

Thomas Waller Seay Jr.

April 14, 1926 - September 15, 2020

Thomas Waller Seay, Jr., 94, of Spencer, passed away Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center.

Born April 14, 1926 in Salisbury, NC he was a son of the late Dr. Thomas Waller Seay, Sr. and Inez Marks Seay. He attended Spencer schools and graduated from Spencer High School in 1943. He served in the United States Army from 1944 to 1946, and upon discharge, re-entered Duke University and received an A.B. degree in 1949 and a J.D. degree in 1952 from Duke University Law School. He began his practice of law in Salisbury and served as prosecuting attorney and thereafter, Judge of Rowan court from 1958 to 1960. He served two terms in the State Senate from 1963 to 1966. He was appointed Resident Judge of Superior Court in 1967 serving until his retirement in 1998. He served as a Faculty Advisor for the National Judicial College, University of Nevada, was a member of the Rowan County Bar Association and served as Chairman of the Jury Instruction Committee. Judge Seay was a member of Central United Methodist Church, Kiwanis Club of Salisbury, Spencer Masonic Lodge, Rowan Shrine Club, and American Legion Post 0342.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his wife, Martha "Patty" Zimmerman Seay on March 23, 2018; brother, James A. Seay and a sister, Ruth Austin.

He is survived by two daughters, Jane Seay Patterson (Ruffy) of Spencer and Linda Seay Robertson (Randy) of Raleigh. He was known as "D'Daddy" by his

five grandchildren, Tommy Patterson (Traci), Joy Patterson Canup (Donnie), Steven Patterson (Ashley), Martha Robertson Marti (Sid), and Janie Robertson. Great grandchildren include Colby and Carlee Patterson, Hallie and Lila Canup, and Landon, Addie, and Silas Patterson. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, September 19, 2020 at Rowan Memorial Park with Rev. McKenzie Sefa, officiating. Military honors will be provided by the Rowan County Veteran's Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to Central United Methodist Church, 200 Fourth Street, Spencer, NC 28159.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Seay family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

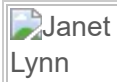
Previous Events

Graveside Service

SEP **19**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Rowan Memorial Park
4125 Franklin Comm Center Rd
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 636-8751

Tribute Wall

 Janet Lynn

“ Judge Seay was a great judge and his wisdom and presence were missed when he retired! I was always glad to see him visiting the courthouse. Prayers for the family.



Janet Lynn - September 17, 2020 at 10:24 AM

MS

I met judge seay in the eighties when he came to a nursing home I worked at to see his mother Mrs. I. Seay every day during his lunch break from court house.he was a very pleasant person he spoke to every one.last time I saw him was a couple of months ago he was surprise I remember him visiting his mom years ago.R I P judge seay.

Margie shipp - September 20, 2020 at 09:15 AM

KR

“ Karen R.Patterson lit a candle in memory of Thomas Waller Seay Jr.



Karen R.Patterson - September 17, 2020 at 09:25 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Waller Seay Jr..



September 17, 2020 at 07:21 AM

MW

“ So so sorry to hear about this. He left a wonderful legacy behind. An awesome man. I remember him from my childhood. My heart hurts for and with you. Prayers for all!

Marsha J West - September 16, 2020 at 09:57 PM



“ Heaven's Comfort was purchased for the family of Thomas Waller Seay Jr..



September 16, 2020 at 03:56 PM

JS

“ Uncle Tommy served in the US Army in the Pacific during WWII. He told me his unit was to be among the first to invade the mainland of Japan and credited the President with saving his life when the invasion was called off. And thankfully so. Look at the great things, that Sgt. Seay accomplished following the war, being a NC Senator from Rowan County and Superior Court Judge for many, many years. Few of us will measure up to his accomplishments. Peace be with you Judge Seay.

Your loving nephew, Jimmy.

Jimmy Seay - September 16, 2020 at 03:08 PM

HA

“ I mourn his passing and revere his memory. I wish to tender my most profound personal sympathy and sincere condolences to his beloved family. He was one of the finest Superior Court Judges ever to serve the State of North Carolina. His contributions to the orderly administration of justice in our state are legion and are beyond measure. I share the family's sense of loss. Hon. W. Douglas Albright, Greensboro, NC

Hon. .DOUGLAS ALBRIGHT - September 16, 2020 at 03:06 PM

R(

“ It was my privilege to serve on the Superior Court bench with Judge Seay. He was one of a generation of respected judges who contributed much to our judiciary in North Carolina. His wisdom will be missed.

Richard D. Boner, Sup Ct Judge (ret.) - September 16, 2020 at 02:57 PM

PQ

“ Pat And Lisa Quinn sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas Waller Seay Jr.



Pat and Lisa Quinn - September 16, 2020 at 01:52 PM

JC

“ John And Dana Sellers Guilford Co lit a candle in memory of Thomas Waller Seay Jr.



John and Dana Sellers Guilford Co - September 16, 2020 at 10:09 AM

LD

“ *I worked Superior Court with Judge Seay many times.He was a very honorable man.Prayers for the family.*



Linda Messick Retired Deputy - September 16, 2020 at 09:57 AM