



## John L. "Larry" Carter

March 26, 1941 - October 17, 2020

On Saturday evening October 17, 2020, John L. Carter, "Larry," with his hair carefully brushed back on each side, not a strand out of place, his bright sport coat, crisp white shirt, tie, and trousers reflecting from his patent leather shoes, stood alone, waiting as a long, solid gold bus adorned with flashing bright, twinkling lights pulled to the curb. The hiss of the bus's brakes released as the door opens, "Step right up Larry, said the driver, you see, the Big Man says he needs you and tonight you ride with me. Larry, come on in, we have to stay on time, a multitude of your family and friends are waiting on you so your party can begin. Sit wherever you like, this bus is for you alone. Relax, your pain is gone and I'm taking you to your eternal home. Your work here is done. Oh Larry, this coach is the Golden Eagle – BUS 1."

Larry was born March 26, 1941, and lived all of his life in Tallahassee. He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Charles and Hilda Carter. Larry was a graduate of Georgia Military Academy, attended Chipola Junior College and served in the U.S. Army Reserve. Larry's entire working career was devoted to the transit industry, beginning at a very young age working for his father, "Charlie," at Cities Transit. He began by cleaning and washing buses to overhauling engine parts and eventually becoming a driver. As his father had met his mother while driving a bus, Larry was fortunate to fall in love with his future wife, Margaret Lambert, while doing the same. As Cities Transit evolved into the city of Tallahassee's Taltran, Larry served as its Director. His total service to the transit industry spanned over forty years. Larry was honored to be elected President of the Florida Transit Association, and in 1997, received a special commendation as the longest tenured Public Transit Director in the United States by the American Public Transportation Association. Larry's leisure time was spent between Tallahassee and his beloved Alligator Point, boating on the "I. B. Strokin," and traveling with Margaret in their motorhome. He loved people and pets! Larry was an active Seminole Booster and should have received an A+ in motorhome tailgating. As a member of the Wakulla Moose Lodge, he made many, many friends. Larry cherished his time with them. His love for friends and party times extended for many years, especially during the Christmas season, as he and Margaret opened their home for celebration. He was a longtime member of the Thomasville Road Baptist Church and a charter member of Mission by the Sea at Alligator Point.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Margaret, daughter Leanne Durham (Bill), daughter Sheri Boyce (Ronnie), son John Carter (Kristy), and grandson Chris Harrison.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at Bevis Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Roselawn Cemetery. Mask are required. The service will be available to view live online at <https://www.bevisfh.com>. To watch, click on the word Obituaries at the top of the homepage, then click on the name of your loved one, and then the green Photos and Videos tab. Staff members will be available to answer questions or help with technical issues at (850) 385-2193.

In lieu of flowers, it would be appreciated for gifts, in Larry's name, be made to:  
Mission By The Sea, P.O. Box 1115 ,Panacea, Florida 32346.

Susie Mozolic of Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements.  
([www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com) 850-385-2193)

# Cemetery

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**Roselawn Cemetery**  
West Piedmont Drive  
Tallahassee, FL, 32308

# Events

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**OCT 21** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Bevis Funeral Home  
200 John Knox Rd, Tallahassee, FL, US, 32303

# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



**Bevis Funeral Home** - October 21 at 09:25 AM



“ Beautiful service. You will be truly missed Mr. Larry. Just keep the porch light on for happy hour

**kelly Ireland Anson** - October 21 at 11:28 AM

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“ To Margaret and family-  
Please accept this sincere expression of sympathy on the loss of Larry. I always enjoyed my working days with him. He and I developed a relationship which I have always valued. He was a great public servant and a loving family member. I am grateful to have visited with him again a couple years ago. I will miss him.  
Dan Kleman

**Dan Kleman** - October 24 at 02:48 PM

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“ My sincere sympathy as you grieve the loss of a husband and father. I knew Larry through work at the City. We sat through numerous Commission meetings over the years, and I also got to know him through the Downtown Trolley program while I was Director of the Downtown Improvement Authority. Some of my most memorable times were of his collection of colorful sport coats, which he wore with aplomb, and he seemed to have a never-ending supply. He was always a gentleman, and so-so entertaining with his many stories. May you find comfort in your treasured memories.  
Marilyn Larson

**Marilyn Larson** - October 22 at 09:05 AM

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“ Larry was a fine man and a true Southern gentleman. So devoted to Margaret and he adored their children. He seriously enjoyed people and his warmth was shown to their many friends over the years ... I'm glad I was one. He was certainly an accomplished host! I knew Margaret and Larry since they began dating, and it was delightful to see their love bloom, blossom and remain over their many years together. I send my sincere sympathy, love and hugs to each of you. May you find comfort in that he knew how well you each loved him.

Ellie Marshall  
Atlanta (Jackson Lake), GA

Ellie Marshall - October 20 at 02:40 AM

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“ Margaret and family:  
My heart goes out to you all as I can't imagine the pain and loss you feel. Larry was always such a character - full of laughs and life. The one thing I always knew was that for Larry, family was everything. He adored his wife and family and talked about you all so often at work. I had the honor of working with him at the city for many years and attending a few of those legendary parties at your home. I don't think Larry ever knew a stranger and you always knew he would help you out if you needed his assistance.

Please know my love, prayers and thoughts are with you all. My God hold you all in the palm of his hand.

Michelle Bono

Michelle Bono - October 19 at 07:17 PM



“ Thank you Michelle for your kind words. KC

Kristy - October 20 at 08:02 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John L. "Larry" Carter.



October 19 at 02:46 PM

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“ MY NAME IS JIMMY BROWN, I WORKED UNDER MR CATER AT TALTRAN BUS SERVICE, HAD GREAT EXPERICE WORKING WITH HIM, IS WAS A GOOD MAN. HE SENT ME AND MY WIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS EVERY YEAR. IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I SAW HIM LAST. MY GOD BE WITH IS WIFE AND FAMILY.

**Jimmy Brown** - October 19 at 12:08 PM



“ Thank you Jimmy for sharing your kind words. Larry surely enjoyed his work family and the holidays.

**Kristy** - October 20 at 08:03 AM

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“ Ms Margaret my heart is heavy and aches for you and all of Mr. Larry's family. I asked Momma about him on Thursday and we got an update. As you well know you both hold a special place in my heart. God put him where I needed him and I will forever see him all but running across the Lodge as I came through the door. He knew there were no words to be spoken he just wrapped me in his arms and comforted me. For just a moment I felt my own Daddy there and I'm pretty sure Mr. Larry did too.  
Again my heart aches for you and please if I can do anything for you let me know.  
LOVE Michelle

**Michelle Crawley** - October 19 at 12:06 PM



“ Thank you Michelle for sharing your sweet words.

**Kristy** - October 20 at 08:03 AM

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“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of John L. "Larry" Carter.



October 18 at 06:54 PM

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“ My deepest heart-felt condolences to Margaret and the family.  
I worked for Larry back in 1978 as a part-time driver for Taltran driving every route on the schedule and even the Realtors Express on occasion. He was a good “boss” even though I seldom had much interaction with him at work.  
We had a much different relationship at Alligator Point as my family had a beach house right next door to the Carter Compound and we socialized with them from time to time.  
I surely will miss that great big smile and light hearted sense of humor that was Larry’s trademark.

**Mike Whiddon** - October 18 at 05:12 PM



“ Thanks Mike for commenting. Special relationship with the Whiddon family for sure.  
**Kristy** - October 20 at 08:04 AM