



Richard M. Stewart Sr

December 2, 1927 - November 20, 2021

Richard M. "Dick" Stewart – 93

Of Valdosta passed away Saturday November 20, 2021 in Lakehaven Nursing Home. He was born in Savannah, Georgia on December 7, 1927 to the late Grover Cleveland and Clyde Dodd Stewart. He lived in Valdosta most of his life, attending schools in Valdosta and loved playing Valdosta Wildcat Football under the leadership of Coach Bazemore in the 1940's. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II on board a mine sweeper. He was an avid tennis and golf player. He loved his family, loved the south and loved Valdosta.

He married his high school sweetheart, Katherine Phillips and they spent their honeymoon moving from Valdosta to Atlanta so he could work and attend night school. He graduated from Georgia State University with a BBA majoring in Accounting. As soon as he passed the CPA exam, he and Katherine returned to Valdosta to start their family and set up an accounting practice. They have three children, Richard M. Stewart, Jr., Suzanne Stewart Cox, and Kay Dooley.

He started out as a sole practitioner December 1, 1956. At the beginning he said he would walk down Patterson Street with his suit on, carrying an empty brief case, so he looked like he had clients. Later, he joined with Ronald Giles to form Stewart, Giles and Company on the corner of Patterson Street and Park Avenue. He purchased a computer in 1968 for data processing. It was so big that a large room was added to the building just to house it. He admitted many principals over the years and his firm continues to thrive as Fowler, Holley, Rambo and Stalvey, PC.

He held many offices in his profession including Chairman of the Georgia State Board of Accountancy and President of the local chapter of Georgia Society of CPAs. He was appointed by Governor Carl E. Sanders to serve on the State Board of Industry and Trade. He was the 1981 recipient of the first Public Service Award presented in Georgia by the Georgia Society of CPAs. He was honored by the AICPA Convention in Chicago as one of the 23 recipients in the nation.

He served as Valdosta Mayor Pro-Tem and Mayor of Valdosta in the early 1960's. He served as President of Georgia Municipal Association – 8th Congressional District, Kiwanis Club, Civic Round Table, Valdosta – Lowndes County Apartment Association, and

Toastmaster's Club. He also served on the Board of Directors of Valdosta – Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, USO, The United Way, The Boys Club, LARC and past chair of the Valdosta Country Club. He co-chaired the United Fund Drive with former Governor M. E. Thompson. He was a great advocate of Dale Carnegie's business philosophy and he never met a stranger.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his dear wife Katherine, three brothers, Cleve Stewart, Charles Stewart, Tom Stewart and Bill Stewart as well as a sister Catherine Young; two grandsons, Andrew Bond and Stewart Demersseman.

He is survived by three children, Richard Stewart, Jr. (Sarah), Suzanne Stewart Cox (Randy), Kay Dooley and Glenn Dooley; eight grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

A private service will be held for the immediate family. Kind words and expressions of sympathy may be left for the family at <http://www.musicfuneralservices.com>. The Stewart family is being served by the professional and caring staff of Music Funeral Services of Valdosta.

Comments



“ The Ferrell family sends our sincere condolences for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this difficult time. I have many great memories of playing tennis with Mr. Stewart back in the day with the lunch bunch at the VCC. I always had a great time playing with Mr. Stewart. Sincerely, Jill Ferrell

Jill Ferrell - November 29, 2021 at 01:41 PM



“ Richard and Sharon Stalvey send our deepest sympathy to Dickie, Suzanne, Kay and all the family. What a wonderful life to celebrate and we are so honored to have been a part of it! It all began when Dick hired me in June 1971 and that kicked off a one stop career of 50 years. I worked along side Dick daily until he retired. During those years, Sharon and I and Dick and Katherine took many business trips together for professional development activities. These were all working trips! As we sometimes say here in the South, your honor, that is my story and I am sticking to it. Dick will live on in our hearts and minds until we meet again. Wishing you comfort during this sad time. Richard and Sharon.

Richard Stalvey - November 24, 2021 at 11:50 PM



“ During trips to Daytona Beach Mr. Stewart always had a sense of humor and had fun. Not even loud music would ruffle his feathers! As the boss at the Ramada Inn he was direct and to the point. A wonderful man to have an opportunity to work for.
Frank C. Williams

Frank C. Williams - November 23, 2021 at 08:48 AM