



## Douglas L. Pope Obituary

April 10, 1924 - May 11, 2009

Mr. Douglas L. Pope, 85 of Albany died May 11, 2009 at his residence. Born April 10, 1924 in Pinehurst, GA, Mr. Pope has lived in Albany since 1951 where he was a member of Raleigh White Baptist Church and the Fishermen's Sunday School Class and a member of American Legion. Mr. Pope served in the Army Air Corps in World War II as an aerial photographer. He was a graduate of the University of Tampa in Engineering, ABAC in Tifton and the University of Georgia with a BS in Soil Science and Agronomy. Mr. Pope was with USDA, Soil Conservation Service for 36 years. At retirement he was Area Conservationist for 30 counties in Southwest Georgia. He received many state and national awards for his contributions to soil and water conservation. He was selected by Encyclopedia Britannica as Personality of the South in 1976 and Outstanding American in 1978. He received two Dept. of the Navy Commendation Awards for his leadership in grass density studies for Georgia and Tennessee. He developed the first Land Management Plan for the Albany Marine Base. In 1982 he and his wife, Delores received the Environmental Educators of the Year Award from the Georgia Chapter of Soil Conservation Society of America for work with the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop of Georgia; as Director for 12 years. Each year an annual college scholarship to any accredited college in Georgia was presented, in his name, to a deserving student attending the workshop. He received the Outstanding Agricultural Alumni Award from the University of Georgia in 1987. In 1988 he received the Georgia

Conservationist of the Year Award from the Soil Conservation Society and from the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Districts in 1990. He was a former member and Director of Albany Kiwanis Club. He worked for many years with Boy and Girl Scouts of America. In 1978 he received the Good Turn Award from the Chehaw Council, and was a member of Stonebridge Golf and County Club. Following retirement, he and his wife, Delores, organized Pope Consultants and managed several large farming operations for Citadel Group in Georgia and Florida. He was on the staff of F & W Agriservices; He was on the Governor's Advisory Council on State Water Issues. He and his staff have assisted several hundred landowners needing environmental assessments of their property in order to obtain needed permits to develop their property. Mr. Pope was an environmentalist for several counties in South Georgia who had needs for permits to maintain and install infrastructure. He and his wife Delores are the only couple to both receive the Outstanding Conservation Award presented by the Woodman of the World Life Insurance Company. He has designed and built over 1000 earthen dams in South Georgia, presented over 200 TV programs on Soil and Water and written many articles on Soil and Water Conservation for National magazines. Mr. Pope has written two books, one on South Georgia land and what is happening to our Natural Resources: soil and water. Another book is on his life growing up on a mule and cotton farm, his work with USDA as a teenager, his experiences of three years in the European Theater in World War II and thirty years with USDA, Soil & Water Conservation Service as Area Conservationist for South Georgia. Mr. Pope was preceded in death by his parents, James Sanders Pope and Neva Williams Pope and his sister, Clyde Collins of Macon, GA. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Delores Hendley Pope of Albany, three sons, Rodney Lee Pope and his wife Nadine of Marietta, GA, Michael Leon Pope and his wife, Nancy of Newnan, GA and Russell Sanders Pope and his wife, Kathy of Live Oak, FL, grandsons, Douglas Eugene Pope and his wife Rachel of Live Oak, FL and Zachary Ryan Pope of Marietta, granddaughter, Frances Holt of Albany and a great

grandson, Jonathan Michael Pope of Live Oak, FL, nephews, James Collins of Calhoun, GA, Ron Collins of Atlanta and cousins, Lummie Williams of Cordele, GA and Betty Gotsch of Alb

# Tribute Wall



“ *Douglas L. Pope Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *During my career at Lilliston Corp. I had the pleasure of working with Doug on many occasions. I always found Doug to be knowledgeable and pleasant as we worked together. I'm glad that Doug was my friend. Bill*

**William T. (Bill) Mills** - May 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *just checking comments*

**Delores** - May 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *We miss you!*

**Nancy** - May 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Doug was truly a man for all seasons, the best "story teller" I ever knew, and a legend in SCS/NRCS circles. I was lucky enough to work with Pope for many years and am a better person for it. He will be greatly missed. God bless and keep you Ms. Dee.*

**Bo Bannister** - May 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Thinking of all of you. I am remembering all the fun Daddy (Ron Lee) had working and socializing with Pope. Ya'll always did so much for our family. We love you.

