



Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV

August 29, 1975 - February 22, 2017

Benjamin Buford Waters, IV, 41, died February 22, 2017.

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, he was the son of Buddy and Vicki Carpenter Waters, Vice-President of Cunningham-Waters Construction Co., Inc, a U.S. Army Veteran and a member of First Presbyterian Church of Greer.

Surviving in addition to his parents are his wife, Beth Caldwell Waters and two daughters, Caldwell and Dorothy (Dot) all of the home; one brother, Gabe Waters (Ashley) of Greenville and one sister, Marie Weaver (Jonathan) of Nashville, Tennessee. Also surviving are his wife's parents Jim and Amy Caldwell who treated them as their son, along with a host of relatives on both sides of his family.

Ben was a third generation graduate of The Citadel, Class of 1997, and a decorated Captain in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, N.C. After his four years of military service he joined father and brother in the family business. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman who had through-hiked the Appalachian Trail's 2550 miles, from Maine to Georgia. He adored his wife and children and was an exceptional father, teaching his daughters outdoor skills from the time they could walk and spending untold hours at the family farm with them. His hunting partners were often his brother and his father. The three of them had many adventurous weekends together at Red Bluff Lodge in Allendale, South Carolina as well as at the family farm. Ben's friends were a focus for him from childhood. The close ones are too numerous to recount in this obituary. The family has been amazed at the

outpouring of love from Ben and Beth's friends. The response to his death has been overwhelming from lifelong childhood friends, Greer High Classmates and his close friends from The Citadel and the Army. The humorous stories, tales of unknown kindnesses bestowed on people from every walk of life and his legendary "Porch Friends" from college days have enlightened, cheered us and sustained us in our grief.

Ben was known as to his inner circle as "Gentle Ben". He was a gentle man and a gentlemen. His friends' parents have reported his old south charm and slow southern drawl as highlights from their child rearing days. He was constantly centered on his family and their welfare. This was an exceptional man, who will be greatly and painfully missed by the many that love him. It was a privilege to call him daddy, husband, son or friend.

A gathering of friends is scheduled for 2:00-4:00 P.M. Saturday, February 25, 2017, at the social hall of First Presbyterian Church, Greer, S.C. and the funeral service is at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday at 3:00 P.M, February 26, 2017. Funeral services will be conducted by his pastor, Reverend Brandi Casto-Waters and Reverend Hamilton Smith of Charleston, S.C. Burial will be private, in the family plots at Mountain View Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please direct memorials to First Presbyterian Church, Greer, S.C., 100 School Street, Greer, S.C. 29651 or the charity of one's choice. Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **25**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Greer
100 School Street
Greer, SC 29651

Service

FEB **26**. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Greer
100 School Street
Greer, SC 29651

Tribute Wall



“ *Julia Parris lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Julia Parris - March 01, 2017 at 10:33 AM



“ *Joel Rice lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Joel Rice - February 27, 2017 at 07:05 PM



“ *Carol Duncan lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Carol Duncan - February 27, 2017 at 04:59 PM

EK

“ *Buddy, Vicki and Family,*

We were shocked and sad to hear of your loss. I remember Ben and Gabe being on campus at North Greenville during renovation projects when they would be on breaks from school. I know your heart is broken. We came by the church twice yesterday and saw the long line of people out the church door and down the sidewalk. You must be overwhelmed by the love and care of family and friends. Please know that you are in our thoughts. We pray for God's great comfort that passes our human understanding.

Elaine and Gary King

Elaine King - February 26, 2017 at 01:34 PM

MK

“ *We send our condolences and heart felt sympathy to all of the family.*



Mac & Cynthia Knight - February 26, 2017 at 08:05 AM

BS

“ *Company of Pride my friend.*

Brian Schiltz - February 25, 2017 at 08:51 PM

CH

“ *Caroline Harvey lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Caroline Harvey - February 25, 2017 at 12:29 PM

CH

Love and comfort sent to the family and friends of this wonderful young man Ben Waters.

