



Allen Olmstead

July 15, 1960 - January 18, 2022

Allen Olmstead, age 61, of Buford, GA passed away on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. He was preceded in death by sister, Diane Sheiry. Mr. Olmstead is survived by his wife of thirty-seven years, Colleen Walker Olmstead of Buford; children, Megan Olmstead of Rockmart, GA and Shannon Olmstead of Winder, GA; father, DeVere E. Olmstead of Hendersonville, NC; sister, Darla Olmstead of Flat Rock, NC; aunt and uncle, Voni and Keith Campbell of Texas; and several cousins. Mr. Olmstead was born on July 15, 1960 in Freeport, Illinois. He was a 1978 graduate of Shullsburg High School, and attended Control Date Institute. Mr. Olmstead was employed with Northside Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville with over twenty years of service as an I T compliance manager. He attended Sugar Hill United Methodist Church "The Church on the Hill" in Sugar Hill, GA. He loved playing the guitar, hiking, and studying the Bible. A memorial service will be held on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 3:00 pm in the Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home with Pastor Jeff Coleman officiating. The family will receive friends from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm on Sunday, January 23 at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **23.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Flanigan Funeral Home
4400 South Lee Street
Buford, GA 30518

Memorial Service

JAN **24.** 3:00 PM.

Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home

Tribute Wall



“ Did a search for an old friend and learned of his passing. I hope we would get together again someday. We worked together in San Francisco in the 1980s and had a great time working and hanging out. Last time I met with him was about 15 years ago in Atlanta. Colleen and children, prayers for all of you. James and Susan Lewis

James Lewis - January 15, 2023 at 08:05 PM



“ Allen Olmstead

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ I met Allen (Alli-O) late '70's or early 80's. He was fun loving. He also enjoyed Dungeons and Dragons - and puns. I remember coming in on the tail end of a long, tortuous, multi-day adventure when the dice betrayed him. No sheriff came out of the forest to arrest us for transporting stolen merchant's dice across stately lions for immortal porpoises. Wish I'd been there for the whole thing.

Diane Thornton - January 29, 2022 at 12:10 AM



“ Easy to know and love, an instant friend. I loved the many hours of music with Allen, especially the concert dance we did. A wonderful guitarist. --Tim

Tim Morgan - January 22, 2022 at 02:37 AM

KC

“ I am heartbroken at Allen's death. We first met when we were 16-- he lived two houses down from me. After walking home from school one day, he invited me into his house and played Led Zeppelin songs for me and did his Charlie Watts impression. That was it-- best friends for life. He and Darla (and Johnny) opened the world of music to me and made me the person I am today. We only lived in the same town for about 4 of the 45 years we knew each other, but the thread of our friendship never broke. We took joy in each other and he was an inspiration to me-- a mensch and decent to the core. He let me sing (badly) the songs we wrote and was best man at my wedding to Linda. Many projects were launched: how American pop history would have been different if Dylan had actually been a singing dog; releasing punk albums that were just Zeppelin played at 78rpm; a musical remake of "King Kong" starring Florence Henderson; re-imagining the Holmes/Watson stories with both of them as utter morons (thanks, Hollywood, for the royalties from that idea). It was truly, as Darla pointed out, "the world's longest running inside joke." We saw each other for the last time last year, just before Thanksgiving. The night before he headed back to ATL, we watched "The Great Race" for the tenth time (at least)--it was a perfect visit. He was always in my mind and my heart and always will be. I loved him very much. May his memory be a blessing.

Kevin Cramer and Linda Santoro



Kevin Cramer - January 21, 2022 at 06:34 PM

SW

“ Allen and Colleen were part of a small group of couples that met together for many years around our dining room table to eat dinner and then study Scripture and pray for many things including our families and for each other. My husband, Jeff Wright, and Allen had the same kind of humor, so nothing dull ever went on! Jeff passed away 6 years ago and I am sure after Allen saw and was hugged by Jesus, that then came Jeff, who was big, and gave Allen a big huge hug. There is no question in my mind that we all KNOW, without a shadow of a doubt, where Allen is! He is with his Savior and the Lover of his soul, Jesus, and is safe and whole again in heaven! May it be said that no matter what obstacles we have here on earth, that Allen has none anymore and has entered into heaven to be with his Lord and Savior forever! Amen!

