



Dural Wendell Raker

January 27, 1936 - May 20, 2015

Dural Wendell Raker, age 79, of Crawfordville, Florida, died in Tallahassee on May 20th, 2015. He was born in Crawfordville on January 27th, 1936, to the late Quintus Dalton and Lenora (Stokley) Raker.

Dural joined the U.S. Navy following his graduation from Crawfordville High School in 1954. After his tour of duty, he attended college in the Tallahassee area, including Florida State University where he met his wife, Mary Esther. After the couple moved to Tampa in 1961, Dural graduated from the University of Tampa. He served as a teacher for thirty years with the Hillsborough County School System. For eight of those years, he served as president of the Hillsborough Classroom Teachers' Association. Retirement back in Wakulla County brought many enjoyable years of golfing and boating.

Dural is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mary Esther (Powell) Raker; son Dural W. "Chip" Raker, Jr.; and sister Winona (Raker) Dallis. He was preceded in death by his parents, Quintus Dalton Raker and Lenora (Stokley) Raker, and his brother, Lowell Douglas Raker.

A graveside funeral will be held at the Whiddon Lake Cemetery in Crawfordville on Tuesday, May 26th at 11:00 a.m. Donations in his memory may be made by mail to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32308-5428 or online at www.bigbendhospice.org.

Arrangements are under the direction of Amber Miller, Bevis Funeral Home – Harvey Young Chapel, Crawfordville, (850) 926-3333.

Cemetery Details

Whiddon Lake Cemetery

Crawfordville, FL 32327

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Whiddon Lake Cemetery
Crawfordville, FL 32327

Tribute Wall

RT

“ It was with great sadness that I heard of Dural's passing. I worked with him for many years at Dowdell Junior High and in CTA. Last time I saw him and a whole bunch from the Dowdell days was at the funeral of Rodney Osborn, and though the occasion was a sad one, it felt good to get together with so many old friends. May God bless you all.

Rene J. Tamargo - May 24, 2015 at 03:37 PM

JH

“ *Mary Esther;*

So sorry to hear of your loss. I will unable to make services but will pray for you and family.

*Data Processing Employee 1967-2001
John W. Henry*

John W. Henry - May 24, 2015 at 06:01 AM

ST

“ *Please accept my condolences for your loss. There is no worse pain than losing a loved one to death, I also want to share with you the hope that we find in the following Bible verses. God promise in Isaiah 25:8 these comforting word, “He will swallow up death for ever, and certainly wipe the tears from all faces. The Bible also says that God will wipe away the tears from our eyes and death will be no more, neither mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away (Rev. 21:3, 4). What great joy to be able to live forever without the fear of losing our loved ones again. It shall be as he has promise, for God can not lie, Titus 1:2.*

Steve - May 22, 2015 at 09:48 AM

PP

Just read of Dural's death in the Tampa Tribune. We are so sorry to heard this. Glad we got to see and visit with you last year at the school reunion. Sending our prayers and sympathy. Pat and Sue Patton

Pat and Sue Patton - May 24, 2015 at 06:58 AM

SM

*We are very sorry to hear of Dural's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Mary Esther.
Skip and Elaine May*

Skip May - May 24, 2015 at 03:20 PM

AB

*Mary Esther, I can't even begin to imagine how you're feeling today. I know that you cherish the wonderful years you had with Dural. He will be missed. I am thinking of you with loving concern and sending healing energy your way for the difficult days ahead.
Annette Barwick*

Annette Barwick - May 25, 2015 at 10:34 AM

JH

*Mary Esther,
Our friendship goes back 35 years to DJHS, but Glade and I have enjoyed the friendship of Dural and you for many years. We think back to the time that Dural helped Glade hook up the spring water to our travel trailer in NC back in 1998, the time we celebrated Dural's birthday and I ate my one and ONLY oyster, and times we celebrated your birthday, the time we went the the FSU game, NC Arboretum, the Moose Cafe, FATZ, and the most recent in December: Wakulla Springs. We will miss his humor and his smile and WE WILL MISS DURAL.
Our deepest sympathy to you and Chip and prayers that his memories and spirit will help as you face this very difficult and sad time. Please know that we are thinking of you.*

Joyce and Glade Haas - May 25, 2015 at 09:30 PM