



Mrs. Whiddon Rowland

April 11, 1944 - December 26, 2011

Garland Whiddon Rowland of Sylvester, Ga, died on December 26, 2011 at her residence. A Celebration of Life Services will be Wednesday December 28, 2011 at 11:00 AM held in the First Baptist Church, Sylvester, Ga. with Dr. Ben Bush, Dr. Tom Jacobs and Rev. Charles E. Brown, Jr. officiating. Visitation will be at Banks Funeral Home, Sylvester, Ga. on Tuesday from 6:00-8:00 PM. .Interment will follow at the Hillcrest Cemetery, Sylvester, Ga.

Active pallbearers will be Ashley Grady Whiddon, Hunter Whiddon, Eric Foster-Whiddon, Craig Goodroe, Luke Goodroe and Wade Ethridge.

Honorary Pall bears will be classmates of Garland's 1962 Doerun High School Graduating class.

Garland was born on April 11, 1944 In Worth County, Ga. near Doerun on the Grady Whiddon Home Place, She was the daughter of the late Alvin Grady and Zora Lee Medders Whiddon. She was preceeded in death by her Husband, William Donald "Don" Rowland in December 1995. She is survived by her son David Gary Rowland (Monica), her special grandson, Cameron David Rowland, a sister Dorothy Whiddon Ethridge (Tommy); a brother David Lee Whiddon (Susan); a look-alike niece Melissa Ethridge Goodroe (Craig); four nephews – Wade Ethridge, Ashley Grady Whiddon; Hunter Whiddon; and Eric Foster-Whiddon and 3 great nephews – Luke Goodroe, Lane Goodroe, Holton Foster-Whiddon, and 3 great nieces –Alexis Foster-Whiddon, Zoe Foster-Whiddon and Karis Foster-Whiddon .

Garland loved the Lord and was an active member of the First Baptist Church, Sylvester, Ga where she was a member of the Fidelis Sunday School Class, The Adult Choir, and the Brandon Circle. Garland loved singing in the choir and very much missed doing that during her illness. Garland was devoted to her family.

Garland retired from the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Ga in January 2001 after 36 years of service as a Supervisory Logistics Management Specialist.. At that time of her retirement, she began helping her son with his motor sports business (racing go-karts), Performance Engine & Chassis, Inc. She served as his business manager and consultant while they traveled throughout the Southeastern USA promoting karting and selling parts and accessories for karting . Garland was affectionately known and loved by many of the

racing family and others as "Mama G".

In 2005, Garland was inducted into the Colquitt County Sports Hall of Fame. This significant honor was based upon Garland's accomplishments in basketball while attending Doerun High School during the late 50's and early 1960's. Her scoring exploits are still remembered by many in Doerun and Sylvester who packed the basketball gyms. One of her most memorable accomplishments came in the 1961 Invitational Tournament in Sylvester in which she scored 114 points in 3 games including 43 points in the championship game. She was recruited by the All American Red Heads professional basketball team.

In 2009, Garland was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Just like many others who die as a result of this disease, she never gave up. She fought the dreadful disease with courage and dignity and lived by the words of Paul, I fought a good fight, I have finished the race and kept the faith. One of her prayers was: God help me to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference. The family would like to say a special thanks to her caregiver, Inday Rayl and to her sister, Dotty for caring for her when Inday was off.

For those desiring memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church P. O. Box 309, Sylvester, Ga., 31791

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Whiddon Rowland*

January 28, 2023 at 12:53 PM

SF

“ *David, Monica & Cameron; My family is heart broken to hear of Mama G's passing. She was truly an inspirational lady and will be missed very much. We Love you guys!*

Rutledge Family; (Shane, Dee Dee, Matt and Drew)

Shane Rutledge & Family - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

PG

“ *Garland is on a journey now that I look forward to one day. She suffers no more and sometimes that helps to let them go when you think of them and the glorious place they are now. Love you all and you will be in my prayers.*

Peggy Golden - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

JC

“ *Garland was a precious Christian friend and an inspiration to all who knew her. I will always cherish the memories of her and the way that "she fought the good fight", always confident that her Heavenly Father was in control and held her in the palm of His hand. My love and prayers to all of her family.*

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

JB

“ *David, Monica, Cameron, and family. Please know that many are praying for you during this time of loss. Ms. Garland was a wonderful woman and loved by SO many. She will be greatly missed.*

*With love and prayers,
Jeanne, Mike, Emily, and Jacob Brooks*

Jeanne Brooks - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

DB

“ Dave, I was out of town when I heard of your mother's passing. It goes without saying she was one fantastic lady and will never be forgotten. Steven and I send you our best and you should be fomforted in the fact she is now with you dad in heaven.

Dave Brown
Steven Barclay

Dave Brown & Steven Barclay - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

JJ

“ Dave, just heard about your mom.
we are so sad for you and wish you the best

Jim williams & casey Johnson - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

MF

“ May the prayers of others help in some small way. But most of all may the God of all comfort and tender mercies become your refuge and strength during this most difficult time. Please accept our heartfelt condolences.

Mines family - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

D(

“ To the Garland Roland Family,
Garland is resting peacefully now. I will miss her emails and great wit. Mostly I will miss the good time I had serving with her. She is now with her "fellow Marines" guarding heaven's streets. Garland defined "Semper Fidelis".
Sincerely,
LtCol. Paul W. LeBlanc, USMC (Retired)

Dr. Jace & LtCol Paul LeBlanc, USMC (Ret) - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

MR

“ To Garland's family:

Garland was a classy and special Lady whom I respected and admired throughout my tenure working at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany. She was one of us – a member of the Marine family and she earned the respect of all Marines who served with her. She was a straight shooter and approached life with vigor, enthusiasm, and dignity. I will always remember her for her strong character, her unshakable integrity, and her witty sense of humor.

Garland never let me know she was sick or that she had ALS – we only had email contact for the past ten years and I truly appreciated her patriotic missives and forwards.

I donate annually to the ALS Society in memory of my mother, my aunt, and my brother, all ALS victims. I will add Garland to my donation memoriam.

Rest in peace Garland – you are sorely missed, but not forgotten.

*Semper Fidelis,
Mike Rudolph
Colonel, USMC (Ret)
Carlisle, Pennsylvania*

Mike Rudolph - March 22, 2013 at 08:58 AM

JM

“ From the family of Dorothy Medders, we extend our condolences to you. Her strength is a beacon for us all. You are in our prayers.

Jeanette MacDonald - December 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM