



## Raymond "Skipper" Swartzfager, Jr.

February 2, 1938 - January 22, 2022

Long-standing Laurel citizen Raymond "Skipper" Swartzfager, Jr. died on January 22, 2022.

Skipper was the son of Martha Ann Brophy and Raymond C. Swartzfager, Sr. Skipper was born on February 2, 1938. He graduated from Gardiner High School in Laurel. He said the best day of his life was when he married his high-school sweetheart, Sydney Overstreet, also a Laurel native, while they were students at Millsaps College. After college, Skipper attended law school at Ole Miss, where his first child was born. Skipper would smile when he recalled he could not have supported his young wife and new baby through law school, without his regular winnings at the poker table at the Phi Delt house at Ole Miss.

Skipper returned to Laurel to practice law in May, 1963. He later served Laurel as City Attorney and City Judge. Over the years he helped many people who needed a friend to guide them to a better direction in their lives; they will miss his wise counsel and empathy. He enjoyed the fellowship of his friends in several civic clubs in Laurel.

Skipper led a blessed life in his free time, too. He was an avid coin collector; a member of Numismatics International; his knowledge of the field was

encyclopedic. He reminisced about watching his children growing up in Laurel, and he loved each of them unconditionally. He always looked forward to a round of golf, or wetting a fishing line, especially with his grandchildren, and he always gave as good a tale as he got.

Later in his life, more often than not, he was a frustrated fan of the Saints, Braves and Rebels, but always tuned in for more. As a fan of his teams, as in his life, his motto was “Illegitimi non carborundum.”

He is survived by his sweetheart, Sydney; his daughter, Marty Dunbar (John); daughter, Mimi Clark (Kenny); and son, Raymond C. Swatzfager, III “Trace”. He adored his five grandchildren, Leigh Ann, Peter, Andrew, Sam, and Lauren, and his four great-grandchildren.

Skipper was a devout Episcopalian. He served on the Vestry at his beloved St John’s in Laurel and sang with gusto in the choir there.

Visitation will be at St John’s on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 beginning at 1:00 p.m., followed by the service at 2:00 p.m.

To view and sign the online guest book, visit [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Hickory Grove Cemetery

Intersection of 15th Street and Old Bay  
Springs Rd  
Laurel, MS 39440

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 26. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. John's Episcopal Church  
540 N 5th Ave  
Laurel, MS 39440

## Service

JAN 26. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. John's Episcopal Church  
540 N 5th Ave  
Laurel, MS 39440

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ Jodee Davies lit a candle in memory of Raymond "Skipper" Swartzfager, Jr.



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**Jodee Davies** - April 23, 2022 at 04:16 AM

RR

“ Our sincere condolences to Mrs Sydney, Trace, Marty, Mimi, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Our hearts are heavy as we grieve the loss of such a fine man and family friend. All our lives we called him “Uncle” Skipper. Our mother worked for him for many years and still considered him a dear friend until her passing. We remember the day he told us his motto and what it meant. It’s still words we live by today. Thank you all for allowing us to share a small part of the life of this wonderful man and friend. His family was his pride and joy. What a legacy he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers with you all during the days and weeks ahead.

*Renee’ Roddey and Sheila Roddey Van Fleet*

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**Renee Roddey** - January 26, 2022 at 02:40 PM

DT

“ Skipper helped guide me in giving my family the fulfilled life they deserved through prayer and wise advice. It is my prayer that God wrap his loving arms around Sidney and the family. Love, David Taylor

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**David H Taylor** - January 26, 2022 at 02:26 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Raymond "Skipper" Swartzfager, Jr..

January 26, 2022 at 11:12 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about the passing Mr. Swartzfager. He was a faithful friend to our family for many years. My sister work for him and loved him more than you know. I'm praying for strength and comfort for the family during this time of great bereavement.

Max Phillips

Max Phillips - January 26, 2022 at 08:58 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sydney and family. We have such good memories of times spent with Skipper and Sydney when we were in Laurel. Skipper was always available to offer us guidance on so many matters. We will treasure those memories.

Our Condolences,  
Sheryl and Chris Springer

Sheryl Flynt Springer - January 26, 2022 at 12:52 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy in your loss. Marvin Overstreet and Shannon

shannon Holder - January 25, 2022 at 06:25 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Raymond "Skipper" Swartzfager, Jr..*



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January 25, 2022 at 12:47 PM



“ *I will always treasure my time shared with Skipper through banking and civic activities. Prayers for sweet Sydney and family. Susan Wells Hedgepeth*

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**Susan Hedgepeth** - January 25, 2022 at 10:39 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. We will always remember Skipper fondly and have wonderful memories of times spent together. He leaves behind a wonderful family and you will be a source of comfort and support to one another. Our deepest sympathies, Jan and Glen Kinard.*

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**Jan Kinard** - January 25, 2022 at 10:23 AM