



## H. Joe Nichols Obituary

December 14, 1925 - February 1, 2008

H. Joe Nichols, 82, of Albany, GA and Enterprise, AL, died Friday evening at his residence in Albany following an illness. The funeral service will be Tuesday, 3 PM, First Baptist Church. Interment will be in Crown Hill Cemetery with Masonic Rites. Dr. G. Lance Hogan will officiate. Mr. Nichols was born in Panama City, FL, December 14, 1925, attended elementary, junior high and through the 11th grade in Thomasville, then graduated from Albany High School in 1943. Joe was a veteran of WWII having served in the US Navy. After his service in the Navy he graduated from Mercer University with a degree in Business Administration, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He was a member and Past Exalted Ruler of B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge #713, a member and past Master of Triangle Lodge #708 F. & A. M., a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, a York Rite Mason, and a member and past Potentate of Hasan Shrine Temple. He was also a member and Past Director of the Royal Order of Jesters, Court #159, Knighted Royal Order of Scotland. Mr. Nichols was also a member and past President of the Albany Shrine Club, a member of the Hasan Shrine Temple Flying Fezzes, flying critically burned victims to Shrine Burn Institutes, and a member of the Temple Van Transportation Unit, transporting patients to Shrine Orthopedic Hospitals. He was a Past President of the Georgia Shrine Association, Past Commander of Hasan Temple's Legion of Honor, and a Past President of Hasan Temple's Escort Unit. Mr. Nichols served as a member of the Scottish Rite Hospital Child Care Committee in Atlanta and as a director of the Scottish Rite

Foundation of Georgia. Mr. Nichols was a past president and member, since 1950, of the Exchange Club of Albany and was recognized as the 1998 -1999 Millard A. Beckum Outstanding Club President of the Georgia District Exchange Clubs. He was also a member of the State of Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors, and served as president of the Golden Triangle Resource Conservation and Development Council from 1995 to 2006. Mr. Nichols was inducted into the Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors Hall of Fame in 2008. He was the 1985 Dougherty County Conservation Man of the Year and received the 1981 Woodman of the World Conservation Award. Music was always an important part of Joe's life. His band, Joe Nichols and his Five Pennies, played throughout the southeast. Later he was a vocalist and saxophone player with the Albert Murphy Orchestra and the Dave Mercer Band. He was a charter member of Central Baptist Church and served as Central Baptist Church's first Minister of Music. He was a member of First Baptist Church where he was a member of the choir. He was Imperial Vocalist for Shrine of North America, Convention Vocalist for the National Association of Conservation Districts, and Convention Vocalist for the National Exchange Clubs. He served as Emcee and host for the Southwest Georgia segment of the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Labor Day Telethon from 1983 to 1987. He married the late Dorris E. "Dot" Wilder on December 15, 1946, who died January 15, 2002. He is also preceded in death by a daughter, Renae Nichols Simon Wallace and a son, Lance Jay Nichols. Survivors include his wife Frances D. Nichols of Albany and Enterprise, AL; 3 sons, H. J. 'Skip' Nichols, Jr. (Lavon) of Albany, Larry W. Nichols (Judy) of Atlanta, and Scott Keith Nichols (Diane) of Albany; 2 daughters, Lisa Faye Nichols (Ben) of Jacksonville, FL, and Sheryl Nichols Giles (Joe) of Albany; step children, Neal Nichols (March) of Enterprise, AL, and Charlotte N. Griffin (Gordon) of Enterprise, AL; 19 grandchildren, 6 step grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and 6 step great grandchildren. Those desiring please make memorials to Albany Community Hospice, Masonic Children's Home of Georgia, National

Exchange Club for Prevention of Child Abuse, Shriners Children's Hos

# Tribute Wall



“ *H. Joe Nichols Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *H. Joe Nichols Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *H. Joe Nichols Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *H. Joe Nichols Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the family of Joe Nichols. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Rest in peace Joe and GOD bless.*

**Chuck Mitchell** - February 12, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Chris I am truly sorry for your loss. I read all the wonderful things about your grandfather and it sounds like he was a pretty upstanding guy. My heart goes out to you and your family. You all will be in mine and Matt's prayers.*

**Jessica M. Austin** - February 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Tonya,

*We were so sorry to hear about your grand-daddy passing away. Our Prayers are with you and your family during this time. Love you, Pam, Don, Ryan and Charlotte West*

