



Donald L. Pye Obituary

May 22, 1928 - September 7, 2010

LT. COL. (Retired) DONALD LEWIS PYE, SR., U. S. ARMY Donald Lewis Pye, Sr., age 82, of Albany died September 7, 2010 at Lee County Health & Rehabilitation Center in Leesburg, GA. Col. Pye was born in Asheville, NC on May 22, 1928, he attended school in Asheville and was a 1948 graduate of Albany High School. During his high school years, he was the only male cheerleader at Albany High School. He was a charter member of Covenant Presbyterian Church, where he led the Senior High Fellowship, served as Sunday School Superintendent and was a Deacon. At age 18, he joined the Georgia National Guard 121st Infantry Battalion of the 48th Armored Division, the insignia was the Gray Bonnet. He retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel. During his years of service he served two tours of duty at the U. S. Pentagon. He began his career in sales, working with Interstate Life Insurance Co. and Metropolitan Life Insurance. He served as Voter Registrar of Dougherty County, moving on to the Dougherty County Sheriffs Office, where he converted the records room to the "computer age". He took great pride in his work, retiring in 1991. Col. Pye was a faithful member of the Georgia Civil Air Patrol and commanded many missions for downed aircraft. He served as commander of the Albany Composite Squadron and communications officer on the state level, where he became known as REDSTAR36. On Christmas Eve in his Radio Shack, he held the neighborhood children in awe as he tracked Santa's sleigh from the North Pole across the continents. He was a former member of the Albany Elks Lodge #713 and served as chaplain on the

National Ritualistic Team in 1961. He was preceded in death by his son, Donald L. Pye, Jr.; mother, Clara B. Robinson and stepfather, Charles; father, Walter L. Pye and stepmother, Gladys; a sister, Carolyn P. Atkinson; and a stepbrother, Vernell Bryan.

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald L. Pye Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



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“ *I was touched deeply by Don Pye. He was a kind and loving man and he will truly be missed. I was a Civil Air Patrol cadet under his command in the 70s and 80s. Col Pye encouraged me to reach out of my comfort zone and I credit him and Col Herbert Hawk with my future success' in life. He is respected and endeared by many of his "cadets" and his fingerprint on our lives is immortal. God speed Col Pye.*

Tracie Griffis Brown - Leesburg, GA - September 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I got to know Colonel Pye when I was a Civil Air Patrol cadet in the late 70s and early 80s. He was a great role model for countless young men and women in our area. He helped shape the lives of many of today's leaders, both military and civilian. He will be greatly missed.*

Robert S. Boney Jr. - October 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Laura, truly my thoughts and prayers have been with you during these difficult days. May God grant you and your family the peace, comfort, and strength to face one day at the time. My love & prayers, Carleen

Carleen Flowers - September 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ So sorry for such a great loss!! I loved him and will miss his funny, silly jokes! Prayers to you and your family!

Lyn Reed - September 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Our prayers are with you at this difficult time. GOD Bless You.

Marcena Way Kenney and Howard Kenney - September 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Mrs. Pye and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. You and Mr. Pye were a true treasure to know in my years in Albany through your work at the bank and his work at the Sheriff's Office. I pray that you will find comfort and peace during this time and know that many are thinking of you now and in the days ahead.

Anne Marie Bishop - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ You are in my thoughts, prayers, and love. Ann Peacock Voss

Ann Peacock Voss - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ *Laura, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your son, we will be at the memorial tomorrow, wish I could have come over tonight too, but love you soo much. Chris*

Lee and Chris Gibbs - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *Dear Laura:I am sorry to hear of your loss of Don. May God keep you and see you through this very difficult time. With love: Betty Dean Bultman*

Betty Dean Bultman - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ *Dear Laura and Family: I want you to know that my heart and prayers are with in your time of great loss. Loads of Love & Best Wishes, Patty Chason & family*

Patty Chason - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FL

“ *My life has been made so much richer by having the privilege and honor of knowing Don (and you) for more than 70 years, a normal lifetime.God bless you, Laura, for being so devoted and for all you have done. God will have a special place for you, too. Love and admiration.*

Frances Lancaster - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ *You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

KIM DORMINEY - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Dear Laura:Chris and I were saddened to hear of Don's passing away. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Melissa and Chris Washington

Melissa Zimmerman Washington - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ Greg and I were sorry to hear of Don's passing. May the Lord continue to give your family strength for the difficult days ahead. Your family will remain in our prayers.