Caroline Harvey - February 25, 2017 at 12:38 PM

RS

Prayers are with the family of Ben Waters. Our daughter was at Greer High with him

Ron & Janice Short - February 25, 2017 at 04:58 PM

JH

“ *Jimmy & Crissy Harley lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Jimmy & Crissy Harley - February 25, 2017 at 10:05 AM

B"

“ *Buddy, words cannot express my deep sorrow at your loss. What an honor to be Father to such an outstanding Man!*

Bryan Lawson "72" - February 25, 2017 at 09:37 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



February 25, 2017 at 08:32 AM



“ *Ben was one of the most "instantly" likeable people I had ever met. No doubt much of that rare and marvelous trait comes from you Beth and your girls, and mom and dad Vicki and Buddy. May Philippians 4:8 be ever present on your mind and linger forever in you year.*

Jim Isom

.....I have come to know the Waters Family" through my good friend and Ben's uncle, Louis, or as I call him Louie.

Jim Isom - February 25, 2017 at 07:40 AM



*My deepest sympathy to Beth and her precious precious girls. I worked with Beth in banking and my heart breaks for this tremendous loss. Bathing the family in prayers daily and in the days ahead. Claiming God's promise of His faithfulness and unending love for this family. Much love and prayer,
Loretta Bell*

Loretta Bell - February 25, 2017 at 08:48 AM



“ *Beth, Please know I am praying for you and your girls and am here for you if you need me. I am so sorry for your loss. May God be with you all at this time.*

Sherri Rogers

Sherri Rogers - February 24, 2017 at 10:52 PM

AS

“ *We love you and we are praying for you!*
Ross and Allison Skinner and family

allison skinner - February 24, 2017 at 10:17 PM

AJ

“ *My heart is just broken to hear of Ben's death. May God wrap his arms around you all and just know prayers are being lifted for you.*
Azalee Jones (Dr. L's office)

Azalee Jones - February 24, 2017 at 07:59 PM

PS

“ *Philip & Kelley Smith lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Philip & Kelley Smith - February 24, 2017 at 07:45 PM

AS

“ *Buddy and family, I am so sorry for your loss. I can't imagine the pain that you are feeling.*
Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers as you face the difficult days ahead.

Art and Debbie Southerlin

Art Southerlin - February 24, 2017 at 06:45 PM

KK

“ I never knew Ben as well as many people were fortunate enough to, but I always felt happier and better about humanity every time I ran into him and had a conversation. I truly had great respect and fondness for him, and I still do. I pray for God's grace and love to envelop his entire family now. Peace, brother.



Kevin Krause - February 24, 2017 at 05:27 PM

WG

“ Dear Buddy and Vicki - I can not imagine your pain. My son graduated The Citadel in 2001 & we are very close. I have always prayed that he will outlive me. Know that your classmates are heartbroken by your loss and we are praying for you. All our love!
Wayne Gamble "C" Co. Class of 72.

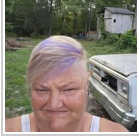
Wayne Gamble - February 24, 2017 at 05:03 PM

TF

“ Tina Fowler purchased the Cherished Memories for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.



Tina Fowler - February 24, 2017 at 04:27 PM



“ I'm so sorry for your lose. I will keep the families in my thoughts and prayers. It's hard to believe we went to Greer High together, it just seems that we are losing to many of us. Fly high Ben you will be missed and loved dearly.



Dawn Rogers - February 24, 2017 at 03:33 PM

TM

“ The Finison Family-Shane, Mary, Luke and Michaela purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.



The Finison Family-Shane, Mary, Luke and Michaela -
February 24, 2017 at 03:03 PM

MT

“ Dear Buddy and Vicki, my heart breaks for you and all the family. There are no words I can say that will ease your pain. Just know that our sons are not lost. - we know they are in the loving arms of Jesus, free of pain and happy. We know we will see them again. Fill that huge hole in your hearts with all the wonderful memories of Ben. It helps to pull them out when we need them. Praying for God's Peace to envelop you. Mertie Taylor

Mertie Taylor - February 24, 2017 at 02:28 PM

CA

*To both Waters and Mcwhite's , so sorry for your loss . I pray for you all and know Gods peace and love will sustain all of you in this sad time .
Cathy Arrowood formerly at Paul J Rogers office*

Cathy Arrowood - February 24, 2017 at 07:14 PM

CS

“ Dear Beth and your little ladies, Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. I so enjoyed talking with Ben when he came in the bank and on our occasional meetings at Ingles. He was such a sweet man and a true southern gentleman. Carole Stroud.

