

## Lamar Ernest Wallace

November 28, 1911 - March 31, 2019

Lamar Ernest Wallace, the oldest living Eagle Scout in the United States and one of Georgia's oldest World War II veterans has died at the age of 107.

Mr. Wallace was born November 28, 1911, in Romulus, Oklahoma. He was the first child of Ernest Polmeroy and Lucille Nicholas Wallace. He had two sisters, Evelyn Louise and Oleta Eilene, both deceased. His family moved to Gotebo, Oklahoma, in Kiowa County in 1925 where Lamar finished high school in 1931. As a teenager, he was a Boy Scout and obtained his Eagle Scout badge in 1928. In 2015, he was honored at the Boy Scout's Annual Conference meeting in Atlanta as the "oldest living Eagle Scout." He graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1937 and worked in circulation for the Tulsa Tribune until entering the US Army in 1941.

Commissioned as a Lieutenant in July 1942, he served at Fort Warren, Wyoming, Fort Lewis Washington, and in the European and Pacific Theatres of War as commanding officer of the 4416th Quartermaster Company. He used to say that he remembered hearing of Japan's surrender while passing through the Panama Canal on the way to the Philippines. While he was in service, he married Helen Ward of Tulsa, and the couple lived in Tulsa, Oklahoma until she died in 1976. He was active in SERTOMA and other social organizations and was an avid fan of the University of Oklahoma Sooners. After his discharge from service, Wallace rejoined the Tulsa Tribune where he worked until 1977. Later, he became a real estate broker and worked in Westport, Oklahoma until he retired in 1979.

On a trip to Israel in 1977, he met Mary Louise Decker, a widow from Atlanta, Georgia. In January 1978, the couple were married and settled back in Westport. After Wallace retired, he and Mary moved to Valdosta, Georgia and in 1992 to Tyrone. Mary passed away in January of 2010 after 32 years of marriage.

Wallace remained in good health and active in programs at the Hopewell United Methodist Church in Tyrone until he turned 105. He has served as grand marshal for Tyrone's annual Founder's Day Parade, given interviews about his long life, and managed his own home and autos into his early 100s. He once replaced a roof on a garage at the age of 98. He voted in 22 presidential elections, and he could remember as a youth that the old men in his hometown were veterans of the Civil War. A sign on his desk humorously stated, "I've survived damned near everything!"

He is survived by three nieces and two nephews, Dorothy Aalseth (Lake Stevens, Washington), Anna Lee Ahrens (Dallas, Texas), Karen Jackson, Davis Ward (Atlanta, Georgia) Dan Smith (Enock, Utah) as well as three step-children, Richard P. Decker (Atlanta, Georgia), Debra D. Philips (Charleston, South Carolina), David S. Decker (St. Louis, Missouri.), five step-grandchildren, and 12 step-great grandchildren. A funeral service will be held Friday 5, 2019 at 1 o'clock at Hopewell UMC. Interment will follow at Arlington Memorial Park. The family will receive friends two hours prior to the service at Hopewell UMC

# Cemetery Details

## Arlington Memorial Park

201 Mount Vernon Highway  
Sandy Springs, GA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 5. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Hopewell UMC  
Jenkins Rd  
Tyrone, GA 30290

## Funeral Service

APR 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

Hopewell UMC  
Jenkins Rd  
Tyrone, GA 30290

# Tribute Wall



“ *Parrott Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lamar Ernest Wallace*



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**Parrott Funeral Home** - April 01, 2019 at 04:29 PM

BS

*It was an Honor to drive Capt. Wallace in the Tyrone Founders Day Parade for many years. He was an intelligent humble, educated , and highly respected American .*

*Bud Shelton*

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**Bud Sheltonbshelton@gmail.com** - April 01, 2019 at 09:56 PM

GC

*What a gentleman. My grandson who was working on his Eagle Scout had the honor of interviewing Mr Wallace. Our lives were changed forever. He exemplifies what an Eagle Scout should always be. Such an example for my grandson to follow. Rest In Peace you sweet gentleman.*

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**Gail Cook** - April 01, 2019 at 11:32 PM

RG

*He was such an engaging man. Always quick to welcome you and have a conversation.*

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**Renee Gilpin** - April 02, 2019 at 08:48 AM

NW

*He was a wonderful friend and many wonderful memories.*

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**Nettie Wilson** - April 02, 2019 at 07:03 PM

CM

“ So very sorry to hear that Mr. Wallace has passed. I so enjoyed having conversations with him when visiting my mother at Somerby. The place just won't seem the same without him.