Greg and Rita Jones - September 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

IJ

“ You were so wonderful with all the young people in the Civil Air Patrol. My children included. They all seemed to respect you so much, and in their own ways they loved you.I thank you sincerely for all that you shared with them. God BlessThe light shines in the darkness. And the darkness has not overcome it.. John 1:5

Irene E. & Arlie C. Griffis, Jr. - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ I would like to say how sorry I am Mrs. Pye and Lane for the loss of Mr. Pye. He was always such a sweet man to me and I have alot of memories of him as I was growing up that just bring a smile to my face. I know he is going to be missed so much. He was a wonderful and loving friend to my Dad all their lives and I am just so blessed to have known him. My prayers are with you as you go through this trying time. May God bless you and keep you close.

Tricia Akridge-Schoocraft - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ To Mrs Pye & Family, please accept my condolences on the passing of Colonel Pye. For he was one of few people who helped guided me in choosing which path to take when I was in the Civil Air Patrol. I will always remember how his help, his guidance, and his advise has helped me in many ways throughout my life, and I am honored in knowing him and will always be thankful for him in being apart of life .RespectfullyArlie C. Griffis, Jr.Former Civil Air Patrol Cadet & USAF/Retired

Arlie C. Griffis, Jr. - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ We are saddened by the loss of a wonderful man. Our thoughts and prayers are with Laura and the family.

Joann Ruffner, Debra Harris, Terri Holland, Lisa W - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ Dear Miss Laura and Lane,I am so sorry for the loss of such a wonderful man. You will both be in my prayers and thoughts. Mr.Pye will always hold a special place in my heart,as do you all. He was a great friend to my Daddy and therefore loved by my whole family.

Cindy Akridge-Martin - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

L(

“ Liberty's Intercessors are lifting the family members up to the arms of the Father for comfort, peace and strength during this time of departure of your special loved one. Be encouraged that because Jesus loves us all so much that he died on the cross to insure you that you will be able see him again to be with him for eternity! Praying you feel the loving presence of the Holy Spirit all around you.

Liberty United Methodist Church Intercessors (Lane - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Dear Laura and Lane, we were saddened to learn of Don's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bill and Norma Berry - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Although it may seem to us Mr. Pye lived a long life, but, according to our Creator it was short (Job 14:1). Soon death will be no more, then we will be able to live as Almighty God intended for us to live (Revelation 21:4 and Psalm 37:29).

CP - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ My deepest sympathy to the Pye Family. It was a honor to know and respect Mr. Pye. Please know you are in my prayers.

Jan Robinson - September 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ *Mama Laura, Lane, Kaitlyn and Jacob, We know you miss Mr. Don, but he is in a better place feeling no more pain. We love you all like family and are thinking about you. Keeping you in our prayers, MV & Jackie*

MV Bostick, Jr. and Jackie - September 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *IT WAS A HONOR TO KNOW MR. PYE WHEN HE WAS A SHORT TERM RESIDENT AT BRICKHAVEN ASSISTED LIVING. YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.FROM ALL THE STAFF,BRICKHAVEN ASSISTED LIVING*

PAM HALL - September 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *One of our dearest friends! He is now with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We love Lane and Laura and may the Lord comfort and keep you in your time of loss. Don was such a generous person. He was such a joy to be around. We wish you only the best. We send our love and deepest sympathy. We are comforted by the fact that "Daddy Don" is in a place of no more tears or sorrow in the presence of our risen Saviour. All our love, Jim and Jan*

Jim & Jan Medlin - September 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Our prayers are with you. The Dowdell Family*

Susan Dowdell Smith - September 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM