



Walter Monroe Houston, Jr.

October 7, 1930 - May 22, 2024

Walter Monroe Houston, Jr., 93, of Laurel, MS passed away in his home surrounded by family on May 22nd, 2024. Born October 7th, 1930, "Monroe" Houston, was the son of the late W.M. Houston Sr. and Maude Welborn Houston.

He was also preceded in death by sisters Mary "Kitty" Hamilton, Sylvia Coker, and son Timothy Houston.

He is survived by his wife of 72 years Lanora Reid Houston, brother Harris Houston (Carmen), son David Houston (Patsy), daughter-in-law Laurie Houston, granddaughters Jessica Watts, Stephanie Pellegrin (Owen), Nicole Prestwood (Cabe), grandson Walter "Scott" Houston, and three great-grandchildren Bryce Watts, Parker Prestwood, and Kate Prestwood.

After serving in the U.S. Navy on the USS Navajo during the Korean War, Monroe worked as a mechanic for Schlumberger Well Services before retiring in 1991. He was instated in Masonic Lodge 414 of Laurel, MS serving as Super Excellent Master in 1975 and Worshipful Master in 1978 before receiving a Past Master Degree in 1979.

Monroe was one of the founding members of the Jones County Genealogical and Historical Organization and was a lifetime member having penned the first

written record of all those buried at Hickory Grove Cemetery.

A lover of history, dogs, shooting sports, and Alley Oop comics, Monroe was a true renaissance man. Over the years he was a beekeeper, wine maker, made his own ammunition, and forged two fully functional cannons. When asked how he was doing on any given day his response was always, "Grumpy!" followed by a chuckle.

Funeral services and visitation will be held at First Baptist Church of Shady Grove on Saturday, May 25th. Visitation for family starts at 12:30 p.m., friends at 1:00 p.m., and the funeral 2:00 p.m. Joe Bush, Ed Harper, Douglas Kelley, Danny Temple, Daniel Tucker, and Larry Watts will serve as pallbearers. Music by Cynthia Bush and Danny Temple. Rev. Chris Sledge will officiate.

To sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Cemetery Details

Shady Grove Cemetery

4514 Hy 15 N
Laurel, MS 39443

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 25. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove
4514 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39443

Service

MAY 25. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove
4514 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39443

Tribute Wall



“ Owen and Freddy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Walter Monroe Houston, Jr..

Owen and Freddy - May 23, 2024 at 11:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Walter Monroe Houston, Jr..



May 23, 2024 at 11:54 PM