Connie Stover Mount - April 08, 2019 at 10:35 PM

Lami  
Pie

“ Lamar 102 Lauren 11! Friends of all ages!



Lami Pie - April 05, 2019 at 12:08 AM

DD

“ David & Marsha Decker , Austin & Emma Decker purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Lamar Ernest Wallace.



David & Marsha Decker , Austin & Emma Decker - April 03, 2019 at 04:43 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Life Tributes



Parrott Funeral Home - April 03, 2019 at 01:52 PM

JG

“ Jerry and Peggy Griffin purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Lamar Ernest Wallace.



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**Jerry and Peggy Griffin** - April 03, 2019 at 01:31 PM

BG

“ Beth & Johnny Brown, Jana & David Gardner purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Lamar Ernest Wallace.



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**Beth & Johnny Brown, Jana & David Gardner** - April 03, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Lamar Ernest Wallace.



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April 03, 2019 at 09:45 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Lamar Ernest Wallace.



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April 02, 2019 at 03:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lamar Ernest Wallace.*



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April 02, 2019 at 01:34 PM



“ *Many precious memories of Mr Wallace. I had the pleasure of working with Lamar and Mary building their home in Tyrone. He was frugal, sensible and down to earth. However, if Mary wanted it, he would agree. We shared lunches in our office when they were in town. They lived in their Airstream, all over GA, while we were building their home. They shared the story of their first meeting on the bus tour in Israel. Others on the bus decided they should be together so they made sure no other seats were open except for the two of them to sit together. He said he bought a loose diamond there for an investment. Mary flashed it around wearing it on her wedding ring finger! She said "Here is his investment!"*



*We take so many things for granted, jumping through hoops required. At their closing, the termite letter was presented and he was charged for it. He said he thought that ridiculous! How could they find termites in new construction? He was right. I hadn't thought of it that way before. Every year he lived at his home, he sold 10 Hopewell UMC BBQ tickets to us. He had his rounds to make and thank goodness we were on his list. Its not everyday that a 103 yr old man parks in the road and walks to your door selling tickets for his church.*

*He was optimistic, practical, sweet, and kind. Honored to have really known he and Mary! Go rest high on that mountain, Mr. Lamar Wallace! Well done!*

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**Linda and Randy Brown** - April 02, 2019 at 10:30 AM

VS

“ Vicki Smith lit a candle in memory of Lamar Ernest Wallace



Vicki Smith - April 01, 2019 at 12:58 PM

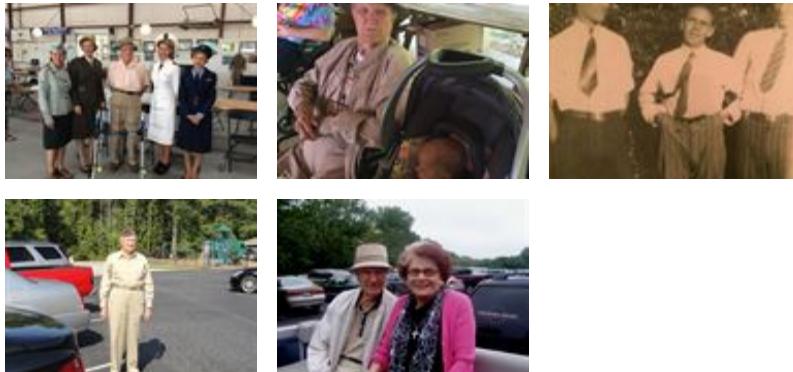
VS

“ Such a precious soul! I met him when he moved into Somerby in Peachtree City at the age of 103. Everyone loved this precious man!! May you rest in peace until we meet again in Glory, Mr. Wallace!

Vicki Smith - April 01, 2019 at 12:57 PM



“ 35 files added to the album Life Tributes



Parrott Funeral Home - April 01, 2019 at 12:09 PM



“ We thank you for your service, sir. Prayers for your beloved family.

Patty O'Hara-Willey, Palmetto

Patty Willey - April 01, 2019 at 10:17 AM