



## Col. James V. Miller, USA (Ret.)

December 9, 1929 - November 21, 2024

Colonel James Vernon Miller, 94, died peacefully with family by his side at Viva Assisted Living on Thursday, November 21, 2024. Family will greet friends at Kimbrell-Stern from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26. A funeral service will take place at 12:00 p.m. at Kimbrell-Stern followed by interment with military honors at Andersonville National Cemetery at 2:00 p.m.

Colonel Miller was born on December 9, 1929, in Detroit, Michigan to James Vernon Miller Sr., and Marie Isabell Vizard Miller. He grew up primarily in Pineville, West Virginia where he met the love of his life and wife of 73 years, Frances Anne Browning Miller. Colonel Miller was a graduate of Concord University in Athens, West Virginia and the University of South Carolina. After graduation, he had successful careers as both an educator and army officer. In the army he was an infantry paratrooper, commanded troops from platoon to regiment and served in staff positions. As a civilian, he served at Darton College as chairman of the physical education department and athletic director. He was an esteemed and decorated army officer and respected college educator. Coach Miller, as he was often called, was a beloved scuba and sailing instructor during his time at Darton. Colonel Miller had many avocations throughout his life. At one time, he was a licensed pilot, had a captain's boat license and was a master scuba diving instructor. With his wife, he owned a cotton farm in Terrell County, Georgia and was an avid deer and quail hunter. For many years he raised and trained bird dogs. He was a

gardener and enjoyed raising a variety of vegetables to share with family and friends.

Colonel Miller's greatest passion in life was traveling. For sixty-five years he traveled the entire world. He took his wife and three daughters on trips to Europe, South America, North Africa, and Asia. In his retirement years, his wanderlust continued, and he and his wife traveled the world six months out of the year. He said his love and curiosity for traveling to far and exotic places came as a young child after reading the works of Rudyard Kipling. Colonel Miller was the true definition of a Renaissance man. His innate curiosity and intellect were the driving force behind all his many experiences and accomplishments. He had a bigger than life personality and seldom minced words. He was of the Christian faith.

Colonel Miller was a genuine and authentic person, a devoted and dearly loved husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. He will be missed beyond measure by family and friends. In his words, he had a full life with few regrets.

Colonel Miller was preceded in death by his parents and brother Robert Lee Miller. He is survived by his wife Frances Anne Miller, Albany, GA, daughters Martha Anne Miller of Atlanta, GA, Marie Miller Salter (John), Albany, GA, Sara Miller McArthur (John), Athens, GA, grandchildren Meredith Cullen Husack (Mark) of Atlanta, GA, James Charles Salter (Celeste McClung Salter) of Auburn, AL, Caroline McArthur Busbee (Harrison) of Braselton, GA, Nikolai James McArthur, Athens, GA, and three great grandchildren, Fran Phillips Salter, Dollie James Salter of Auburn AL, Emory Grace Busbee, Braselton, GA.

# Cemetery Details

## Andersonville National Cemetery

496 Cemetery Rd  
Andersonville, GA 31711

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern  
1503 Dawson Road  
Albany, GA 31707  
(229) 883-4152  
<https://www.kimbrellstern.com?>

## Funeral Service

NOV **26**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors  
1503 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

# Tribute Wall

DW

“ Marie & Family=We are sending our prayers for all! Danny & Brenda Gail (Tramel) Wall, Leesburg, GA.



Danny & Brenda Gail (Tramel) Wall - November 27, 2024 at 11:40 PM

RM

“ I hunted with him a lot and he always went by central time - never figured out why - but he was smart and I learned a lot from him. I thought of him as a father figure since my own Dad passed away back in 1989. Great guy!

Roger Marietta - November 26, 2024 at 11:12 PM

DH

“ I'm thinking of you all, Marie, Sarah, Martha and Frances and extended family. Coach Miller was a “one-of-kind” short-shorts-wearing guy. His colorful language was entertaining and revealed his attempt at that military exterior. But Frances brought out his inner Teddy Bear. May light perpetual shine upon him. Peace and love to all.



Debbie Hambley - November 26, 2024 at 09:55 AM

JJ

“ James, as we knew him, leaves us with many many fond memories. We are honored and enriched to call him friend. Our condolences to Francis, who we adore, and their daughters and families.

Joel and Diane Johnson - November 26, 2024 at 06:54 AM

SS

“ RIP Coach!!! Coach Miller was a great man that I deeply appreciated and respected as a student at Darton many moons ago. He was incredible direct but yet passionate - traits that I share and probably why we got along so well. Much love and respect to his family and close friends. Sam Shugart

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**Sam Shugart** - November 26, 2024 at 06:24 AM

MT

“ Fabulous memories of this fine man from 1968 to 1969. As part of Phys. Ed. He taught Social Dance. I loved it! Also remember his testing balance by walking back and forth on a 1" x 1" board! Handsome and Happy Sweet Man!

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**Mike Taylor** - November 24, 2024 at 02:01 PM

CL

“ He was a legend at Albany Junior College/Darton! I'll never forget a single sailing class at Lake Loretta, matter of fact I hear his voice EVERY TIME I pass Lake Loretta! Years later I ended up moving to the same neighborhood as he. He would often walk the block and he'd raise his golf club that he walked with saying hey. One day i passed him on my bike and said "Hey Coach! Best ever!" He replied, Easiest A ya ever got?!!!!”

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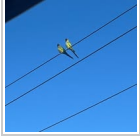
**Cristi Lewis** - November 24, 2024 at 10:27 AM

NR

“ So many memories at Covenant Presbyterian and Albany Jr College! Love to all the family.

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**Nancy Reimer** - November 23, 2024 at 04:43 PM



“ Sorry to see coach has passed, many fond memories of him from Albany Jr College taking his scuba class many times, to helping him with the water skiing classes at the river! We had lots of fun back then even the trips to Panama City Beach diving to the Florida keys. Lots of great memories! He was loved by many and made many memories with so many people. God bless the family

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**Greg Rowe** - November 23, 2024 at 03:35 PM

PM

*Marie and family;  
I just learned from son. James. Of your dear father's death!  
So sad to hear this. Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you  
and all your precious family!!! Your dad sounds like such an interesting  
fellow!  
Sympathy to your dear mom.*

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**patsy msrtin** - December 01, 2024 at 06:40 PM