

Mr. Thomas McKendre Williams, Jr.

January 14, 1930 - August 18, 2020

Thomas M. Williams, Jr., Chaplain, Lt. Col., United States Air Force (Ret.), passed away on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. Born on January 14, 1930, in Charleston, SC, he was the son of the late Thomas M. Williams, Sr., and Mildred Harvey Williams.

Tom grew up on James Island near Folly Beach and graduated from the High School of Charleston. In 1951 he graduated from Wofford College and received his Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School in 1954. He was ordained in The United Methodist Church and served the Lynchburg charge before entering the Air Force chaplaincy where he served 20 years. While in the Air Force, he attended the Institute of Religion and Human Development at the Texas Medical Center where he received his Clinical Pastoral Education supervisory credentials. His military assignment took him to England, Germany, Labrador, and several bases in the U.S. After retirement, he and his family returned to SC and he took a position with the Department of Mental Health serving at Morris Village Alcohol and Drug Addition Treatment Center. There, he was Clinical Chaplain and Supervisor of Clinical Pastoral Education, later becoming Chief of Program Development and Training.

Tom married Pauline "Polly" Jackson William of Sumter, SC. They shared 65 years together as they raised a family and served the communities in which they lived. Tom worked with the Boy Scouts, Meals on Wheels, and the soup kitchen at Washington Street UMC. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Blythewood, SC, where he served in many capacities.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister Millie McCue. He is survived by his wife, Polly; son, Curt Williams (Ebru); daughter, Pamela Hoppock (Todd); and two grandchildren, Connor Williams, and McKendre Hoppock.

A graveside service for Mr. Williams will be held 12 o'clock, Monday, August 24th, at Ft. Jackson National Cemetery with The Rev. Scott Smoak and The Rev. Joey Gambrell officiating. Due to the concerns with Covid-19, social distancing and masks are expected.

A livestream of the service will be available and can be accessed by visiting the funeral home website on the day of the service. Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel is assisting the family.

The family would like to thank the staff of Wildewood Downs Rehab Center, and Skilled Nursing along with Prisma Health Hospice for the compassionate care they gave him the last few weeks of life.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church Foundation, 90 Boney Road, Blythewood, SC 29016; or to Epworth Children's Home, 2900 Millwood Avenue, Columbia, SC 29205.

Cemetery

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Road

Columbia, SC, 29229

Events

AUG **Graveside Service** 12:00PM

24

Ft. Jackson National Cemetery

US

Comments



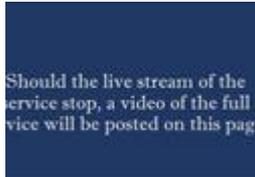
“ A webcast video has been added.



Shives Funeral Home - August 23, 2020 at 01:03 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Webcasting message



Shives Funeral Home - August 23, 2020 at 01:05 PM



“ A few images from my dads life.



Pamela Hoppock - August 21, 2020 at 08:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Pamela Hoppock - August 21, 2020 at 08:15 PM



“ My condolences to Polly and family for your loss. I met Tom when I was in college rooming with Jerry. We visited you in the low country. He struck me as a kind and loving man whose love of God was supreme. When I think of his close call with death on the way to your wedding and his long and productive life all these subsequent years, the wonders that God can bestow on us are astonishing. Tom was truly a good and faithful servant. May he live in your hearts for all time.

T.C. Croft

Tom Croft - August 19, 2020 at 03:19 PM



“ Polly
Our condolences to you and your Family. James Harvey sends his love to you all as well. He was very fond of Thomas and he is very to sad to hear this news. He shared many stories with me about him and Thomas. I am so sorry we will not be present for the services, however I will make sure Jim sees it online.
Our prayers are with you during this difficult time.
Love
James Harvey and Jenny.



Jenny Singh - August 19, 2020 at 01:02 PM



“ I’m so sorry about the loss of your husband though I know when I had dinner with and him he was always concerned again I’m sorry but if you need anything I’m here (803)9605274 that’s my cell number though you will have your family and friends around you just remember all the good time you had together Tricia Profilet



Patricia - August 19, 2020 at 05:21 AM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Tom during my years at Morris Village, and continued to connect periodically over the years at DMH events. It was always a delight to interact with Tom; he had a bright energy and warmth that is very rare. He was a man of consummate grace and courtesy who brought joy to many, many people over the years. My condolences to Polly and the family. John Morris

John Morris - August 19, 2020 at 02:45 PM