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**Pam & Don West** - February 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *To Lavon and Skip from all your friends at our company. You are in our thoughts and prayers in the passing of Mr. Nichols.*  
*Ricky Burdette*

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**Albany Beverage Co.** - February 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *Sheryl and Joey,*

*I was saddened to hear about your father's death, Sheryl and hated that I couldn't be at the celebration of his life. I remember when your Dad sang at my father's, Dave Mercer, funeral and it meant so much to me. Your father touched many lives with the service work he did and with his love for music, family and friends. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*  
*Love,*

*Sheila Mercer Mims  
118 Northampton Road  
Leesburg, Ga 31763  
229.347.1630*

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**Sheila Mercer Mims** - February 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Skip, Lavon, & Family*  
*We were truly sorry to hear about the death of your Dad. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Kay & Don Brumbley** - February 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ *We are sorry to hear about Mr Nichols. God Bless You!*  
*Friends Always*  
*Benny & Linda Eubanks*

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**Benny & Linda Eubanks** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ *joe will be missed by everyone that every came in contact with him. he was the best friend that anyone could ever ask for. he will be missed but always loved.....*

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**gloria johnston** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ *I will miss him myself very much. He was a dear friend to me. He is resting in peace now.*

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**Pamela Torrence** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ *Skip & Lavone,*  
  
*We are saddened by your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Ed Rynders & Family*

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**Ed Rynders** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ *To the Nichols Family,*

*Joe was a special man and touched the lives of everyone he came in contact with. You are in our thoughts and prayers*

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**Gary & Deedie Long** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

FB

“ *Skip and Lavon, Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of grief. Mr. Joe was a great man and an even better friend. Frances & Freddy Brown, Bonneau, SC*

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**Frances and Freddy Brown** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *I am so sorry! A loss of a true gentleman! Love you, Mrs. Nichols!*

*Donna*

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**Donna J. Shimunek** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ *SKIP & IAVON KNOW THAT WE WERE SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT MR. JOE'S PASSING. KNOW THAT MY WHOLE FAMILY CARED AND LOVED HIM VERY MUCH. KNOW THAT YOU'RE WHOLE FAMILY ARE IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS. IOVE, JUNE AND FAMILY*

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**June Eubanks** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Dearest Skip and Larry, You and your families are in my heart and prayers during this time of loss. How all of Albany loved Mr. Joe. He will be deeply missed by the many people whose lives he touched.

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**Peggy Schmidt Shackelford** - February 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Our Deepest Sympathies, Raye and John Shearer

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**John and Raye Shearer** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ I first met Joe when I was playing at the Moose Club @ 10 years ago. Joe would tell you that most of the time when people tell you that you should hear a certain local musician, 99 times out of 100 the musician was just awful. Well when I took my first break on that first night I played the Moose, people came up and talked to me and before they left, many would tell me I just had to ask Joe to get up and sit in with me. I met Joe and asked him to sit in. Joe said no, he would wait for another time when he had his sax with him. He came in a few weeks later and just sat his horn in the corner and waited till I took a break and then we chatted and he asked if I minded him sitting in. Well, he sat in and he was not just good, he was great. For one of the few times in my life, he was better than advertised. Joe and I became friends and although he was a wonderful musician, he was a better human being and always a true gentleman. I am sad at his passing but I'm sure God was in need of a good sax player and singer. Special regards to Skip and his wife.  
Michael

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**Michael Burns** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I am truly sorry to hear of your loss. He was a dear friend to my dad Bert Justice and my Mom Lurene. I feel that he is up there singing and my Daddy is playing those drums! I know that you all will miss him.

You all are in my prayers,  
Love Jill Justice Smith

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**Jill Justice Smith** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Joe was not only a friend; he was a second father to me! Joe served as my mentor and coach through the Elks Lodge, the Masonic Lodge, the Scottish Rite, the Shrine, the Exchange Club and a great part of my personal life. Joe was always there for me! He was a special person and was never embarrassed to tell you that he loved you! The love and fond memories that he shared are truly the bridge needed to span the great void his passing brings to my life!

