



## Mr. John H. "Poppy" Watson

September 16, 1925 - April 19, 2015

Mr. John H. "Poppy" Watson, Sr., 89, of Albany, died Sunday, April 19, 2015 at his residence.

His funeral service will be held Monday, May 4, 2015, 2:00 PM at First Freewill Baptist Church, with entombment to follow at Crown Hill Mausoleum.

Born in Worth County, Mr. Watson retired from the Dougherty County School System as Director of Transportation, Safety and Security after 30 years of service. He previously served as a Patrolman and Motorcycle Officer with the Albany Police Department, which he left at the rank of Lieutenant. He was also the first Juvenile officer in Dougherty County. He and his wife Mary Earle served as Directors of the Dougherty County Youth Home. Mr. Watson served in the U.S. Army during WWII, and afterward in the Army National Guard.

For over 50 years, Mr. Watson was a member of the First Baptist Church of Albany, where he was a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher, and loved to sing in the choir. He was head of the Children's Department for 26 years. In earlier years, Mr. Watson enjoyed square dancing with the Rafter Rockers, and playing tennis with his many friends.

In his daily life, Mr. Watson lived to be of service. Even well into his octogenarian years, he worked tirelessly visiting those he called "the old folks" at Palmyra Nursing Home and Morningside Assisted Living, in addition to ministering to hospital patients as well as inmates in the prison system. He also gave out dollar bills to kids he encountered, just to brighten their day. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Earle Powell Watson, brother

Frank Watson, and sister Ruth Watson.

Survivors include his son John Henry "Hank" Watson, Jr. of Elizabeth City, NC; three daughters: LaRue Watson Martin and her husband Victor W. Smith of Atlanta, GA; LuAnn Watson Morrison and her husband Stan of Leesburg, GA; and Leisel "Lisa" Watson Taylor of Albany, GA; sister Lucille Morgan of FL; 14 grandchildren: Blair Tripp and wife Amy, Brent Watson, Stephen Morrison, Jonathon Bland and his wife Anna, Katelyn Watson and fiancé Timothy John Boyd, Sean Morrison, Chloe Schuller, Tate Schuller, Samantha Taylor, Levi Watson, Grace Kelly Watson, Logann Morrison, John Wesley Watson and Zeke Watson; 5 great-grandchildren: Adyson Watson, Timothy Boyd, Berkeley Tripp, Emilynne Watson; Savannah Tripp, and Mitchell Bland. The family will receive friends Sunday May 3, 2015 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at Kimbrell-Stern.

# Cemetery Details

## Crown Hill Cemetery

1907 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 3. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

MAY 4. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Free Will Baptist Church  
420 North Westover Blvd  
Albany, GA 31707

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. John H. "Poppy" Watson*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. John H. "Poppy" Watson*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss LUANN. The loss of our parents leaves us with wonderful memories that make us laugh and cry. Your parents were very special people. What rejoicing there will be when we see them again. I have thought of you every now and then and prayed that you were happy and all was well with you. Hope to see you one day. Arlene Macon*

**Arlene Macon** - June 13, 2015 at 12:25 AM



“ *Mr John Watson was a true gentleman and always a pleasure to talk with. I met him when I was in high school and we kept in touch over the years, usually running into each other at the mall. He was so happy to meet my children and I am so proud they got to meet such a fine man. Her will be truly missed. We are keeping his family in our prayers.*

**Yvonda Humphrey Mann** - May 05, 2015 at 12:38 PM

TM

“ *Leisel, I've reflected on our conversation as we were standing in the barn... You have been a wonderful Daughter and have taken the best of care of your precious Daddy. What a privelege! What a Gentleman!! He is safe, and he's ok now... We love you and are keeping you and your family in our prayers... Tara, Maggie and Gracie*

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**Tara Morgan** - May 05, 2015 at 12:36 PM

AH

“ *I met Mr. John at First Baptist years ago and he has always had a special place in my heart. My husband and I send our blessings to your family. He always had a smile on his face when we saw him and always made us feel loved. We will truly miss him.*

*Michael and Amy Hatcher*

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**Amy Hatcher** - May 04, 2015 at 09:32 AM

WW

“ *Wes & Joan Wilson purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. John H. "Poppy" Watson.*



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**Wes & Joan Wilson** - May 01, 2015 at 07:37 AM

LH

“ Your Dad and Poppy was such a kind man. I'll never forget how much he loved the children at First Baptist. His face always lit up when he was around them. He was very supportive of my ministry there and I always treasured his encouraging words. Prayers and hugs to all of you.

*Linda Haines*

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**Linda Haines** - April 30, 2015 at 07:34 PM

AS

“ We will miss John. He was a friend to many at First Baptist Church. Our condolences to the family.

*Alan & Carole Stone*

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**Alan Stone** - April 30, 2015 at 07:15 PM

DS

“ Everyone loved Johnny Watson, my mother's first cousin. He was truly devoted and kind to all with whom he came in contact. Our family has many fond memories of him. When I broke the news to my mother, she stated how much she loved her cousins, especially Johnny. I am sure he is singing in that heavenly choir!!! He will be missed by many! Love and Prayers,

*Mary Etta Moore Dykes, Donna and Davis King and our families*

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**Donna King (Mrs. Davis, SR)** - April 30, 2015 at 03:30 PM

CW

“ Luann,

*I'm so sorry to hear about Mr. John's passing - we loved him so very much and he meant the world to our family. I can still remember him chasing Bethany through the halls at FBC and always giving me a big hug and grin whenever we ran into him somewhere - he was a precious man.*

*We miss you guys and love you all lots!*

*Nathan and Carrie Wade*

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**Carrie Wade** - April 30, 2015 at 02:16 PM

NW

*When you ran into Mr. Watson he always brought a smile to your face. Such a good Christian man.*

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**Nathan Wade** - May 04, 2015 at 07:59 AM

PM

“ *Sincere sympathy to all the family - Johnny and Mary Earle were dear friends for many years. Pat Norton*

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**pat mprtpm** - April 30, 2015 at 07:45 AM

GT

“ I can't remember my Daddy, Jim Knox, talking about tennis without including stories of John Watson....John was one of the best friends Daddy every had and he remained constant to him, visiting and making him laugh, brightening up his days, until the very end. John did this for many people! He was with us in the room, listening to my brother Ed reading Daddy Psalm 27 when Daddy was called home to the Lord. A very precious memory for me, made all the more so by John's faithful presence....I last saw him at lunch one Tuesday several months ago at First Methodist downtown. My mother and I were able to visit with him for quite a while and I am so glad!

May the Lord comfort you in the way that only He is able. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks ahead. John Watson will be missed by so many....He and Mary Earl are standouts in my many memories of growing up in FBC...

Gail Knox Turner

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Gail Turner - April 26, 2015 at 05:37 PM

SK

“ Luann and Family - So sad to hear of John's passing. He was such a committed father, husband, grandparent and friend. Most of all, John was a true Christian witness to all he met and lived and worked with! He and my father had the funniest stories about their tennis playing days with the gang out at Ed Justice's house. I treasure those memories and will never forget how good John was to my father and was with him when he took his last breath to be with Jesus! I am sad for your loss, know you will miss him. Please know you and your family are in my prayers. Love Sally Knox

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Sally Knox - April 25, 2015 at 06:28 PM

JB

“ We all loved Mr. John SO much! I don't think there was a time I went to the mall that I didn't see him walking his laps! Praying for the family!

Love,

*Jeanne Brooks Mike, Emily, and Jacob*

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**Jeanne Brooks** - April 24, 2015 at 07:10 AM

LT

*Jeanne thank you so very much for the prayers & I want you to know that I'm praying for your family also!*

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**Leisel Taylor** - May 14, 2015 at 03:04 PM

AB

“ So sorry to hear of his passing. I suspect he has already stopped by to see my Mother and Mr. Bob (Bob White) and check in on them along with countless others that he gave cheer to frequently in his own unique way. Grateful to have been able to witness his love for his God, his family and for others including all those at First Baptist Albany he came in contact with. Praying for you Luann and all of the family.

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**Anne Marie Bishop** - April 23, 2015 at 10:00 PM

LT

*I can remember if Dad went out of town or if he couldn't bring the Tuesday lunches he made me promise that I would!*

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**Leisel Taylor** - May 14, 2015 at 03:03 PM



“ *Luann: So sad to hear of your dad's passing. He was always such a dear man - always had a hug to share. Know our thoughts and prayers are with all of you in the days ahead.*

*Todd, Rene and family*

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**Rene Chesnut** - April 23, 2015 at 07:59 PM

BL

“ *We have known Johnny for years and always considered him a good friend. Our prayers for his four children and grandchildren.*

*Betty and Sonny Logan, Jacksonville, FL*

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**Betty Logan** - April 23, 2015 at 05:54 PM

LT

*Thank you so much for the prayers for Daddy his last year or so has been very rough but the prayers always help!*

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**Leisel Taylor** - May 14, 2015 at 03:01 PM

RF

“ *So sorry to here Big John has passed. He was the best youth Sunday School teacher I had, even with ole Hank in there he could teach a lesson. Always a man with a kind word and smile and a true Christian witness. Ya'll are in my prayers.*

*Randy Foster*

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**Randy Foster** - April 23, 2015 at 04:29 PM

LT

*Thanks so much for your kind words! Take care Randy!*

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**Leisel Taylor** - May 14, 2015 at 02:59 PM



“ *Luann - just wanted you to know you are in my prayers - Ed Haggerty*

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**Ed Haggerty** - April 23, 2015 at 03:07 PM