



## John William Ward

July 6, 1934 - January 9, 2010

Mr. John William (Bill) Ward, 75, passed away on Saturday evening, January 9, 2010 at Rowan Regional Medical Center in Salisbury.

Bill was born in Galax, VA and from the time he entered National Business College in 1951, he was meant to be in the furniture business. His career began at Johnson Carper Furniture Company in Roanoke, VA, where in 1965 he became the General Manager after the company was acquired by Singer Furniture. In 1974, he was transferred to Atlanta, Georgia, as the Vice-President of Sales for Singer Furniture at its corporate offices. After leaving Singer, he continued in the furniture industry, serving for a time as a board member of the American Furniture Manufacturers' Association. For the past 18 years, he served as President of Carter Furniture Company in Salisbury, NC. He cherished the friends and neighbors he had in Salisbury and considered them a part of his family. Bill was a gregarious story teller, a loyal friend and a loving family man.

He is predeceased by his father and mother, Mr. Emmette and Cecil Ward, and one sister, Rowena Manning.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Marie Carey Ward, of Atlanta, GA; his son, Stephen Ward and his wife, Julie, of Orlando, FL; daughters, Susan Holland and her husband Randy of Atlanta, GA and Anne Marie Rossier and her husband Ross of Mason, Ohio. His grandchildren were such a special part of his life. They are Dylan, Abby, and Desi Holland; Shelby and Tanner Ward; and Richard, Jackson, and Thomas Rossiter. He is also survived by three sisters; Georgia Webb (Ted), Ann Largin (Montie), and Pat Rollison (John), and one brother, Dale Ward; his mother-in-law, Ruth Carey; his brother-in-laws, Jim Carey (Jo), Mike Carey (Dot) and Richard Carey; three great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 from 12 PM – 2 PM at Summersett Funeral Home 1315 W. Innes St. Salisbury, NC 28144.

A Memorial Service celebrating Mr. Ward's life will be held at 2 PM on Tuesday at Summersett Memorial Chapel.

A Graveside service will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at Oakland United Methodist Church Cemetery in Galax, VA at 11 AM.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Ward family,

*Blessing to you during this difficult time. I am originally from Galax, graduated NBC and was fortunate to meet Bill several times. He helped land me a part-time position at Johnson Carper while in college and I was a member of Alpha Kappa Phi. It was obvious from the start Bill was going to be successful in all aspects of life.##imported-begin##Michael Shores##imported-end##*

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January 12, 2010 at 08:35 PM



“ I am an Alpha Kappa Phi brother from National Business College (1966/68) but I never met Bill. I know he was a founding brother and his name was one I had to remember and recite often during pledge season so his name comes easy to me.

*I regret we never met as I hear he was a very sincere person and loved his association with the fraternity while at National Business College in Roanoke.*

*My sincere condolences to the family and know there are brothers out here who will remember him.*

*Fred Jasper##imported-begin##Fred Jasper##imported-end##*

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January 12, 2010 at 07:40 PM



“ My sincere and deepest sympathy to family and friends of Bill Ward. Bill was thought of so highly by all who knew him in the Roanoke Valley. I will always remember him as one of the kindest people I've had the pleasure of knowing. He will be greatly missed. May memories give you strength in the days to come. Thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Robin Richardson##imported-begin##Robin Richardson##imported-end##*

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January 12, 2010 at 06:57 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy for your terrible and unexpected loss. Bill was a wonderful person and friend to us. We loved his stories and love for life. He shared with us the scrapbook that was made for him and the joy in his face as he went through each page, telling us stories along the way. He was so proud of his family and grandkids. He will be missed by us both.##imported-begin##Robin & Herb##imported-end##

January 12, 2010 at 07:29 AM



“ Pat and family- We are deeply saddened by the loss of your brother. The girls remember our trip to Applebee's with him when he visited. We hope you all are comforted by wonderful memories of the times you were able to spend together.

Love- Chris, Tammy, Taylor, Emily, and Sam##imported-begin##Chris, Tammy, Taylor, Emily and Sam##imported-end##

January 11, 2010 at 08:31 PM



“ To Bill's Family and Friends,

I am so sorry for your loss. I have spent limited with Bill and other Roanoke shag friends. He was a warm, friendly, caring person who made all with whom he came in contact feel important; One felt you had known him forever once you had contact with him. I am glad I had some time to spend with him, especially New Year's Eve in North Myrtle Beach several years ago..That was a very special memeory which I will long remember. The last time I saw him was in Mooresville. He looked great, was feeling great and seemed to be living life fully. I am sorry that didn't last longer for him and all of you!

I hope God holds all of you in the palm of his hands as you learn to live without this wonderful person. May your cherished memories sustain the love he shared for an eternity.

I pray he rests in peace.

God Bless!

Donna Sue Richardson

Roanoke, VA##imported-begin##Donna Sue Richardson##imported-end##

January 11, 2010 at 08:17 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the Ward Family. The unexpected loss is heartbreaing. Bill was respected and loved by all who knew him. I think the obituary in the Roanoke Times describes him well.  
God bless you and may your memories keep you close.  
Charlotte Moore###imported-begin###Charlotte Moore###imported-end##

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January 11, 2010 at 02:52 PM



“ To Marie and Bill's Family

*It is difficult for us to adequately express our deepest sympathy for your terrible and unexpected loss. The suddenness and swiftness of events have come as a totally unexpected shock to us, as well as it has to you.. We empathize with the additional stress and sorrow of the past few months that has been placed on you and your family. Please do not hesitate to call upon us to assist you in any manner possible. You are and have been a very special friend to Elaine and all of us. Bless you.###imported-begin###The Allen Babcock and McCombe Families###imported-end##*

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January 11, 2010 at 07:58 AM