Carole Stroud - February 24, 2017 at 01:03 PM

DS

“ We are so very saddened and am lifting you all up in prayers, please accept our sincere sympathies, we love you Tommy, Debi, TR Sommer and daughter Caroline Carley, Tyler, Tucker, Wyatt and Sadie Reeves

Debi Sommer - February 24, 2017 at 12:40 PM

LO

“ Dearest Waters and Caldwell Families, What a wonderful gentleman and genuine person Ben was, and he will be missed by so many, whose lives he touched. May God's sustaining Grace be with the family and his many friends, as we all travel down this road of coping with his loss. Prayers and love to you all.

Leonard and Linda Oliver

Linda Oliver - February 24, 2017 at 12:37 PM

CB

“ Beth, My prayers and sympathy are with your family. Lean on God, for He will give you the strength to see you through this very sad time.

With Love, your friend Connie Bennett



Connie Bennett - February 24, 2017 at 11:23 AM

AA

“ Dear Buddy, I am so sorry for your loss. This was such a shock for us at the WB office. We are all thinking of you and Vickie and your entire family. Our prayers will continue. Warmly, Ann Angermeier

Ann Angermeier - February 24, 2017 at 10:52 AM



“ Rose Tribute was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.



February 24, 2017 at 10:24 AM

 Trish Frasier

“ Trish Frasier lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Trish Frasier - February 24, 2017 at 10:16 AM

TF

“ *Dearest Waters Family,*

We cannot comprehend your pain and sorrow and we are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you all. These words written by Peter Marshall have often comforted us. I hope they offer you some solace.

*"Those we love are with the Lord,
And the Lord has promised to be with us,
If they are with Him, And He is with us,
They cannot be far away."*

*With deepest sympathy,
The Steve Hiott Family*

The Steve Hiott Family - February 24, 2017 at 12:34 AM

YN

“ *Your HCA Family- Nashville, TN purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



Your HCA Family- Nashville, TN - February 23, 2017 at 09:10 PM

BD

“ *Barbara & Fred D'Ambrosio purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



Barbara & Fred D'Ambrosio - February 23, 2017 at 06:41 PM

CS

“ Carolyn Styles lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Carolyn Styles - February 23, 2017 at 06:21 PM

JH

“ Ben Waters was an American Original. To know Ben was to love his unique manner and sense of humor. When Ben spun a yarn, he painted a scenario with words, second only to Garrison Keillor. Being around Ben after you had abdominal surgery could be hazardous to you health, for he could make you belly-laugh to tears. But what made Ben so special was his humanity; he was genuine to the bone, and a friend to a fault. The Citadel is indeed fortunate to proudly call him one of its sons. As folks in the Pee Dee region of our state would say, Ben Waters was "all wool and a yard wide." RIP Ben, we will miss you so.

*James M. Herritage
The Citadel 1972*

Jim Herritage - February 23, 2017 at 05:22 PM



“ *The "only" words that can describe our feelings right now are , HEARTBROKEN & DEVASTATED. Ben was the "red headed son" of ours that was not by birth to us. Only the Lord in heaven has the answer to all the questions we have, may he wrap his loving arms around the Waters family and give them comfort and strength during this impossibly hard time that they are trying to deal with, as we the ones who knew and loved Ben are doing also.*

*Joe & Priscilla Gupton
Supply, NC*

Joe Gupton - February 23, 2017 at 04:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



February 23, 2017 at 04:34 PM



“ *Tina Fowler lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Tina Fowler - February 23, 2017 at 04:32 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



February 23, 2017 at 03:57 PM



“ *Steve and Mary Barton purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



Steve and Mary Barton - February 23, 2017 at 03:35 PM



“ *Dear Waters Family, words fail when we try to think about what would bring comfort to you. Our prayers and sympathy are with your sweet family. We have known most of you for many years and have watched with great respect and admiration as your family grew. May the love and support of your friends and the peace of our Heavenly Father be with each of you.*

Jimmy and Debbie Singleton

Debbie Singleton - February 23, 2017 at 03:05 PM



Dear Waters family, please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. I pray for God's peace that passes understanding to comfort you. -Louise Rogers

Louise Rogers - February 23, 2017 at 03:47 PM

CS

Dear Waters and Caldwell families, you have my thoughts and prayers during this time. May God grant you peace and comfort in the days to come.

