



Dale M. Stone, Jr.

March 30, 2019

Clarence the Angel once said, "No man is a failure who has friends." Those words epitomize the life of Dale Maxwell Stone, Jr. of Buford, GA who passed away suddenly on March 30th 2019, at the age of 78. He was a native of Toccoa, GA, born on October 22nd, 1940, but was raised in Rome, GA. He was known affectionately as Dale Jr., Bubba, Sonny, Daddy, and Granddaddy. He was not a rich man but was supremely wealthy and successful when it came to family and friends who loved him and whom he loved so very much. He was a simple man who never owned a smartphone, never had an email address, and never Googled anything.

He loved his wife, his family, Georgia Bulldog football, the Atlanta Braves, his alma maters: Darlington School, Georgia Military College, and North Georgia College (now UNG), his horse show friends, frozen yogurt, and animals of all kinds but especially dogs, cats, and baby ducks. He was a regular donor at the American Red Cross, donating gallons of blood throughout his life. Additionally, he loved being a volunteer at Egleston Children's Hospital. He was a dedicated athlete, playing college football and baseball as well as men's softball at church. He was a "jogger" who ran numerous Peachtree Road Races, 10K races, and half-marathons. Dale could often be found jogging around Stone Mountain two times in one evening (10 miles). He adored coaching his daughter in softball and his son in football and baseball. He was a terrific swimmer and tennis player. However, if you asked Dale whom he loved the most, his answer would be his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in whose Presence he peacefully resides at this moment; we are certain.

Dale Jr., like his father Dale Sr. (who was one of the first organists to play the "Mighty Mo" at the Fox Theatre), was a supremely talented musician. However, unlike his father, Dale did not read music. He is probably best known as the Official Organist of the Atlanta Hawks from the early 1970s until the mid-1990s. Dale played one season with the Atlanta Braves and would often fill in as the organist for the Atlanta Flames hockey team. Still, Dale was probably most proud of his over 60 years spent playing the organ for horse shows all over the country, mostly in the Southeast. Additionally, he was loved by so many

customers in his career as an office supply salesman. He had an amazing life and career. I tell you what to do.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents, Dale M. Stone, Sr. and Lula Faith Terrell Stone. He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Barbara Lord Stone of Buford, GA; daughter Lori Dalaine Stone of Cumming, GA; son Jeffrey Dale Stone (Deanna) of Bremen, GA; and granddaughters Taylor Stone and Jacie Stone of Bremen, GA. He also leaves behind first wife Elaine Worthington Stone Tanner and her husband Sam Tanner (Dale's Bulldog Breakfast Club best friend) of Cumming, GA; sister Terri and brother-in-law John Whittenburg of Cartersville, GA; sister Diane Stone of Rome, GA; niece Anne (Darrell) Vaughan of Cartersville, GA; nephew Jack Whittenburg of Cartersville, GA; and numerous cousins, great-nieces, and great-nephews. Stepchildren include Brian Lord of Flowery Branch, GA; "Daughter #2" Kim (Peter) Knutzen of Blue Ridge, GA; and Kelly (Renee) Lord of Statham, GA. He also had many step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 am on April 27th, 2019, at Mount Paran Church of God in Atlanta. The service will be followed by a visitation with family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (stjude.org) or to C.A.R.E.S. Cedartown Animal Rescue, Education & Sterilization (caresga.org), in memory of Dale M. Stone, Jr.

Clarence also said, "Strange, isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives. When he isn't around, he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?" Yes. There will be a hole in all our lives; however, every life he touched is better off for having known Dale.

Comments



“ My condolences for the Stone family. Mr. Stone was such a beautiful person and I'm so grateful I got a chance to get to know him, even if it was just through the drive up! He always had a bright smile on his face and you could just tell how much he loved life, his family and those around him. I will truly miss Mr. Stone he was and will forever be my favorite customer and I know he is watching over all his loved ones. You are truly missed and loved Mr. Stone!

Ebelene Cortez - September 04, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ I spent and enjoyed many years in center ring with Dale at the Tampa horse shows. He was always smiling, and such a kind, thoughtful, and gentle man. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Cathy Renwick - April 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM



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“ I would like to send my sincerest condolences for Dale and his family. I met Dale many years ago going to a gym in Buford. Like many, I felt like I had known him for a long time as he was so friendly and personable. There was not a day that went by that I saw him that he didn't have a kind word or ask about me and my family. He had a great sense of humor and I always enjoyed hearing him laugh as we did so many times. I know I am just one of VERY many that have had the good fortune and blessing to have had enjoyed the friendship of this great man.

Prayers of condolence to you,

Mike McRee

Mike McRee - April 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ The Dale Stone Trio....

Skip Hopkins and I were the Guitarist and Drummer for Dale for many years. We had so much fun playing mostly for Christmas and New Years Eve parties with Dale. Dale played his music by ear not printed sheet music and that fit in very well with us. Skip knows sheet music but also played by ear and I play only by ear. It was so interesting that so many times Dale would turn to Skip and I and simply say, "Follow me in G.."

We had no idea where he was going, but the three of us played by ear and by heart, and we knew each other so well, that the music was not simply "re-produced" it was created on the fly. Of course, everyone once in a while Skip and I would surprise Dale by changing the beat, and when we did Dale would turn to us with that great big smile of his.!!!

Love you Dale, miss you.
Everett

Everett Stowe - April 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM



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Everett Stowe - April 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ Mr. Stone was a customer at the Hamilton Mill Publix pharmacy where I used to work. He was always so nice and had a smile on his face. Saddened about his passing and prayers for all that knew this fine man.

Angie Womack - April 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ What a great person that made a lot of people smile when he played at horse shows. Dale was inducted into the JD Massey Horse Show Hall of Fame several years ago for the many years he provided the sounds of the horse shows in the southeast. He will be missed and our thoughts and prayers are with Barbara and the Stone family

Dan Shirley - March 31, 2019 at 12:00 AM



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