



Ret. Chief Petty Officer Wesley T. Abernathy

February 25, 2018

Ret. Chief Petty Officer Wesley T. Abernathy, age 70, of Lula, GA and formerly of Lawrenceville, GA passed away on Sunday, February 25, 2018. He was preceded in death by his parents, John T. and Elease Browning Abernathy. He is survived by his wife of forty-eight years, Beth Higgins Abernathy, Lula, GA; children, Melissa Kaye and Ryan Melton, Commerce, GA and Matthew Wesley Abernathy, Lula, GA; sister and brother-in-law, Phyllis and Jerry Mills, Lawrenceville, GA; aunt, Martha Webber, Arkansas; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Candace and Rusty Rogers, Los Vegas, NV; and several cousins. Mr. Abernathy was born January 13, 1948 in Suwanee, GA. He was a 1966 graduate of North Gwinnett High School in Suwanee, GA and a 1977 graduate of Mesa College with an Associate's Degree. He was retired from the U. S. Navy after twenty-six years of service, also retired from Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation Department as a District Supervisor after twenty years of service and worked for the Atlanta Falcons in Suwanee, GA. His military career started when he went through Boot Camp in Great Lakes, IL, his military duty consisted of spending three and a half years on the U. S. S. Ogden L.P.D.5 carrying one thousand combat ready Marines and Seals Team to Vietnam and worked extensively around Danang Chulai on Chuviet River on the D.M.Z., served on the Combat Cargo Team, served six years with the Coastal Squadron One River; served six years on the Command Training Team on Navy and Marine Corp Readiness Center in Atlanta, GA, and spent ten years with the Military Sealift Command in Atlanta, GA. He was recalled to

serve in Desert Storm for seven months. He was a member of the Woodman of the World Insurance Society and was a member of Peachtree Road Baptist Church in Suwanee, GA. Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at Peachtree Road Baptist Church in Suwanee, GA with Dr. Preston Moore and Rev. Jay Reed officiating. The remains will be placed in state at the church at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be at Peachtree Road Baptist Church Cemetery with full military honors and Rev. Roland Jackson and Rev. Danny Mundy officiating. The North Gwinnett High School Class of 1966 will serve as honorary escort along with his breakfast club. The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 1, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ret. Chief Petty Officer Wesley T. Abernathy*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *I remember Wesley all the way back to when we were just kids at Old Field (now Peachtree Road) Baptist Church. He and his sister, Phyllis are two of my oldest friends. I'm just proud to say I knew Wesley and am a better person for it. He was a good man and a true Patriot. May he forever rest in peace.*

Benny Bagwell - March 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM



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“ *Beth and family, we are so sorry to hear about Wes. So many memories of you all when we were neighbors. Love and prayers to everyone.*

Russell and JoAnm Sauer - March 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ Our deepest condolence to the family. Wes was my next door neighbor for over 8 yrs. Thanks to him my daughter went to bible summer camp and got baptized. He will be missed.

Erick - March 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Words cannot due justice for how I feel about his passing. I know there was tremendous joy in welcoming home to heaven. He was a true servant of God. It was an honor and privilege to have shared just a small part of his life. My heart goes out to Missy, Matt and Beth. I was truly proud and honored that he called me his friend. May God give you strength and peace during this time of sorrow. I loved him like a brother. He will truly be missed. If there is anything I could ever do for any of you don't hesitate to tell me. May the Lord bless you and keep you in his Love

Butch Wallace - March 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ Wes was a good man. It was always a pleasure to work with him at the County. May his soul rest in peace and may the family find comfort in knowing that he has made his way to his heavenly home. Missy, my heart goes out to you and your family.

Kim Price Everett - March 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ My thoughts go to playing basketball with Wesley at Suwanee Elementary. He will be on my mind.

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“ So sad to hear of Wes's passing. We had lots of laughs and good times in our unit. Enjoyed our reserve meetings at GA Tech campus. I live in TN now and would love to attend his service but I won't be able to. See you Chief on the other side.

Larry Lawhorn, SKC, USNR - February 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Beth and family. I am so sorry to hear about Wes. He was such a nice person. He will be missed. Peggy Smith

peggy smith - February 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ I can only imagine the wonder Wesley is experiencing, the crown presented to him for all he achieved on earth and what an honor he is enjoying now. He was a great man and leaves a great legacy.

Glenda Shaw - February 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Those of us that had the opportunity to work with Wes were very fortunate to call him a friend, leader and caregiver to all. Many a night I would leave an event with Gwinnett County late and Wes's deep voice on the radio would tell me to have a good night and be safe. He was always there for us! He lent Missy to us many a night at the Historic Courthouse, what pleasure to work with her and the image of her Father with his peaceful caring and friendship.

Rest in peace Wes!

Kim Shealy - February 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ A man of God, a family man, a patriot, a cherished friend, and so much more all describe Wesley. He was loyal and dedicated in every walk of his life, a true entertainer with stories (usually involving his co-hort, Sammy) that ran the gamut of his life from early church through Suwanee Elementary to North Gwinnett, through his Navy career, his leadership with Gwinnett Parks & Rec, and especially his salvation. Although we have lost him here and our hearts are broken, we rejoice to know that Wesley is no longer suffering and has arrived Home safely. I can almost hear the laughter from Heaven and see that wonderful smile on his face!

Wesley, you touched so many and have left quite a legacy that few could ever hope to attain. You were the best, and I'll never forget our life-long friendship. It will always be cherished.

Thank you for your service, Chief! You were one who never had to demand respect-you commanded it by the way you lived your life and the way you treated others.

We will always love you and miss you, dear friend. You will never be forgotten!

Beth, Missy, Matt, Phyllis & family, we love you and are here for you if you need anything!

Ron & Carolyn Buice - NGHS, Class of '66 - February 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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Stanley Ethridge - February 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ Our Most Deepest Condolences To All The Family Of Wesley T. Abernathy. Thank You For Your Service And All The Happiness You Brought To Those Lucky Enough To Cross Your Path.
Love, Claude & Mike Mills.

Mike Mills - February 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ Beth and family, you are in my heart and in my prayers. Be proud of your husband and father as he had come "a long way".
I would say he had been extremely successful in his life. Beth he told me of how you two met and how life had been for you and it sounded like a beautiful love story. Have no doubts that his love and admiration for you was deeper than can be measured.
Be strong, let go and let God carry the weight of your sorrow. My prayers will continue for you and your family.

Etheleen Wallis Gower

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MS

“ So sorry for you loss. Praying for the family during this difficult time.

Mary Stewart - February 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Beth and family,
We are so sorry that Wesley is gone so soon. He was a wonderful man and we are honored to have known him. You will be in our thoughts as you grieve in the coming weeks and months. Love,
Your Friends,
Don and June

Don and June Vincent - February 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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“ Sorry for your loss

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“ I'm very sorry for your loss. I didn't really know Mr. Abernathy but it said a lot to me about the type of man he was that despite his illness he took the time to call me to personally thank me for giving Melissa time off work to help him. His phone call touched me deeply. I regret that I will not be able to come by in person due to other obligations, but my thoughts and prayers are with Melissa and the entire family.

God Bless You,
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“ May the Love of Christ comfort the hearts of your loving family and friends.
In Christ name we Pray.

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“ Wes was the greatest friend I ever had. Many times he helped me with personal issues that were sidelining my life. All the years that I knew him he was always the gentle rock with a smile. I will always be grateful to him for what he imparted to me. I am indeed sorry for your family's loss. God bless you all.
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My deepest sympathy to his family Beth, Missy and Matt. May God bless you during this time.

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