Carolyn Styles

Carolyn Styles - February 23, 2017 at 06:12 PM

CK

Remembering a beautiful young man with a wonderful smile. May God wrap his loving arms around family and friends

Cynthia Knight - February 24, 2017 at 08:48 AM

CF

“ *Chad & Tonya Forrester lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Chad & Tonya Forrester - February 23, 2017 at 02:51 PM



“ *Tara Littlefield lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Tara Littlefield - February 23, 2017 at 02:33 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV.*



February 23, 2017 at 02:29 PM

KC

“ Almighty God, the source of light and strength, we implore Thy blessing on.....our beloved classmate, friend and Patriot. Ben will forever be missed by the Class of 97, especially Tango Company. We were fortunate to know him, and are all better people because of him. Our hearts go out to his family and friends. LTC Kevin Cline, Tango 97

Kevin Cline - February 23, 2017 at 01:58 PM

MP

“ Vickie and Budd,y we are so very sorry for your loss. Know that Dale and I will be praying for you and your family.

Love and prayers,
Dale and Mary Susan Pearson

Mary Susan Pearson - February 23, 2017 at 01:50 PM

CK

“ Beth my prayers and thoughts are with you and your girls and the entire family!



Christy Kinard - February 23, 2017 at 01:12 PM

BH

“ Becky Hughes lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Becky Hughes - February 23, 2017 at 12:41 PM

AC

“ ANGIE COLEMAN lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



ANGIE COLEMAN - February 23, 2017 at 12:41 PM

CC

“ Cindy Campbell lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Cindy Campbell - February 23, 2017 at 12:38 PM

TF

“ Tracy Forrester lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Tracy Forrester - February 23, 2017 at 12:37 PM

MG

“ My heart is broken - Ben was like a son to me. Aunt Pat was known by all his classmates at The Citadel. They spent many happy nights and days with me. I got to know his Mom and Dad, Sister and Gabe. I was so happy when he married Beth and then the two wonderful little ladies were born into the family. I pray for God's support of this wonderful family through Ben's parting. I will forever have him in my heart. I loved you Benjamin!

Marlene Gupton - February 23, 2017 at 12:34 PM

SH

“ Dear Buddy and Vickie , our prayers are with you and your sweet family ! May God comfort you in the days ahead. Much love and prayers to you all !!
Ken & Sheila Hopper and family

sheila hopper - February 23, 2017 at 12:05 PM

DH

“ Doug Horton lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Doug Horton - February 23, 2017 at 12:05 PM

SM

“ Sarah McIntyre lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Sarah McIntyre - February 23, 2017 at 12:01 PM

SM

Buddy, I am so very sorry about Ben! May God give you comfort and peace. Hugs!

Sarah McIntyre - February 23, 2017 at 12:02 PM

MR

*May the God of all comfort be yours during these difficult days. We love you Buddy, Vicki, and precious family. Prayers for you and those you hold dear.
Dan and Martha Ray*

Martha Ray - February 23, 2017 at 02:13 PM



Buddy, prayers for you and your family.

Arnold & Patsy Burrell

Arnold Burrell - February 23, 2017 at 06:23 PM

KB

*Dear Waters family, please know you are all in our prayers.
Gary and Kathy Blackwell*

kathy Blackwell - February 24, 2017 at 05:31 AM

BH

*Dear Vicki and Buddy,
We pray that God's grace and love will comfort you, Gabe, and Ben's wife and children. Please be assured that your many friends share your sadness and care very deeply for your family .
Most sincerely,
Bob and Page Hoyle*

Bob Hoyle - February 24, 2017 at 04:54 PM

DF

“ *Dimples Howell And Family lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV*



Dimples Howell and Family - February 23, 2017 at 11:24 AM

EP

“ *Buddy, Vickie & Gabe, Greg & I were deeply saddened to hear about Ben. Every time I saw him I was always greeted by a warm smile and a quick hug. Please know that our prayers are with you all. May God grant you comfort, love, peace and forgiveness. We love you all. Greg & Earline Pittman*

Earline Pittman - February 23, 2017 at 11:00 AM

AK

“ Angie Ashmore Kruse lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Angie Ashmore Kruse - February 23, 2017 at 10:55 AM

SW

“ Sheila Williams lit a candle in memory of Benjamin "Ben" Waters IV



Sheila Williams - February 23, 2017 at 10:45 AM