



## Herbert D. Ryals Obituary

January 29, 1937 - August 14, 2011

Mr. Ryals was born in Moultrie, GA, and had lived in Albany since 1970. He graduated from Crisp County High School in 1956. He was involved with music all of his life, and for the last 15 years he has written Gospel and Christian music. He has dedicated his life to Jesus and was a member of the Heritage Full Gospel Church where he played the saxophone on most Sundays. He owned and operated Ryals Homebuilders for many years. He enjoyed animals, and helped organizations that helped animals. He is survived by his wife: Frances J. Ryals, Albany; 5 children: Sheryl Ryals, Albany, Sheree Cannon, Albany, Anna Gilbert and her husband Greg, Charlotte, NC, Kelly Merritt and her husband Shaw, Albany; Leah Ryals, Albany; 1 son: Sean Ryals and his wife Tracy, Vancouver, BC; 2 sisters: Betty Ruth Woods, Colquitt, GA, Lib Singer, Marietta, GA; 10 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.. Mr. Ryals was preceded in death by his children: Herbie Ryals, Zack Ryals, and Jay Ryals, and by his grandchildren: Kimberly Hinson and Jessica Valma.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Herbert D. Ryals Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Herbert D. Ryals Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *I am so sorry. I am praying for everybody. God bless you.*

**Cheryl Gilchrest - Virginia Beach, VA - Niece** - August 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I enjoyed Mr. Ryals' saxophone playing at church. He will be missed.*

**Winona Greenway** - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ He was a very nice man. I remember years ago when his band played at Gargano's East getting to play keyboard with him, and later how he served the Lord on the saxophone in church. I noticed he went to his reward on the Lord's day. He must really enjoy playing his saxophone in heaven. Maybe by now he has met up with my dad, who also played for the Lord after his conversion. Dad practiced saxophone and clarinet, 8 hrs a day when learning in Chicago. When I'd hear a good saxophone like Herb's, it would remind me of how much I love my dad, who died in 1990 but will always be in my heart. So my sympathy to the family, and to Herb if I could say it, thanks for the memories of my dad and the enjoyment of playing a couple times with your band. I hope you and my dad can play some great duets in heaven.

---

**Janice Jordan** - August 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I do not have to tell you how I feel about you all, you already know. I will say that Mr. Herb was and always will be an insperation in the lives and hearts of many many people. I will still be loving you all. I will come see you all when I get back to georgia. Until then you will all be in my prayers.

---

**Carmella Meadows Coates** - August 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ I heard about Mr. Herb from my mother, Betty Albert. I wanted to offer my condolences to the Ryals family. My brother, Baxter Albert loved Mr. Herb and loved to play and listen to his music. Bubba loved the whole Ryals family. With deepest sympathy, Patti Albert McGough

---

**Patti Albert McGough** - August 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Kelly, I just heard this morning that your daddy passed away.. I'm so very sorry to hear this. I think about you and your family often and please know I'll be praying for you all during this time of loss.

---

**Christa Harper** - August 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Sad to hear about Herb passing, but am assured that he is in a much better place now. I knew Herb both in music and Homebuilding. He gave me work when he could in the fireplace business and we played music. He will be missed.

---

**Leo Harrison** - August 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Leah, your story in the paper was heartfelt and wonderful. Joanne and I want offer our prayers and condolences to your family.

---

**Roger Marietta** - August 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ DEAR FRANCIS AND FAMILY: HERB WAS A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE FOR A LONG TIME. WE ENJOYED MANY YEARS PLAYING MUSIC ALL OVER THE SOUTH. I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. WILL MISS HIM STAN

---

**STAN HOPPER** - August 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Ms Ryals, Jack and I are deeply saddened by your loss. Please know that you and your family are in our prayers and in our thoughts. God will surround you with his perfect peace and the prayers of many will be felt in the days ahead, and it will be at the moment you need them, that you will be comforted by His presence. We are blessed to have enjoyed the gift of music that God so grandly bestowed upon him and the humility of his spirit in giving God all the glory for his talent. What a tribute! A lot of people had no idea about his background in the music field and that in itself speaks volumes! We love you, Jack & Debra Duren We love you

---

**Debra Duren** - August 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ I am so very sorry for you loss. I enjoyed knowing Herb over these past 10 years. He was a wonderful man that will be missed.

---

**Haley Gunter** - August 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ just want to say thank you herb for being my friend for 46 years- loved talking with and playing music with you on mor occations than i can count and it was always good-you an ole jerry write some new material for the angels and i will be lisening for it-RIP my friend-ole t

---

**tommy brooome** - August 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Kelly, Shaw and family i am so sorry to hear about your loss. Love you always! Brad Richardson

---

**brad richardson** - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RV

“ Our prayers are with Francis and the family. We feel it was such an honor and blessing to get to know this family while we were serving as interim at Heritage. One of the most loving families we've ever known. Herb's music was such a blessing to us. May God continue to bring comfort to you. We dearly love you all.

---

**Rev. & Mrs. Robert E Varnadore** - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ My heart goes out to Herb's family and friends. May God give you peace and strength during this very difficult time. I consider it an eternal blessing to have known Herb for the short time I was privileged to be his nurse. Herb will forever live on in the hearts he touched along his earthly journey and continues to touch through his legacy of wonderful music. I am just so thankful to have known him and will forever take the encouragement and advice he gave me...sometimes I felt like I was the patient and he was the healer!! I look forward to seeing him and SINGING with him when I see him in heaven:)...such an angel!

---

**Laurie Wood, RN** - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Sonny and my brother Ray were friends and I guess that is one of the biggest reasons I am in the music business now. Jerry, Herb & Ray were my heros as a small boy listening to them play. I could go on and on.....He was a friend that I never saw much...so very sad to hear of his passing....God has one of the best now, let the music play, Sonny will be with the boys.....God Bless all of the family, hold tight to His Amazing Grace.....

---

**John Penney** - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ My prayers and condolences to the Ryals family. Herb was a great friend to me and my family and I want to say I am so sorry for your loss. Remember God is in control and he do not put anything on you cannot bear because he is a true angel in heaven. Kelly and Shaw if there is anything you may need or your family need please feel free to contact me.

---

**Tangela Hill** - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ We will always love Herb and we will never forget all that he has done for us. We feel honored to have had the chance to minister with him in music at Heritage Full Gospel and I (charlean) could always count on him to help me through music. He would always say to me "you can do it, just hold on and here we go". We love you Herb.....Danny and Charlean Moss

---

**Danny and Charlean Moss** - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the friends, family and loved ones of Mr. Herb. May perpetual light shine upon him.

---

**Mimi McGinley** - August 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM