

Thomas Wade Williams

A memorial service to celebrate the life of Tom Williams, 80, of Columbia, SC, was at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church in Columbia. Rev. Dr. Ellen Skidmore will officiate. The family will receive friends in the church Parlor following the service at 3:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Tom's memory to Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, 6500 North Trenholm Road, Columbia, SC 29206.



Tom Williams, husband of Joan B. Williams, died Saturday, September 20, 2014 at home surrounded by family. Born April 10, 1934, in Greenville, SC, he was the son of the late Mary Elizabeth Yarbrough Williams and Hampton Percy Williams and brother of the late Hampton Murray "Bill" Williams. Tom and Joan were married July 16, 1955 in Greenville, SC.

In addition to his wife, Tom is survived by his two daughters, Debbie Williams Jones and her husband Legare Jones of Charleston, SC, and Susie Williams of Columbia, SC; and his granddaughter Mary Elizabeth Hotchkiss and her husband Colin; and grandson Thomas-Anthony G. "Tag" Vitale. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law Rose-Marie Williams of Charleston, SC, and Susie Garrett and her late husband Larry Garrett of Seneca, SC; and several nieces and nephews.

Tom graduated from Paris High School in 1952, Greenville, SC, and was an honorary Eagle Scout. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1961 from Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. He also attended Clemson University in 1952-1955 and was Quarterback under Frank Howard and was a member of the Letterman's Club. While in high school and college, he worked in the summers in Alaska on the railroad and in the fish canneries. He served in the US Army and was stationed at Fort Jackson. Tom retired from Union Carbide after 35 years. He then went into business for himself as owner/CEO of Hampton Kitchens in Columbia, SC.

Tom was an active member of Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, where he was a deacon and taught Sunday school. He was also a member of Spring Valley Country Club, where he was an avid golfer and won numerous club tournaments, as well as serving as Club President. Tom was a member of the Executive Association of Greater Columbia (EAGC) and Toast Masters of North East Columbia. Tom's passions were family and friends, golf, fishing, Clemson football, and he was a novice inventor.