



Terry Dean Massey

December 29, 1936 - July 29, 2020

Terry Dean Massey, age 83, went home to be with his wife of almost 61 years, Mary Massey, who passed away February 6, 2018, and join her by The Lord's Side on Wednesday, July 29, 2020. He was born in Trion, GA, to the late Rebecca and Burton Massey, and lived in LaFayette, GA, after retiring from the USAF as a Chief Master Sergeant in 1985.

Terry met Mary while in high school at a track meet (he ran track for Trion High, she was a cheerleader for LaFayette High), and they married on May 26, 1957, at First Presbyterian Church in Covington, GA, before he shipped off for Basic Training in the USAF. Their first assignment took them to the Mojave Desert, and their last assignment to Colorado Springs, Colorado, where Terry worked in "The Mountain" at NORAD, alongside of General Patterson, often accompanying him and briefing The Pentagon on radar-related activities.

He will be missed for his warm and welcoming smile (at Second Baptist Church of LaFayette), his love of sharing stories over lunch (at Wanda's and The Tavern), fishing with his buddy Don Crane as well as his children and grandchildren, frog gigging, gardening, cooking/grilling, and singing old fashioned gospel hymns (in particular, he loved listening to J.D. Sumner, whom he had the pleasure of meeting). Not only is Terry preceded in death by his wife, Mary, and his parents, but is also by his brothers (Edward and David/Gene).

He is survived by Jennifer, his daughter (San Francisco, CA); Christopher, his son, along with his wife Melissa, and their children Taylor and Addyson (Garland, TX); Donna Margio (his sister-in-law, wife of Joe Margio) (West Jefferson, NC); first cousin via marriage Celia Brock (wife of Tebo Brock) (Rome, Ga); and many! loving cousins. Jennifer and Christopher would like to extend a special thank you to two of Terry's friends, who took care of Terry and his house these last two years: Margaret Stephenson and Rosie Hagwood. They are forever grateful and thankful for the love and care Margaret and Rosie showed their father, Terry.

Due to wanting to keep everyone safe as they mourn Terry during this time of Covid-19, the family will keep the funeral and graveside burial private, but they invite Terry's friends to either go online and sign his memory book at <https://wilsonfuneralhome.com> or honor CDC recommended social distancing protocols (such as wearing masks) and attend the public viewing on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, from 6 pm to 8 pm (at which the family will not be present due to risks associated with Covid-19). In addition, the 11:30 am funeral on Wednesday, August 5, 2020, while remaining private, will be live-streamed by Second Baptist Church of LaFayette. Please visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/2ndBCLaFayette/> as early as 10:45 am, the link will take you to YouTube (the service will begin at 11:30 am, but a photo memory presentation will start showing at 11 am). Should you wish to send flowers, the family is asking that in lieu thereof, remembrances may be made to Restore 634 (a group home being restored for women recently in jail, as managed by Second Baptist Church of LaFayette). Arrangements by Wilson Funeral Homes, LaFayette Chapel, LaFayette, Georgia.

Cemetery Details

Chattanooga National Cemetery

Holtzclaw Ave.
Chattanooga, TN

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Funeral Homes - LaFayette Chapel
1779 North Main Street
P.O. Box 1592
LaFayette, GA 30728
(706) 638-1122
david@wilsonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wilsonfuneralhome.com/>

Private service

AUG 5. 11:30 AM (ET)

Second Baptist Church
500 W. Main St.
LaFayette, GA 30728

Tribute Wall

TB

“ Jennifer and Chris,
I just learned today about your dad - so sorry! I'll miss him.
Mom says she's very sorry. She says Terry was a good friend and
that she'll miss him. She wants you to know she will be praying for
you.

Timothy Bradfield - October 21, 2020 at 03:32 PM

DG

“ So sorry to hear of Terry's passing. My prayers are for the family
and friends to have peace by remembering all the good things about
Terry.
Dan Greene THS class of 59

Dan Greene - August 13, 2020 at 06:55 AM

DS

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Terry Dean. He was a cousin of
ours and have very fond memories of him, Gene, Ed, and their
parents. After my father died many years ago, they helped my
mother and our family in many ways and Terry Dean was always so
good to come and visit my elderly mother in Summerville. God
speed on your journey home my friend.

David & Avis Snow - August 07, 2020 at 10:43 AM



We adore your mother, and visit her every time we pass through
Summerville. We even FaceTimed with her last week, to let her know
about our Dad's passing. Thank you for sharing your thoughts. JEN

Jennifer Massey - August 07, 2020 at 12:15 PM

JM

“ I lived and attended Trion School and Terry was a grade or two ahead of me. I remember him being this tall slender guy that was on the Track Team. I moved to LaFayette years ago and I run into Terry at WalMart and Golden Corale. Terry always knew my name even though it had been quite a few years since i had seen him. He was always so friendly and such s gentleman. I am sorry for your loss. i know he will be missed by many.



