



## Howard Wayne Kennerly

April 23, 1943 - November 30, 2024

Howard Wayne Kennerly (Wayne) left us to be with the Lord on November 30th, 2024. He passed at his home surrounded with love from all of his family after a long and heroic battle with heart and polyneuropathy amyloidosis. Born on April 23rd, 1943 in Salisbury, NC, he attended Boyden High School, Appalachian College and King's College from where he graduated as an accounting and business major. He used his education and love of people to become a successful salesman and businessman throughout his life, starting at Stuckey Furniture Store, co-owning The Furniture House of NC, onto becoming the Regional and Vice President of sales for Schaefer Iron Works, until retiring after working many years for and earning countless awards from Monessen Hearth Systems. After retirement, he occasionally worked in the snack bar at Corbin Hills golf course for his enjoyment.

Wayne served in the Army Reserves for 6 years and was an active member of the Harold B. Jarrett American Legion Post 342, where he served as Commander three times, membership chairman and also as their financial Officer. He greatly enjoyed being a part of planning and organizing the annual golf tournaments, being involved with all the Legion members, attending events, and fundraising.

Wayne was also heavily involved in the Salisbury Lions Club since the 1980's. He served in every office available at his club here in Salisbury at one time or another, including serving as club president three separate times. He further served as District Zone Chairman, Deputy District Governor, District Chairman

of the Lions Club International Foundation, and was on the State of NC Lions Foundation Board of Directors. Most recently, even in his declining health, he served as District Governor of 31-I. In recognition of his many years of hard work, Wayne received many awards for his service that are displayed proudly on his walls, including Lion of the Year, Lifetime Member, 100% President, two Jack Stickly Awards, Key and Advanced Key Member, Man of the Year, the International President Award, the Melvin Jones Fellow award and many more. Most recently, he was honored, surprised, and humbled when he received the "Wayne Kennerly Membership Award," which was created to honor his dedication in bringing new members into the Lions club.

Wayne worked hard, he provided and served, he loved all sports and was a friend to all. He was a big supporter of American Legion Baseball and Catawba College Chiefs Club. But most importantly, he loved his family. From time spent each and every Sunday with family dinners, to vacations and family holidays, to sporting events and graduations, to playing with grandchildren, he never missed a chance to be present and spend time with his family. He was a loving husband, thoughtful and involved daddy, a fun-loving "pawpaw," and most recently, an excited grand-pawpaw. He loved and was loved and will be carried in our hearts always. Left to cherish his memory is his devoted wife of 57 years, Judy Cranford Kennerly, his loving children, Susan Kennerly Klein (CDR Jason) and Patrick Kennerly (April) and his well loved grandchildren, Katy, Sara and Joshua Klein, Shelby (fiancée Lane Brantley) and LCPL Cameron (Brooklyn) Kennerly, and great granddaughter Madison Kennerly. Also left to cherish his memory is his caring sister, Carol Kennerly Gibbs of Cookeville, TN. Preceding him in death was his mother, Emma Kepley Kennerly.

Wayne grew up attending Coburn United Methodist Church, and recently began attending Christiana Lutheran Church, first in person, and later as his health declined, he never missed the live online stream of both Sunday school and church from Christiana. Worship was a huge part of his life, and thus it gives his family great comfort knowing that he is now at peace and free of his

amyloidosis, enjoying his well-deserved rest in the Kingdom of Heaven. The family will receive friends from 1-2:30 at Summersett Funeral Home on Wednesday Dec. 4 and gather for a Memorial Service immediately after, with Reverend William S. Ketchie presiding. Burial will follow at Chestnut Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials or donations may be made to the American Heart Association 7272 Greenville Ave Dallas, TX 75231 memo line: Charlotte Market

“Rest now dear, in peaceful embrace,  
In infinite love, time and space.  
Though we part ways, our hearts entwine,  
Your memory forever in our hearts will shine.”  
- Anonymous

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Kennerly family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Chestnut Hill Cemetery

Salisbury, NC

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 4. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home  
1315 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 633-2111  
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