Sarah Wright - January 21, 2022 at 11:20 AM

ME

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Megan - January 21, 2022 at 10:43 AM

MR

“ I met and became instant friends with Allio in the late 70's. Here I thought I was the class clown, but this guy was more fun, animated and hilarious than any of us. He once held up his gnarled hands and said "If I ever have a daughter, she'll come to me one day and hold up HER gnarled hands and say 'This is all YOUR fault'" and we busted out laughing. I can still hear his laugh and could flood you with stories. I wish I could have known him as we got much older but that means he will just stay young and vibrant to me always. God has blessed Allen and I feel blessed to have known him. Rest in peace my friend.
And don't make too much noise in Heaven jamming with Charlie Watts.

Mark Runyan - January 21, 2022 at 01:00 AM

RG

“ Broken hearted to hear this news. Speechless. I am thankful that Allen knows Christ and knows Him fully now!

Rich Griffith - January 20, 2022 at 09:26 PM

SW

Yes! He lived the Lord!

Sarah Wright - January 22, 2022 at 12:35 PM

SW

He loved the Lord!

Sarah Wright - January 22, 2022 at 12:36 PM

LW

“ I met Allen - Alli-O, as we called him - in the late 1970's. He was a friend of a friend, and he fit right in with our weird group. We played Dungeons and Dragons back then, no board, no figures, just a handful of dice, a rule book, and a monster manual. We all sat around a table with character cards and a pad of graph paper, mapping the dungeon, keeping track of hits and treasure. At some point in almost every game, Allen would leap out of his chair to illustrate exactly what his character was doing - usually something ridiculous and not helpful, but making us all laugh. Afterwards we'd go out for pizza and he would always get a cup of coffee and ask for a maraschino cherry, which he would drop into it. That cherry would stay there for half a dozen cups and turn positively grey before he'd stop drinking coffee and eat it. He was a talented guitar player - he always said it was because when he splayed his hand out, his fingers all pointed in the same direction. I haven't seen him for well over 30 years, but he lives on in my memory as a unique, funny, talented teenager. Godspeed, Alli-O.

Linda White

Linda White - January 20, 2022 at 09:07 PM

TG

“ *Colleen and family,
I am so sorry for your loss. I did not know your husband Allen but I did meet your beautiful daughters years ago at your mom and dad’s house when I was living in Atlanta with them. I appreciate how faithful you were on the CaringBridge to us when we were still hoping, praying, and fighting for our precious Deron. Our families are such a blessing to us all and very thankful that the Walker family is part of that blessing. I hope you and your girls can find peace and comfort. 37 years together is a testament to what a fine man your husband must have been. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.*

*Love to all of you,
Tracy Rombach Graham*

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Tracy Graham - January 20, 2022 at 08:18 PM

TB

“ *Blessings on your family, thanks you for sharing Allen with so many in the Emmaus community. He was a blessing and the preserving voice to me. Tom Bowen*

Tom Bowen - January 20, 2022 at 04:11 PM

JM

“ *Uncle Allen was one of the greats! From going with me to buy my car on Black Friday to a random adventure day in Asheville, he always had me laughing at holidays. I have no idea what’s happening in this picture, but I do remember laughing hysterically at the time.*

I’m so glad I got to see him in May. He was such a bright spot in the world and will be missed. ❤️



Jessica Mosley - January 20, 2022 at 03:45 PM

JS

This is a guy to know! Smart, musical, philosophical, fun. A thousand miles closer would've helped. Think n pray for us from where you are, Allen.

Jim Shropshire - January 21, 2022 at 12:32 AM

ME

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Megan - January 20, 2022 at 02:13 PM

KT

“ I have a favorite memory of Allen and Colleen. I believe the New Year was 1998. We were down in our basement where the set up was for playing guitars and singing. Allen and Colleen did a wonderful rendition of Meatloafs song “Dashboard lights.” I think that’s the name. It was as if they had practiced for hours! But it really was spontaneous. It was classic Allen! I’ve cherished the memory through out the years.

Kendall Tanner - January 20, 2022 at 02:12 PM

ME

“ Miss you already, Dad. Love, Megan

Megan - January 20, 2022 at 02:10 PM

SW

So sorry for your loss, precious Megan! I love you. Blessings on you, from Mama Sarah.

Sarah Wright - January 21, 2022 at 09:53 AM

PC

“ I met Allen through the church praise team. He was so warm and welcoming, sharing his love of our Lord and of his music. I loved his sense of humor and looked forward to hearing a new joke or two when I saw him. His loss will be felt by so many. My love and prayers go to his beautiful Colleen, their daughters and grandchildren. I know that he is home with our lord and is riffing off some beautiful guitar chords. Rest in Heaven Allen.

Pam Carlson - January 20, 2022 at 11:06 AM

PC

“ *Pam Carlson lit a candle in memory of Allen
Olmstead*



Pam Carlson - January 20, 2022 at 11:01 AM