



John "Dick" Tarver

January 7, 1949 - January 2, 2019

John Richard "Dick" Tarver, age 69, of Lilburn GA, passed away on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Dick is survived by his wife of 48 years, Elizabeth Ann Carson Tarver; his sons Richard Denton Tarver, Michael Brandon Tarver, Joseph Cory Tarver, and John Richard Palmer and family; his grandchildren Katelyn Tarver, Lincoln Tarver, and Kaleb Tarver; sisters Ninjo Owenby and Claudia Melear; nephews Jody and Tom Owenby and Nathan Melear; niece Kelly Melear, and many other extended family.

Dick was a native of Atlanta, GA, born and bred a Southerner. His early years were spent on his father's gentleman farm in Red Oak GA where he learned to hate the cow that he had to milk because she seemed to sense that the bucket was almost full and would invariably kick it over. The farm was called "Dalmation Acres," and Dick's dalmation, named Spot, was so named because of the huge black mark around one eye. At 6 years old, Dick was "forced" to take "Expression lessons, and at Thanksgiving two years ago, still remembered and performed his tap dance and sang "Oh, You Beautiful Doll," to riotous applause from all who attended. Dick was an athlete at Lakeshore High School in College Park, GA, where he played baseball, football, and clarinet in the marching band. Dick was an athlete in high school and earned a varsity letter in baseball. Dick served in the Army Reserves and received a special commendation for "lifting the esprit de corps of the troops".

Dick and Liz met on a blind date and were married sometime later. Marriage was soon followed by the birth of children, while simultaneously working full time and gaining his Bachelor's degree from GA State University. He spent most of his working years as a salesperson and manager in the trucking industry. He took great pride in helping to prepare dinner for his family and had a love of his Big Green Egg and his cast iron pans. This simple gesture of preparing a meal and feeding his family and guests was one of his greatest pleasures. If you failed to eat all that was on your plate he would teasingly say you were gonna hurt his feelings.

Dick spent many many years as a baseball coach, team manager, commissioner, and

founder of the Brookwood Athletic Association for Baseball and Softball. He threw so many baseballs that his right shoulder developed a pain that always reminded him of the time he spent in support of his sons, their ability to play on a team, and helping them to develop a lasting understanding of the benefits of exercise and cooperation.

Dick was also a consummate story teller. It served him in his career in sales, and made him a valuable addition to any gathering. Always quick with a joke, he was equally capable of serious conversations ranging from religion to history to nature, and of course his favorite: archaeology. His bedtimes stories inspired his children to have pleasant dreams, to dream big, and to love and support each other.

Dick, you will be sorely missed, but we are honored to have been loved by you. We celebrate your life, love, and legacy, and will always keep you in our hearts.

A celebration of Dick's life will be held on Tuesday January 8, 2019, from 2-4 pm followed by a service, both at the Tom Wages Funeral Home in Snellville. If you would like to make a donation in Dick's name in lieu of flowers, Dick's family is asking that you choose your local pet rescue such as Gwinnett Animal Control, or the Gwinnett Human Society.

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

Events

JAN **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

8

Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

JAN **Memorial Service** 04:00PM

8

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Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - January 07 at 03:10 PM



“ Kenneth and Fran Carson send their condolences to the Tarver family. Uncle Dick will always be remembered for his jovial and kind ways. Always will remember the fishing trips, his grilled chicken, and his positive outlook on life.

KENNETH CARSON - January 08 at 01:04 PM



“ A donation to the Young Williams Animal Rescue Center in Knoxville was made in my brother Dick Tarver's memory by his sister Claudia Tarver Melear and her husband Hewitt Charles Gehres. I remember the day you came home from the hospital. I loved you from that moment on.

Claudia Tarver Melear - January 08 at 10:36 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Family



Claudia Tarver Melear - January 08 at 09:47 AM



“ Robin Carson purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.



Robin Carson - January 07 at 08:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.



January 07 at 03:45 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.



January 07 at 02:24 PM



“ 60 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - January 07 at 01:46 PM



“ We had some fun memories going camping with Uncle Dick and Aunt Liz. Love, The Owenbys



Amanda - January 07 at 10:44 AM



“ Nathan, Emily and Moiranyah purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.



Nathan, Emily and Moiranyah - January 07 at 07:17 AM



“ From: Karen, John, Lori, Beth, Chris purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.



From: Karen, John, Lori, Beth, Chris - January 06 at 10:59 AM



“ I have known Dick Tarver and his family for nearly 40 years, having met them in Florida in the early '80s. I had moved there from North Carolina and knew virtually no one upon my arrival. Dick and his family immediately made a genuine effort to make me feel at home in my new surroundings! They have had a special place in my heart ever since! Over the years we were separated geographically much of the time, but I never forgot their kindness and friendship! May God bless Liz and the family at this difficult time!

Much love,
Robert Freeman

Robert Freeman - January 05 at 01:22 PM



“ Jed and Lori Warnock. Wahiawa, Hawaii purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.





“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John "Dick" Tarver.



January 04 at 04:11 PM