhome.net)  
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

## Funeral Services

MAY 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall

RN

“ *Mr Brookins was a sweet man who always had a smile to brighten your day. We would always talk about the past and he told me he was out in front of the Campus Theatre the day Marion Stenbridge shot Marian Ennis and Pete Bivens. He relived the moment and told me he a police officer ran up stairs and seen the aftermath. He loved music and always asked about my band everytime I ran into him. I shall miss him.*



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**Randy Newton** - May 15, 2018 at 11:08 PM

DM

“ *Richard was raised by my Granddaddy's Jessie W Blizzard's sister Aunt Alice Blizzard Brookins. I remember visiting them with my grand*

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**Dolores Blizzard Marshall** - May 02, 2018 at 04:15 PM

GB

*Thank you Ms. Dolores. I would love to meet you - I remember Daddy talking fondly and frequently about "Uncle Jessie" - in fact he pointed "Uncle Jessie's" house out to me again just a few weeks ago! My Daddy LOVED his Grandma Alice and I'm so thankful they are now reunited! Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

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**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:11 PM

KD

“ *Kay Dunn lit a candle in memory of Richard Brookins*



**Kay Dunn** - May 02, 2018 at 07:18 AM

GB

*Thank you Ms. Dunn. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:11 PM

DR

“ *Debra Roberts lit a candle in memory of Richard Brookins*



**Debra Roberts** - May 01, 2018 at 12:16 PM

DR

*To the family of Mr. Brookins. I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Brookins. Mr. Brookins was a dear friend of my family for a long time. We all went to Northside Baptist Church and then moved to Freedom the last several years ago. He wasn't only a dear friend, but he was also a loyal customer of mine at Bobby Brown Insurance Agency. He shared so many sweet stories of his wife and family with me and was a great inspiration for our Lord Jesus Christ. I know without a doubt Mr. Brookins has not only passed, but he has passed onto another beautiful life with Jesus Christ for eternity! Mr. Brookins, you will be missed, and it was a pleasure to be called your friend.*

**Debra Roberts** - May 01, 2018 at 12:24 PM

GB

*Thank you Debra! Gerrie Brookins*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 03:54 PM

WG

“ So sorry for your loss. Mr Brookins was a good man. He will be missed.

Wendell & Jan Garnto - May 01, 2018 at 10:51 AM

GB

Thank you. Gerrie Brookins Barnes

Gerrie Brookins Barnes - May 06, 2018 at 03:56 PM

WF

“ Prayers to the family of this dear man. I knew him through the banking community, and it was always a joy to sit and talk with him.

Wanda Fitzgerald - May 01, 2018 at 09:49 AM

GB

Thank you Ms. Fitzgerald. Gerrie Brookins Barnes

Gerrie Brookins Barnes - May 06, 2018 at 03:57 PM

SM

“ Sharon McKinney lit a candle in memory of Richard Brookins



Sharon McKinney - April 30, 2018 at 09:00 PM

SM

Dear Gerrie...what a wonderful, fulfilling life your Dad lived. I enjoyed reading about his life and all the people whose lives he touched. What a great guy ! And he no doubt was very proud of you as his daughter, and he loved you, Bill, and Ashley deeply. My heart goes out to you during this time. With love, Sharon

Sharon McKinney - April 30, 2018 at 09:22 PM

GB

*Thank you Sharon! Love you!*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 03:57 PM

SA

“ *Susie Anderson lit a candle in memory of Richard Brookins*



**Susie Anderson** - April 30, 2018 at 04:47 PM

VM

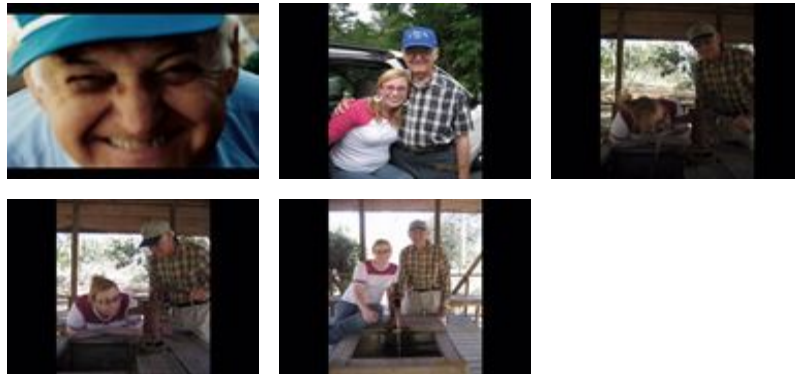
“ *Vanessa McDade lit a candle in memory of Richard Brookins*



**Vanessa McDade** - April 30, 2018 at 04:29 PM



“ *455 files added to the album LifeTributes*



**Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory** - April 30, 2018 at 02:13 PM

JJ

“ *Mr. Brookins was not only a wonderful person, he was a true public servant. He gave unselfishly of his time during his long tenure as a member of the Milledgeville Planning and Zoning Commission. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.*

*Jimmy Jordan  
Adams, Jordan & Herrington, P.C.*

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**Jimmy Jordan** - April 30, 2018 at 11:16 AM

GB

*Thank you Mr. Jordan! Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

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**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:00 PM

SS

“ *GERRIE, BILL AND ASHLEY - I KNEW RICHARD THROUGH WORKING WITH HIS VERY LOVED WIFE, HAZEL. I SAID HE SHOULD RUN FOR POLITICAL OFFICE BECAUSE HE WAS SUCH A MORAL MAN - THEN WE WOULD HAVE AN HONEST MAN IN POLITICS. I'LL MISS KNOWING HE'S IN THE WORLD WITH US BUT CAN'T BE SAD WHEN I KNOW HE AND HAZEL ARE HAPPY NOW.*

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**Shirley Spivey** - April 30, 2018 at 06:55 AM

LM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Luther & Berta and Friends at Johnnie  
McDade Grocery.*



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**LUTHER MINOR** - April 30, 2018 at 06:41 AM

GB

*Thank you Mr. Minor. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:02 PM

KE

“❤️ *He was one sweet man. I loved him* ❤️



**Karen C Evans** - April 29, 2018 at 08:46 PM

GB

*Thank you Ms. Evans. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:03 PM

JB

“ *I remember Mr. Brookins from Central State Hospital. He was also my neighbor for several years. I remember him as a very kind, soft spoken gentleman with a genuine caring nature and pleasant sense of humor. I know he will be greatly miss by his family and many, many friends. May God give you comfort and strength in the days and weeks ahead.*

**John Benford** - April 29, 2018 at 08:06 PM

GB

*Thank you so much Mr. Benford!. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:04 PM

JD

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. I remember Richard from CSH, and his dedication to the patients, to make sure they had some skills to be productive in life, when they were released. A good caring man, who would fill one's life with joy and hope for a better tomorrow..RIP Richard*

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**Jim Durden** - April 29, 2018 at 07:03 PM

GB

*Thank you Mr. Durden! Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

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**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:04 PM

JG

“ *Gerrie and family, we are saddened to hear of your dad's passing. You guys will be in our thoughts and prayers! We were blessed to be in the CIA Sunday School with Richard and Hazel, and we have wonderful memories from those years. In love and sympathy, Jesse & Gloria Griffin*

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**Jesse & Gloria Griffin** - April 29, 2018 at 06:44 PM

GB

*Thank you Mr. Jesse and Mrs. Gloria. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

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**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:05 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Richard's passing. He was a cousin of my grandmother's, and was always one of the nicest people I've ever met.*



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**John Walden** - April 29, 2018 at 06:27 PM

GB

*Thank you Mr. Walden - would love to meet you sometime! Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:05 PM

NL

“ *Nita Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Richard Brookins*



**Nita Lawrence** - April 29, 2018 at 05:30 PM

GB

*Thank you Ms. Nita. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:06 PM

JW

“ *Mr. BROOKINGS WAS ONE OF THE NICEST GUYS I'VE EVER MET... HE WAS ALWAYS SO HAPPY TO HELP YOU WITH WHATEVER YOU NEEDED.*

**Jim wharton** - April 29, 2018 at 01:21 PM

KT

*Mr .Brookins was a good man who always had a kind word and a great customer of ours and will bw missed greatly*

**Kennys Complete Auto & Tire** - April 30, 2018 at 11:48 AM

SJ

*Sincere Sympathy on the passing of Mr. Brookins. He was an expert on the day to day history of Central State Hospital during his time working there. I spoke with him several times and he was always very gracious in sharing his extensive knowledge. His passing is truly a loss to our community.*

*Sandra Woolfork Jones*

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**Sandra Woolfork Jones** - April 30, 2018 at 05:22 PM

GB

*Thank you Mr. Wharton, Kenny's Complete Auto & Tire and Ms. Jones and yes - no one knew more about and loved CSH more than my Daddy. Thank you for your comments. Gerrie Brookins Barnes*

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**Gerrie Brookins Barnes** - May 06, 2018 at 04:08 PM