



J. B. Neal III

December 9, 1929 - September 29, 2021

[Click here to view livestream]

<https://smokerisebaptist.org/jb-neal/>

J. B. Neal age 91 of Lilburn, GA., passed away, Wednesday, September 29, 2021.

J.B. was born in Hampton, VA., following graduation from high school, in 1950 he began courting Joyce Rawls and they were married in 1951. In 1952 he was called to duty as a U. S. Marine upon his return home he worked at Virginia Electric and Power Company and he retired. During his lifetime he devoted many hours to the Richmond Host Lions Club, Richmond Choral Society and Richmond Men's Chorus as well as serving as the Director of Music for 38 years at Southampton Baptist Church.

As a young boy, he was a member of Hampton Baptist church where he began his love for music. When he became a Marine, following boot camp, he was asked what he would like to do, he had a ready response, "I play the trombone". He played it well enough to land a spot in the 3rd Division Marine Corps Band, and marched in the Rose Bowl Parade in 1953 on his way to Japan, where he was stationed for about a year.

After his honorable discharge, he and his wife Joyce settled in Hampton, VA, where he began working in the Forestry Division of Virginia Power Company. His daughter, Debbie, was born in 1954. In 1961, he was transferred to Richmond, VA where he served 38 years as the Director of Music for Southampton Baptist Church. After 44 years of service, he retired from Virginia Power and he and his wife, Joyce, moved to their retirement home in Matthews, VA in 2000. Unfortunately, the time was short for his wife, Joyce. She passed in 2004.

JB became an icon of enthusiastic good will and gracious hospitality at Macedonia Baptist Church where he led the music each Sunday.

In 2015, JB moved to Georgia to be near his family. Becoming a member of Smoke Rise B

apist Church and the Seekers class opened the door to so many precious friendships. They welcomed and embraced him and made the last six years of his life a total joy. He will be remembered for his big smile, his big hugs and his big love for life.

JB is survived by his daughter Debbie Scott, son-in-law, Charlie Scott, Grandson John Neal Scott and his wife Hailey, his great-grandchildren, Emery Jane, Amelia and Nash, his sister, Louise Knemeyer and numerous beloved nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, 5901 Hugh Howell Rd, Stone Mountain, GA 30087, October 24, 2021, visitation 1:00-3:00 pm and service at 3:00 pm

Memorial gifts in his name may be made to Smoke Rise Baptists Church.

Due to COVID-19 regulations, our staff is committed to taking care of our guests and families that we serve. We also ask all guests and family members attending visitations and services to please continue social distancing and if desired to bring and wear a mask.

Condolences may be sent or viewed at <http://www.wagesfuneralhome.com>. Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, A Family Company, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - October 19 at 12:23 PM



“ I have so many fond memories of JB and Joyce from time spent with all of our families, the Hamiltons, Neals and Bradshaws, at Haddie's parent's home. I'll always love playing the ukulele because of JB. His playing as we all gathered was so much fun!!! As we've gathered to say goodbye to Billy Neal, Haddie Hamilton and Walt Hamilton, JB was such a joy to be around again. Always smiling, he surely knew how to light up a room. So happy he's with his God and not suffering, and his memory will live on in the lives that he touched here on earth.

Becky Lytle - October 24 at 12:37 PM



“ JB is forever in my memory as a 'favorite uncle'. I could run next door to his house when my parents drove me crazy as a teen, and JB always had a kind word. Which is particularly endearing, since I also thought it was great fun to toilet paper his front yard every 5 minutes during those year. I still sing in my church's choir and often remember songs JB favored in the choir at Southampton, and the enthusiasm he brought to that job every Thursday night for SO many years. He was a dear friend, role model, and exhibited the Christian kindness and patience that I realize as an adult is so valuable to those you come into contact with, and often so difficult to achieve. JB did it with humor and good natured fun. I will truly miss him. Lois (Anne Hill) Winskie

Lois (Anne Hill) Winskie - October 22 at 02:28 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of J. B. Neal III.



October 22 at 11:48 AM



“ 75 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - October 19 at 12:17 PM



“ Debbie, Charlie John Neal and Family,
JB's passing from this world leaves a big empty space that is filled with the joy and love he passed on to us all; the seeds that continue to spread that love which is really the joy of the Kingdom.
We all grieve the loss but celebrate the Joy.
Our sincere condolences for you all for the loss of his presence in you family.
Peace and Love
Michael and LinDee McCall

Michael & LinDee McCall - October 12 at 09:48 PM



“ We were saddened to learn of your fathers death Debbie. He is now playing in God's choir! We know you will miss him! Love in Jesus Christ. Gail and Dennis Nelson

Gail Nelson - October 06 at 08:20 PM



“ I had the pleasure of knowing J. B. for many years during our careers with VEPCO (Dominion Energy). He reminded me so much of a southern gentleman. He always had a smile on his face and words of encouragement. I never ever saw him in a bad mood and always looked forward to seeing him. My condolences to the family and may my dear friend rest in peace.

Al Smith
North Chesterfield, VA

Alexander Smith, Jr. - October 04 at 06:05 PM