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**Ray Humphrey** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ The Nichols family is very special to us and you are all special in our hearts and prayers as you lay your beloved dad to rest...Know how much we care..Love to all,Molly and Bill

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**mollyrswan@bellsouth.net** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ MY FAMILY AND I WERE SORRY TO HEAR OF YOUR DAD'S PASSING. HE WAS A SWEET MAN. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.

TERESA G. HENRY, LEWIS GRIFFIN & FAMILY

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**TERESA GRIFFIN HENRY** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are you all. God Bless.

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**Chuck & Carla McNeil** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I will always have a soft spot in my heart for Mr. Joe. I am so sorry for your loss.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne

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**Jeanne (Humphrey) Brooks** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ To the Joe Nichols Family:  
Most of you do not know me. I met Joe through The Exchange Club of Albany and learned very quickly the character of Joe. He was a gentlemen and I am glad we became friends.

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**Max Ladson** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ God has called one of his wonderful Angels home.

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**Johnnie Hadley/ Golden Triangle RC & D Admin. Sec** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Joe was a true Southern Gentleman thta was loved by all. He will be missed by all. Our thoughts and prayer's are with you and my God's Grace and Love confort you. In christian Love, Billy & Diane

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**Billy Webb** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Tonya and family, We are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you and your family. May God give you much comfort during this difficult time.

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**Leigh, Josh and Daylen** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ God Bless you ALL! I am unable to be there in person, but my heart is with you. Your father was a huge influence in my (and Meagan's) life. I know heaven has a new "musical master" in the house...and all the choirs are singing in perfect harmony. I loved your Dad....thank-you for sharing him a little through the years. Love, and Big Hug to all the Nichols clan. Rhonda

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**Rhonda Shehee** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Mrs. Nichols and family,  
I am so sorry, for Mr.Nichols was always such a nice person. I have always t helped with the ribbon cutting for the Fair and he was always helping and loved the Exchange club and what they stood for. He will be greatly missed. Lou

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**Ms. Lou Johnson** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ I work with Lisa in Florida and in the short time we've worked together she's told me so much about her Dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and you and your family. May God Bless you all.

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**Peggy Thompson** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ *Our prayers go out to Joe's family. I will always remember the many music jobs Joe and I played. He was a fine musician and gentleman.*

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**Pete Lewis** - February 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

VT

“ *You will all be in my prayers.*

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**Vicki ( Bowling ) Timbes** - February 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ *The world is a much better world because Joe was here. It will never be the same without him. Remember the good times and what Joe believed in. He always helped Kids.*

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**Barney & Lynette Knighton** - February 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *To the family we send our love at this time. Joe will be greatly missed by all.*  
*Jeanette and Leonard Tifton Georgia*

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**Mr and Mrs Leonard Handy** - February 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. I love each and everyone of you dearly.*

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**Mary Jac Williams** - February 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

G"

“ Skip and family, it is my prayer that you will find courage to face tomorrow in the love that surrounds you today. Rest assured another Angel watches over you. (2 Timothy 4:7)

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**Gary Dorough (Dr. "D")** - February 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Joe was a great person and will definitely be missed.

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**Mark Holloway** - February 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Joe was a patriarch not only in his family but in The Exchange Club of Albany. Joe will be missed greatly. I remember a lot of things about him but one that stood out was the number of times he sang at the conventions, both state and national. The Exchange Club of Albany owes a lot to some men that have been in the club and some that are still in the club. Joe was one of them and we will miss him. God be with the family as they mourn the Homegoing of their loved one.

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**Bill & Beth Banks** - February 02, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GI

“ I'M SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT THIS. DEAR SKIP AND LAVON MY PRAYS WILL BE WITH YOU.

GINA

I HAVE THOUGHT THE WORLD OF YOUR DADDY. MY HEART GOES OUT TO YOU.

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**GINA** - February 02, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *LONG TIME FRIEND*

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**BILL BOWLING** - February 02, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *May you find peace and comfort through our Heavenly Father. Mr. Joe was always a great guy to me. My prayers and thoughts are with the rest of my dear friends in the Nichols family.*

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**John & Andrea Sikes** - February 02, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ *SKIP, LAVON & FAMILY,*

*WE ARE SORRY FOR THE LOSS OF MR. JOE. PLEASE KNOW YOU'RE IN OUR HEARTS, THOUGHTS & PRAYERS. GOD BLESS YOU!!!*

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**GAIL & MIKE ALFORD** - February 02, 2008 at 12:00 AM