

## William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie

September 24, 1933 - August 7, 2023

William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie

Charles was born September 24th 1933, in Clarkesville, GA. The second son of Clay Olus and Mary Inglis Gillespie. Before Charles turned 2 years old, the little family moved to Miami, Florida in search of job opportunities during the depression years. After Clay was hired at Eastern Airlines, the family moved back to Georgia, settling in Hapeville. Hapeville was Charlie's hometown, where he graduated from Hapeville High School, started his career with Delta, married his high school sweetheart, and started his family.

Charlie had a long career with Delta, with 40 years of service. Retiring in 1991 as Manager of Materiel Services ATL. He loved his Delta family. He played in the Delta softball league, the bowling team, tennis team and sang with the Delta Singers. He loved music and was always singing. When he was only 8 years old, he would sing and conduct his invisible orchestra in his little bedroom he shared with his older brother, Bobby. He honed his skills of piano and singing at the Hapeville UMC and sang with many area competition quartets. He was a member of the Atlanta Singers, the Atlanta Symphony Chamber Choral, a founding member of the Masterworks Chorale, a professional tenor soloist with the Atlanta Opera Company, and numerous Atlanta area churches. He has been a long-time member and Lifetime Golden Guilder at the Southside Theatre in Fairburn, performing in 30+ productions. Charlie was a skilled tennis player, an ok golfer, and talented actor. After retiring from Delta, Charles and Susan became avid golfers traveling

with other couples around the country golfing and having fun. Charles became a fixture at Canongate I and White Oak Golf clubs, where he worked for 30 years doing everything from clerking in the pro shop to cleaning carts. He loved managing his Monday/Friday Gillespie Golf Group of Duffers, and if you were lucky enough on a clear crisp morning you just might get to hear his beautiful voice from across the fairway singing a breathtaking tune. He was known to entertain fellow golfers with his tunes on Sunday mornings, and late nights in the North Carolina mountains.

Charles is preceded in death by his parents Clay and Mary, his brother, Rev. Robert C. Gillespie, and his first wife Charlsie Simonds Gillespie Weaver. Charles is survived by his wife of 44 years, Susan Johnson Gillespie, of Newnan; sons, William 'Bill' Gillespie (Peggy) of Dalton, and Kenneth Gillespie (Suzanne) of Atlanta; daughter, Bonnie Gillespie (Keith) of Santa Monica, Ca.; Grandchildren: Justin Gillespie (Natasha), Tiffany Gillespie Fox (George), and Jason Gillespie; Great Grandchildren, Wayco and Waverlynn Gillespie; Sisters, Jean Hull and Mary Ann Koon (Dick) of Jacksonville; sister-in-law, Sondra Weaver Gillespie, of Decatur; sister-in-law, June Somers (John) of Hilton Head, SC'; brother-in-law, Mike Johnson of Hiawassee, Ga, and dozens of cousins, nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life Service will be held on his birthday, September 24th at 3 o'clock with a visitation at 2 o'clock at the Southwest Christian Church, 3836 US-29, Newnan, Ga 30265

To honor Charles, the family asks that contributions be made to The Southside Theatre Guild, POB 616, Fairburn Georgia 30213, or buy a season ticket and support local theatre in your area.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **24.** 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Southwest Christian Church  
3836 Hwy 29 North  
Newnan, GA 30265  
(678) 782-6543

## A Celebration Of Life

SEP **24.** 3:00 PM (ET)

Southwest Christian Church  
3836 Hwy 29 North  
Newnan, GA 30265  
(678) 782-6543

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie.* ”



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September 21, 2023 at 12:55 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie.* ”



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September 21, 2023 at 10:44 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie.* ”



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September 19, 2023 at 04:27 PM

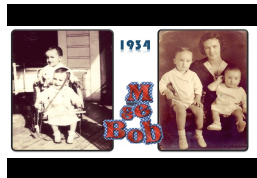
RO

“ Charlie was one of the nicest men I have ever known. I started work in Production Control at Delta when I was 18. Innocent, unsophisticated and dumb as dirt. Charlie was one of the supervisors in that office and was always so good to me. My late husband and I married on June 17, 1962 and Charlie would have sang at my wedding except all of you were going to Calif that weekend. I assume you were going to Disneyland. So sorry you have lost such a special person. Ruth Ogletree

ruth ogletree - September 01, 2023 at 06:41 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Susan Gillespie - August 11, 2023 at 12:51 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Susan Gillespie - August 11, 2023 at 12:49 PM

JE

He was such a good man.  
Always kind to me.  
And so handsome, Hapeville's own Paul Newman.  
Prayers for the family. 🙏❤️

Jeanie Ellinas - September 15, 2023 at 12:49 PM

JS

“ *Jayne Bennett (Jayne Kell) SSTG lit a candle in memory of William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie*



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**Jayne Bennett (Jayne Kell) SSTG** - August 10, 2023 at 02:35 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of William Charles 'Charlie' Gillespie.*



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August 09, 2023 at 08:01 PM