DEC 4. 2:30 PM (ET)

Summersett Memorial Chapel  
1315 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall



“ *Summersett Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Howard Wayne Kennerly*



Summersett Funeral Home and Cremation Center - December 04, 2024 at 09:42 AM

NT

“ *I was very saddened by the news of Waynes' passing. Great loving memories of times at Arcadian Two. My Condolences to you. JUDY and your family. Nancy Turner*

Nancy Turner - December 06, 2024 at 09:25 AM

DS

“ *Wayne was always so friendly to me at the Salisbury Post. He always wanted me to be a Lion, and now I'm sorry I didn't make the time. His smile and great attitude always brightened my day. We had good conversations. May the angels welcome him to paradise.*

Deirdre Parker Smith - December 04, 2024 at 11:56 AM

CG

“ *Carol, Chuck, and Joan Gibbs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Howard Wayne Kennerly.*

Carol, Chuck, and Joan Gibbs - December 03, 2024 at 09:44 AM

CG

“ Carol, Chuck, and Joan Gibbs purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Howard Wayne Kennerly.



---

**Carol, Chuck, and Joan Gibbs** - December 03, 2024 at 09:44 AM

BC

“ When I was chaplain of NCIF I preached a sermon entitled "Don't Drop the Ball" and Wayne really seemed to like it and talked about it often. You know, I don't think Wayne ever dropped the ball, he carried it right on to heaven! Rest in peace Lion Wayne, you deserve it! Blessings to the family.

*PDG Butch Conrad*

---

**Butch Conrad** - December 03, 2024 at 03:24 AM

SJ

*I am so sorry to hear of Wayne's passing. I worked with him for several years at the Salisbury Post on the golf tournament ad. He was such a sweet and funny man. I always loved it when he came in. I knew my day was getting better!*

*Sharon Jackson*

---

**Sharon Jackson** - December 03, 2024 at 11:30 AM

ST

“ *What an Awesome, amazing, and passionate man on everything he believed in, God, family and Community! I first met Wayne at Lions Club when my dad would take me to a meeting. Wayne always treated me like a grownup and dad was so proud how Wayne treated me. And he has never changed, always upbeat and positive to All.*

---

**steve thomas** - December 02, 2024 at 08:36 PM

RL

“ *Wayne was one of the most kind and friendly person I ever knew. I first came to know him at Boyden High back in 1961 and from that time on, he never failed to go out of his way to talk to me. He will be greatly missed.*  
*Richard Loman*

---

**Richard Loman** - December 02, 2024 at 04:08 PM

SB

“ *It was a privilege to know Wayne ! He made me feel so welcome when I joined Colburn United church! He was a good friend and will miss him and his funny jokes! Rest in peace!*

---

**Sandra Bowles** - December 02, 2024 at 04:04 PM

SS

“ *Lion Wayne was a dear friend and outstanding Lion. His caring heart, smiling face and kind words will be missed by all who knew him.*  
*Sid Scruggs, Past Int'l President*

---

**Sid Scruggs** - December 02, 2024 at 03:18 PM

HW

“ *A longtime friend and fellow Lion. I always enjoyed being with Wayne as we shared our life stories. I was honored to be invited by Wayne to be his keynote speaker at his District Convention during his year as District Governor. Always smiling, even in his later years of declining health. I will never forget our times together.*

Harvey Whitley - December 02, 2024 at 03:03 PM

JP

“ *If there is or was a better human being, I haven't met them yet. RIP Wayne, you made a difference and you'll be missed.*

Jimmy Potts - December 02, 2024 at 03:00 PM

CK

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Cameron Kennerly - December 02, 2024 at 02:15 PM

CC

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Wayne's passing. I will cherish memories shared at the farm with the family. I loved hanging out with Patrick and Susan and I know my dad enjoyed many good times with Wayne and David. I will be thinking of you all during this difficult time. Love, Christi*

Christi Cranford - December 02, 2024 at 01:39 PM

KA

“ *What an amazing man! He will be miss by all.*

---

**Karen** - December 02, 2024 at 01:03 PM