



Mr. Lee McDonald

November 8, 1949 - December 30, 2012

Albert Lee McDonald, 63, entered into rest, peacefully, at home, on Sunday, December 30, 2012, surrounded by loved ones after a lengthy illness.

Visitation was held Tuesday, January 1st from 6 until 8 p.m. at the chapel of Banks Funeral Home.

A Celebration of Life Service is planned for Saturday, January 5th at 2 p.m. at the Worth Community Center located on Hwy 313 North in Sylvester. Family and friends are encouraged to bring a covered dish. Guitars, instruments, and "Albert" stories are welcomed.

Albert was born on November 8, 1949 in Albany, GA to Charles McDonald and Mildred Hatcher Bentley. He was a graduate of Kubasaki High School in Okinawa, Japan and Dougherty Comprehensive High School in Albany, GA. He was the oldest of five sons and traveled the world as an Air Force Brat. Albert was a renowned musician. He was fortunate to share his love of music through employment as an illustrious studio musician with Capricorn Records where he worked with many Southern Rock groups including The Charlie Daniels Band, the Allman Brothers, Wet Willie, and Lynrd Skynrd; he also worked with R & B artist Chaka Khan. Most notably, he was credited for his work playing the mandolin on the Marshall Tucker Band's album "Searching for a Rainbow". He continued his music career later in life by recording a solo album, "Eden's Promise" and has performed throughout the southeast with various other artists. His family and friends mostly just enjoyed the times when he would pull his acoustic guitar out and just started "pickin' and grinnin'".

Albert loved life. He believed in the best in people and helped them believe it of themselves. He was a devoted friend and anyone who knows him had an "Albert" story. There was never a dull moment with him around, the perfection of a practical joker. A man who wasn't afraid to tackle a New York Times crossword puzzle with an ink pen, he was artistic, eccentric, and an intellect like no other who never met a stranger and loved the strange. He belonged to an intimate group who helped each other recover from the human condition. In the words of one of many who loved him dearly, "He was my friend (he told me so and I felt it), a mentor (at one time we studied scripture and prayed together most every morning), a guide (Albert stayed with me in a time when NO ONE wanted to be my friend and just kept encouraging me that things would get better), a little crazy (we all have great stories there), and a gift from God. "

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles McDonald; brother, Stephen (Pete) McDonald; and the mother of his daughters, Pamela Rich Green, his first kindred spirit.

Survivors include his wife and second kindred spirit, Mary Jane Hester McDonald of Unadilla; children, Kellie Parten of Poulan, Skye Sanchez (Kevin) of Sylvester and Marshall McDonald (Lindsay) of Ty Ty; granddaughters, Heather Sanchez, Madison Powers, and Hannah Sanchez; and great-grandson, Kobryn Sanchez; mother, Mildred Hatcher Bentley (Tom); step-mom, Millie McDonald; brothers, Stanley (Repete) McDonald (Margie) and Jerry McDonald (Claudia), all of Oklahoma and Keith McDonald of Albany.

He led his life in accordance with one of his favorite quotes (taken from his bio on facebook), "Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-deserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming... WOW! WHAT A RIDE!"

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Albert McDonald Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 1160, Unadilla, GA 31091. The family would like to thank

Southern Care Hospice of Macon and Crisp Regional Home Care.
You may sign the online guestbook at www.banksfh.com
Banks Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Lee McDonald*

January 28, 2023 at 12:53 PM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Your family is in our prayers.*

Donald & Symantha Jefferson - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM



“ *Skye, it is with deepest sympathy that I convey my condolences to you and your family during this time of lost of your love one. You all will be in my prayers.*

Debra Gilbert - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM



“ *I am deeply saddened for the loss of a great friend. My heart and prayers go out to you and all of Albert's many friends. He made a huge impact on my life and the lives of many others. May God's peace be with each of you. I love you all.*
Phill

Phill Bowman - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM



“ *Mildred and family, we are so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Betty Vaupel and Kim Mitchell*

Kim Mitchell - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

CA

“ Mildred my heart goes out to you. I wish I would have stayed home with my family so I could know everyone. I fondest memory of Al was when his lung collapsed on him one time. I learned so much about him on that one visit it was so awesome. Mildred MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU SAFE ALWAYS. Love CHERYL ALEXION

CHERYL ALEXION - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

RH

“ Kellie we were so sorry to hear about Alberts passing. Some of our best times in our life was times we were hanging out with Albert and friends. I feel blessed to have been a friend of Alberts. Our prayers are with you all.

Rick and Debra Hawkins - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

MM

“ Al, always made me feel like family. I have enjoyed knowing him for the past 36 years. May you rest in total peace.

Margie McDonald - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

DC

“ I'm shedding some tears partialy from sadness but much more from laughing at the memories of Al and the fun times 40 years ago. It was an honor for me to have known this freespirit and to have been associated with the whole McDonald clan. You are all like brothers to me. So revel in your glory, brother Al, be at peace. Tell brother Pete to get that bass warmed up. I'm putting some new strings on the old acoustic, sitting here in the desert waiting for the glory train. We'll all be playing some music again soon enough. Dave Coleman
- Las Vegas

David Coleman - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

JA

“ *I'm gonna miss you so much my brother.i love you and can't wait to see you again at that big meeting in the sky! Save me a seat bro!* ”

jay - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

DP

“ *I will always remember my friend Albert as one of the greatest people that I have ever known. He was a friend that you could share your weakness with and know that he would never judge you nor hold your past against you and whatever you told him would never be told but rather held in the deepest of confidence. I will miss him and look forward to seeing him in glory.* ”

David Piper - January 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM