



Ralph Hamilton Martin Jr

November 21, 1944 - May 12, 2018

Ralph Hamilton Martin Jr., 73, of Apex, died at his home on Saturday, May 12, 2018. Hamilton was born on November 21, 1944 in Durham, NC to Ralph Hamilton Martin Sr. and Mary Lillian Underwood Martin of Apex.

Hamilton was a friend to many and never met a stranger. A 1963 graduate of Apex High School, he (along with future wife Sylvia) was voted "Best All-Around" by his classmates. He went on to attend UNC-Chapel Hill before serving as a Lieutenant in the US Navy in Vietnam, where he earned a Bronze Star for valor. After a return to "Blue Heaven," Hamilton worked as a CPA until his retirement from the NC DOT in 2015. He was a loyal Lion of the Apex Lions Club for many years, and happily served at their State Fair booth each fall. A longtime member of Apex Methodist Church, Hamilton enjoyed a relationship with God that was strengthened during his battle with cancer. His zealous devotion to the Tarheels and the LA Dodgers was (painfully) obvious to all who knew him. A devoted father, "Papa Ham" was loved by his children and grandchildren.

Hamilton is survived by his wife, Sylvia Edwards Martin; daughter, Anna Hamilton Martin of Raleigh; brothers, R. Craig Martin (Sharon) of Apex, and Deryl Martin (Melanie) of Myrtle Beach, SC; stepson, Thomas Sears Jr. of Greenville, SC; stepdaughter, Denise Voss (Kent) and grandchildren, Banks and Emery of Scottsdale, AZ; as well as many others dear to his heart.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, May 17, 2018 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm at Apex United Methodist Church, 100 S. Hughes St., Apex, NC. A funeral service will begin at 2:30 in the church sanctuary. Burial will be at 4:30 pm Thursday in Apex Cemetery with Military Honors.

The family extends special thanks to Dr. Amanda Sherrod and staff at UNC Rex Cancer Care and to Ms. Janella Wilson and staff at A Gentle Touch Healthcare Services for the exceptional care they provided.

Memorials may be made to the Apex Lions Club or the Durham VA Hospital.

Cemetery Details

Apex Cemetery

100 Upchurch St
Apex, NC 27502

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 17. 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Apex United Methodist Church
100 S Hughes St.
Apex, NC 27502

Funeral Service

MAY 17. 2:30 PM (ET)

Apex United Methodist Church
100 S Hughes St.
Apex, NC 27502

Tribute Wall

SN

“ My name is Sandy (Kenneth) McKethan. Hamilton and I were roommates @ UNC, Old West dorm. He was a great roomie. Off and on over the years I'd intended to reconnect. Sadly, apart from a brief phone call in the 70s I did not follow through. Now, just last night I had a vivid dream that we'd reconnected. Sorry for his passing, your loss.

Sandy (Kenneth) McKethan, Dunn, NC - February 01, 2023 at 12:24 PM

JN

“ I just found out today about the passing of Hamilton, and I am so sorry to hear about our loss. I was in the Navy with Hamilton, and worked with him at two organizations, The accounting firm and at NC Department of Corrections. He was always a friend, fun to be with, and a great co-worker. Jim Newman

jim Newman - May 22, 2022 at 01:25 PM

LT

“ I just heard about Hamilton's passing. I was so saddened to hear that he battled cancer. I knew him during his college days at UNC. He was a very special person. My sympathy goes out to his family as they morn his loss. Rest In Peace dear Hamilton.

Lynette Teague - August 03, 2018 at 06:18 PM

JD

“ It's hard to go down West Chatham and know Hamilton is no longer at this home. For several years, we both worked around Crabtree Valley and would frequently see each other leaving and stop for a quick chat. My prayers to Silvia and the family. He is definitely in his NEW home. Joyce Davis

Joyce Davis - May 29, 2018 at 10:28 AM

JW

“ Sylvia I am so sorry for your loss....I know what it is like....I would love to talk to you.....I miss you so much. Give me a call if you feel like it.....sorry again....sorry I never got to meet him.

Janice Wilson - May 17, 2018 at 07:00 PM

JN

“ Our love to Sylvia and the family. Hamilton was the best neighbor ever. We will truly miss seeing him out in the yard in his fluorescent green t-shirt working on one of his many projects. He will certainly have a front row seat to watch his beloved Tar Heels now. We will miss him dearly. Love from Ellen and Judy

Judith Gilbert and Ellen Nimmo - May 17, 2018 at 02:49 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ralph Hamilton Martin Jr.



May 16, 2018 at 06:42 PM

NF

“ NC Department of Transportation Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Ralph Hamilton Martin Jr.



NC Department of Transportation Family - May 16, 2018 at 03:27 PM

EH

“ *May the love, guidance and the Grace of our Heavenly Father be with each of you today and in all the days to come as you mourn the loss of your brother, father, husband and friend.*



*With sincere and deepest sympathy,
Ellen House*

Ellen House - May 15, 2018 at 01:51 AM

Anna
Martin

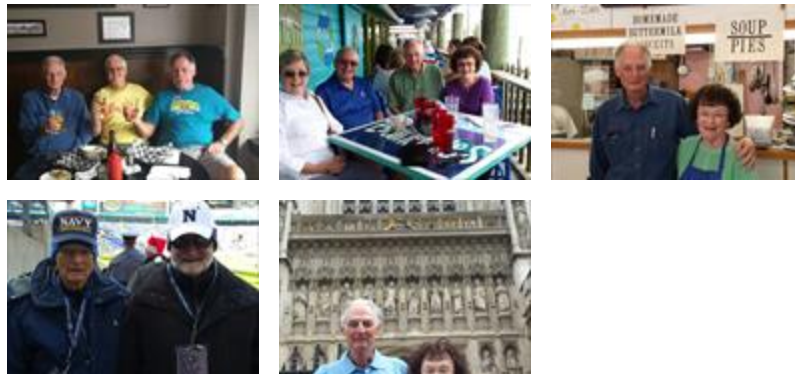
“ *1 file added to the album Memories of Hamilton*



Anna Martin - May 14, 2018 at 05:32 PM

Anna
Martin

“ *8 files added to the album Memories of Hamilton*



Anna Martin - May 14, 2018 at 02:26 PM

WF

“ Wayne Faber lit a candle in memory of Ralph Hamilton Martin Jr



wayne faber - May 14, 2018 at 01:12 PM

PH

“ Since my sister was just a little younger than Hamilton, I can remember when all of the girls her age thought he was one of Apex's finest "eligible young men" at Apex High School (mostly because he was). He was always friendly and personable no matter where you would be fortunate enough to encounter him. His presence in our town will be missed most assuredly. Our prayers are with you all for comfort as you face the days ahead.

Carl and Pat Helton

PATRICE HELTON - May 13, 2018 at 09:59 PM