Joyce Hicks Martin - August 06, 2020 at 11:49 PM

DM


“ Terry was a fantastic brother-in-law (brother). I was only around 10 when he and my sister Mary started dating so he is more like a brother to me. After Mary died in 2018, Terry and I had many long telephone conversations. We shared everything. I am so thankful for Terry's visit with us Christmas 2018. I will always cherish those wonderful memories and the laughs we shared. I love you Terry Dean Massey and I will miss our talks but I know you and Mary are so happy to be together and I know you love being with your parents and your brothers Edward and Gene. Give Mary a squeeze for me and give one to mamma and daddy. It must be wonderful being with Jesus.

Donna Margio - August 04, 2020 at 07:25 PM

JA

“ Brian and I feel privileged to have known such a sweet and loving person. He was my Sunday School teacher when I started Second Baptist over 21 years ago. I loved to hear him sing the old hymns that I grew up hearing and singing to. He will be missed beyond measure. Love, Brian and Jill Avans

Jill Avans - August 03, 2020 at 02:45 PM

 Sarah
Huggins

“ *Mr. Terry was such a joy to be around. He loved my daughter, Anna Kate and would always get a hug from her every Sunday starting when she was a little toddler until now at 9 yrs old. My favorite memory of him and Ms. Mary is when they bought Anna Kate a stuffed pig bigger than she was and the joy that was on his face. We will miss his hugs! Love, Bead, Sarah, Andrew, Anna Kate, & Abbie Huggins*

Sarah Huggins - August 02, 2020 at 11:50 PM

PT

“ *Patsy Ann Tinney lit a candle in memory of Terry Dean Massey*



Patsy Ann Tinney - August 02, 2020 at 11:17 PM

BH

“ *Terry Massey was such a wonderful special friend and GODLY man. Had a lot of Fun time with him and Mary when I did their hair. He always brought me a glass of tea. When he was able He sang in the choir to keep Barry in tune. and we always had a Blessed time in church, usually sit in front of him. He will surely be missed, but we know He is singing in heaven in the LORDS CHOIR with the Angels ,holding Mary's hand.. We love and we will miss you Terry and all your songs you sang. Sending prayers to his family. Son ,Chris, Melissa and children and daughter Jennifer.*

Barry & Gloria Hollis - August 02, 2020 at 10:08 PM

RG

“ Terry was a very caring and giving person. He was a great Sunday School Teacher, and faithfully attended Sunday School after Ricky took his class. The Love and Joy Sunday School class will miss him. Terry always stopped by the children's classes and the Nursery to say hello. Terry would buy men's coats on sale and bring them to the Food Pantry for anyone who needed one. Terry will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

We will see Terry again when we go to Heaven!!!

Ricky and Linda Gilreath

Ricky and Linda Gilreath - August 02, 2020 at 10:07 PM

SU

“ Hazel Pilgrim doesn't have a way to post you a message but she wanted me to let you know how much Her and Leroy enjoyed doing things with Terry and Mary and she is so sorry to hear about Terry. She is Praying for you all

Sue Underwood - August 02, 2020 at 07:51 PM

SU

“ Terry and Mary were Special Friends to Ronald and Me He was a Friend to everyone We are going to miss him. We know He and Mary are Happy that they are together again Love and Prayers to Jennifer, Chris and Family

Sue Underwood - August 02, 2020 at 07:43 PM

CC

“ Terry was such a loving Christian man. He no doubt is with Jesus and Mary in heaven right now. We will miss his loving smile and the happiness he spread. We will miss his many solos through the years, He had a wonderful tenor voice. Until we meet again Terry, love Bill and Claudia



Claudia Clackum - August 02, 2020 at 05:24 PM

GM

“ Our deepest sympathies Terry family We went to school together class of 56 Graham and Jean Maddux

Graham & Jean Maddux - August 02, 2020 at 10:28 AM

FH

“ Our deepest sympathies to Terry,s family, we will miss him in Sunday School and Church. Many good memories do him and Mary

fLinda and Joel Hegwood - August 02, 2020 at 09:21 AM

LA

“ Terry and Mary always pleasant when they would visit Professional Park Associates in LaFayette. Always so kind and friendly. Terry is with Mary now and that is exactly what he where he would want to be! Prayers for the family.



Lena Arnold - August 01, 2020 at 03:36 PM

KR

“ I have many memories of Terry. He is a very special man. I'm going to miss hearing him sing in church. I'm going to miss sitting behind him and getting his hugs and even tapping him to wake him up. I'm going to miss random lunches with him and running into him at Walmart. My favorite memory of him though is how he turned into a big child when I had my oldest daughter though. He would always blow raspberries at her in church when she started blowing them at him. He is a very loved man!

Kim Ray - August 01, 2020 at 03:11 PM

DG

Terry was our neighbor. When we move into the neighborhood Terry was the first to welcome us. Terry invited us to Church and we went a few time. We was lucky that we was at Church on the Sunday that he sang a solo. What a beautuil voice he had. When ever we was our in the yard he would alway stop and talk with us. Terry will be greatly miss in the neighborhood.

Dave and Sue Guenther - August 04, 2020 at 06:04 PM

DG

Thoughts and Pryers for the family.

Dave and Sue Guenther - August 04, 2020 at 06:07 PM