



## Ben Keith Wilbanks Jr.

November 10, 1934 - July 16, 2021

Ben Keith Wilbanks, Jr. 86, born November 10, 1934 to Ben Keith Wilbanks, Sr. and Thelma

White Wilbanks, passed away peacefully Friday, July 16, 2021. He was born and raised in Chatsworth, Ga.

After graduating high school, he attended North Georgia College. Ben proudly served in the

United States Air Force from 1958-1964. On September 20, 1959 he married the love of his life

Charlene Storey from Griffin, Ga. They soon welcomed their son Keith (Happy) and daughter

Karin into their lives.

For most of his professional life Ben was employed by Combined Insurance Company as a

Sales Administrator. After a successful career with Combined, he left to pursue franchise ownership with Baskin Robbins, operating 2 profitable locations in Marietta, Ga. for several

years. During this time, he and Charlene fulfilled a longtime dream of Ben's to purchase an

Airstream Trailer. Their travels in the trailer took them from coast to coast, visiting nearly every

state and Canada too. His retirement in 1986 allowed them to become full-time travelers, enjoying the freedom to go as far as they wanted for as long as they wished. In addition to traveling in the Airstream, he loved "cruising" the Caribbean and the Mediterranean Seas, vintage cars, reading, and military movies.

However, nothing brought Ben more joy than spending time with his family, especially his grandsons. Ben was a loving and generous husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend. A

true Southern Gentleman whose kindness, integrity, and sense of humor will be greatly missed

by all who knew him. His strength, courage, and optimism inspired many who knew the

challenges he faced.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ben and Thelma Wilbanks. He is survived by his cherished wife of 61 years Charlene, son Keith and wife Denise, daughter Karin Wilbanks Westphal and husband Keith and their sons Owen, Evan, and Alek all of Marietta. He is also

survived by his sister, Barbara Anne (B.A.) Wilbanks of Chatsworth, GA.

Visitation is scheduled for Sunday August 1, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the Wilbanks' home at 2331 Ventana Crossing Marietta, GA 30062.

Ben's memorial service will be held on Tuesday August 3, at 9:30 a.m. at Georgia National Cemetery located at 1080 Scott Hudgens Dr. Canton, Ga. 30114.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Marietta First United Methodist Church.

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Georgia National Cemetery AUG**

1080 Scott Hudgens Drive

Canton, GA, 30114

**3**

**Graveside Service**

09:30AM

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Georgia National Cemetery

1080 Scott Hudgens Drive, Canton, GA, US, 30114

# Comments

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“ B.A. and family,  
So very sorry to hear of Ben's passing. Thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of loss and in the coming days.

Mike and Glenda Sneads



Mike and Glenda Sneads - July 19 at 04:20 PM