



Oliver B. Land, Jr. Obituary

February 9, 1923 - July 26, 2004

A native of Athens, GA, he had lived in Albany for many years. Mr. Land was a Marine veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Athens. Mr. Land was a Board Member Emeritus of Theatre Albany, and volunteered his time in many civic activities in Albany. He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Georgia, and was a retired professor at Albany Junior College (now Darton College). Mr. Land was preceded in death by his wife Marlene Kahn Land.

Tribute Wall



“ *Oliver B. Land, Jr. Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Dear Julia, Melissa, Scott, and Tiffany, Uncle Oliver was funny, witty, charming, loving, kind, smart and wonderful. He and Aunt Marlene were so interested and loving to our boys. One of my favorite memories of Uncle Oliver is sitting on the porch in the cabin about three years ago on the fourth of July and hearing him recite the entire "Cremation of Sam McGee" from memory. The human mind is an awesome thing and he used his to bless his students and family. I love y'all so much and I miss your folks! Ethel*

Ethel Harris - August 07, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *A gentleman and a true professor. My deepest sympathy.*
Nancy

Nancy Abraham - August 06, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *When I first came to work at Albany Junior College - it was the early 80's - I was responsible for the payroll. One day Mr. Land came in the office - I had not taken out some deduction on his check. I was horrified....he just said "What a Wonderful Error!"*
I'll never forget how he put me at ease.
I know that you think the empty spot in your heart will never heal - but you will be able to fill it up in time with "wonderful" memories.

Debbie Sawyer - August 04, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ I new I liked Oliver from my first meeting when, during our conversation on engineers struggling with english, he said that Shakespear was the hack novelist of his day.

David Harris - August 03, 2004 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ The saying goes: "Friends are our chosen family," and Marlene and Oliver were definitely my "chosen family." As I continue to miss Marlene each day, now I will add dear Ollie. My heartfelt empathy - please call on me if I can do anything for you. Love, Nanc

Nancy E. Hamilton - August 02, 2004 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Love, Teresa, Ray, Joshua, Jacob, Caleb and Abby

Teresa Hambley Austin - August 02, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Melissa and Julia,
We were so sorry to hear of your recent loss. We wish we could have been there for you. You know we were there in thought and mind. We love you very much and will be thinking of you throughout this difficult time.

Carol Brister and Libby Miller - August 01, 2004 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ I would like to offer my condolences to the Land family. I graduated with Melissa from Westover High School. It is my hope that Melissa would see this and e-mail me so that I can communicate with her personally. My thoughts and prayer are truly with the family.

Natalie Lambert - July 31, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Oliver directed me in *Babes in Arms* back in 1977 and was my speech teacher at Albany Junior College. His sense of humor and style of teaching made an incredible impression on my life and I will always remember him with true warmth, fondness and affection. I still laugh with friends over our Oliver stories. I am sorry for your loss and know that he will be deeply missed by your family and by the greater community.

Jan Spurlin Mendel - July 31, 2004 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ I knew Oliver from Albany Little Theatre and Albany Junior College in the 70s. We often called him Uncle Oliver and loved him so much. My heartfelt sympathy and fondest memories are with you at this time. Sincerely, Rona Levine, Fayetteville, NC

Rona Levine - July 31, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Uncle Ollie touched my heart and left a permanent mark. He laughed with me, cried with me, taught me in the classroom and by example...and often scared the wits out of me. He and Marlene completed each other and I shall miss them both..but more importantly, I will always remember them. They were special friends unlike any others. Every visit to Athens..every good movie...every good play..I will think of them...Among Oliver's many roles, father, husband, brother, son, novelist, werewolf, college professor...I think he loved Director Oliver Land...so in his final scene as he wished: A curtain opens and the audience sees an empty rocking chair...eerily rocking back and forth....Bravo Oliver!!!
Bravo !!

Debbie Hambley - July 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ I will remember Oliver as a dear friend, inspiring director, and gifted actor. It was my honor to work with him on several productions, and I will cherish those times we had together always.

Diane F. Dremel - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ I was saddened to hear the news. I remember Mr. Land fondly as a child. He made the best "werewolf" costumes at halloween. He was a good man. Love to Julia and Mellissa

Jo Dukes Cerrone - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ I loved him very much...Oliver was a unique individual...warm and understanding but could be gruff if he wanted to scare you! His flair for the theatrical placed him in the right profession...Oliver loved to talk--to remember old times--He was a dear friend..I will miss him--but Marlene is yelling"Hurry up,Ollie!!!!"...

Verna Hambley - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Muhammad Ali...the greatest?Not by himself he's not.The man I revere,remember and honor today shares that title.Mr. Land was and always will be a treasured friend,role model and by far the best instructor i ever had.I must apoligize that I did not heed his advice to not major in speech,but because of him,i selected the major in which he instructed and excelled.There are not enough words of admiration to describe him,but it is my belief that all of our thoughts which are of no doubt those of fondness and respect,will travel to him.To the girls,please remember that though our contact is practically none,that you have a perpetual friend here that hopes our contact will resume.I only wish that I was gifted with antibiotal words that could comfort you more,but know that my definition of friendship and caring is for life.You are wonderful people from the "greatest" of stock and I believe one day we'll find a comforting answer to this sometimes damnable mystery called "life".much love,Mark.My phone is (229)432-0395,e-mail hestermark@yahoo.com,home address 1207 North Madison St. Albany,Ga. 31701

Mark Hester - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ MELISSA AND FAMILY SORRY I COULD NOT MAKE THE FUNERAL,
GLAD THAT AMY COULD MY THOUGHTS,PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES ARE WITH YOU....

JAY JAYNES - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ Julia (and Melissa), I am so sorry for your loss. I am hoping I will be able to attend the service and see you Friday although I have a work commitment that may present a conflict. Please contact me if I don't get to see you. I really admired your dad (and mom). It is so hard to see our parents age and have hardships. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Love Caree (and Mike).

Caree Hairston Elder - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ I thank God for you, good friend of mine. Seldom is friendship such as thine. How very much I wish to be as helpful as you have been to me. When I recall, from time to time, how you inspired me as a College Professor; I find myself inclined to say, thank you for being to me a true friend.

Walter G. Merritt - July 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ My sympathy to the family. I was a student of Mr. Land in 1982.

Sandra Thompson - July 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ In the AJC Library Oliver and I discussed the production of a play of his. I told him frankly that I wasn't into fantasy. He said there would be a time when I would want to escape the reality of the world. He was right. Oliver and Marlene were fine and very interesting people. Sympathy to the family.

Elizabeth Champion - July 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Thank you for this opportunity! I met Oliver at the "Albany Little Theater" many years back and was immediately struck by his energy, style and sense of humor. I was fortunate enough to do a few shows with him and the times we shared on and off stage will always be a treasure.

Rickey Basko - July 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Julia and Melissa,

*The crosses of life must precede the crown of glory, the hope of gaining heaven precedes the joy of being with God. Prior to your father's passing he had the cross and the hope. Today he has the crown and the joy.
My prayers are with you both.*

Love, Donna

Donna Woodworth - July 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Julia and Melissa ~ My heart, thoughts and prayers are with both of you in another major loss in your lives.

Beverly Smith Herrington - July 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Julia, Melissa and Scott-
You are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. I will always remember your father as a very charming and witty man who loved his family very much. Our deepest sympathy to you all.

Patty and Gordon Berger - July 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM