



Allan Francis Mason

A quiet man with a dry sense of humor, a rabid tennis player and a practicing structural engineer for 55 years, Allan Mason died of cancer at his home on Nov. 15 at the age of 80.

Born in Fayette, AL to Charles and Vera Mason, he grew up in Greenville, SC, graduating from Greenville High School where he was captain of the Red Raiders football team and a track star. He played football at Clemson graduating with a degree in engineering, served with the US Army Corps of Engineers in Korea and returned to graduate school at Georgia Tech earning a Masters Degree in Structural Engineering.

He married Kathleen Warden in 1960, and they lived in Atlanta where he was the chief structural engineer for Heery and Heery Architects until moving to Hilton Head Island in 1971. Allan worked with the Sea Pines Company during Charles Fraser's initial development of the plantation as well as the one on Amelia Island. He started his own Professional Engineering firm in 1974 and was instrumental in structuring almost all of the commercial buildings on Hilton Head as well as many individual homes.

His passion was tennis and he played whenever and wherever he could. He was ranked number ONE in South Carolina for many years in Senior Men's doubles, and he participated in tournaments in the South playing competitive tennis up to five months before his death. He was a member of the Sea Pines Country Club, the South Beach Racquet Club, and he was a USTA Umpire for over 10 years, calling lines for players like Jimmy Connors and Chris Evert.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Kathy, his daughter Shannon Kline and husband Jeff, son Patrick and wife Carrie, four grandchildren; Shane and Makenna Mason and Lexi and Shelby Kline, a step brother, Bobby Korhn, and aunt, Thelma Mason. Memorials may be made in his name to the Hilton Head Island Humane Society, PO Box 21790, Hilton Head Island, SC 29925 for his big fat cat, Killer, or to [Hospice Care of the Lowcountry](#), PO Box 3827, Bluffton, SC 29910.