Sandra

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**Bob and Sandra (Lee) Thompson** - May 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ It has been an honor knowing Mr. Pope most of my life. He will be remembered as a kind, person with a contagious smile. Whenever he came by our office for business or just to say "Hello", work ceased... we all HAD to see Mr. Pope. No doubt, he is entertaining his Lord and Savior with one of his stories right now. We will miss him. Our prayers are with you as adjust to his home-going.

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**Kay Pierce Bradley** - May 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ My prayers or with the family.

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**Sylvester Bembry NRCS Tech.** - May 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ A true pioneer of NRCS is lost. With deepest sympathy on the loss of your love one.

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**Alfred Green** - May 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Rod, Mike, Russ, So sorry for your loss. We had such a good time growing up. My prayers are with all of you. Ricky McCrary

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**Ricky McCrary** - May 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

OR

“ I came from Florida and met one of the finest gentlemen I have ever known. He had many stories to tell; and I enjoyed fishing in his pond and picking blueberries. I know Mr. Pope is going to be missed by many people, especially those that were close to him. We know he is in a better place now and is basking in the sunlight with the Lord. I extend my sympathy to his wife, Deloris and family.

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**Oscar Rawls** - May 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ I will cherish the memories of Mr. Pope and his career with USDA-SCS and the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop.

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**Sidney C. Lanier, Jr** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ We have lost a Icon of USDA, MAY GOD BLESS HIS FAMILY.

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**Byron Benton** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ I consider it an honor to have known and worked with Mr. Pope. His wisdom and wit has provided guidance to me through the years. My sympathy to Mrs. Pope and family.

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**Perry Wilkerson** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ I never knew Mr. Pope personally, but as an NRCS employee and as a volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop, I am incredibly grateful for the legacy he left in the agency, his community, and with the youth of Georgia through his dedication and passion for conservation and education. My thanks and sympathies to the family and loved ones of Mr. Pope.

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**Sherry Carlson** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I have had the honor to work with Mr. Pope on several occasions building ponds and dams. His knowledge was unsurpassed, his wit and stories always brought laughter. He will be greatly missed. Prayers go out to Mrs. Pope and family.

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**Donnie Cheney** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Dear Pope Family,  
I want to extend my sympathy in the loss of your husband/father. After reading about all his great work, I am sure that our Heavenly Father is thanking him for taking care of His creation. I have fun memories as a youth growing up in Raleigh White, where the youth department in an effort to raise money for activities would have a walk-a-thon and walk out to the Pope's home. Mr. Pope was a fine, generous man and I am sure you will miss him.

*Gayle Jones West  
Raleigh, NC*

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**Gayle West** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *Mr. Pope was always a kind person to me. My father though a lot of him and his kind ways. My prayers are for the Pope family. With Sympathy. Lori Pilkinton*

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**Lori Pilkinton** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ *Doug Pope was my supervisor when I worked in Albany during the early days of my career with NRCS. I was a student trainee under his direction. He was a great teacher, who I have admired over the years and still remember some of his favorite sayings & stories. It was a wonderful opportunity to have known him. I know that he will be missed by his family and friends.*

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**Lynn Smith Nichols** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *My daddy, JC Edwards, worked with Mr. Pope at the Soil Conservation Service for many years. Daddy thought the world of Mr. Pope and always spoke very highly of him. My mother, Helen Edwards, and I as well as the rest of our family would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to you. May you feel God's love and protection around you during this time.*

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**Dana Edwards Kelly** - May 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM