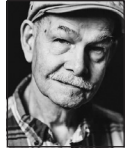


DEXTER LEE ROWLAND, SR.



It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Dexter Lee Rowland, Sr., 79, of Callahan, November 5, 2024, following a brief illness. He was born in Jesup, Georgia, to H. C. and Pearl Rowland. He resided in Callahan, but lived most of his life in Jacksonville. He graduated high school in Fernandina Beach then attended Jones College, where he earned his Degree in Business Administration. He served in the U.S. Air National Guard.

In 1969, he worked alongside his brother Melton, at Rowland's Upholstery in Fernandina Beach, learning the craft of upholstery. He was very passionate about his trade and later opened his own shop in Jacksonville. He successfully owned Rowland's Upholstery for 57 years, which was his most proud accomplishment. His work was the reflection of a master craftsman. He used his hands as an extension of his heart to create beautifully crafted pieces. He immersed himself in his career.

Aside from his work, he found great pleasure spending time at his Mountain Home in North Carolina. He loved the splendor of the land, it's river flowing, gardening mountainside and breathing the mountain air. The raw elements of nature brought him great joy. Let's not forget to mention, no one could sport a Gatsby Hat the way he could. Oh, how he loved those hats and wore them well.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers Earl, Rev. Willard, Charles, Melton, James and Franklin Rowland; sisters Pauline Holloway, Montene Rowland, Dora Purvis, Emily Beasley and Norma Newsome (her twin at birth); and grandson Gavin Rowland.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 44 years, Ann; his children Steve (Catherine) Overstreet of Jacksonville, Shannon (Jimmy) Brown of Reidsville, Georgia, Dexter Lee Rowland, Jr. and Toni (Austin) Chancey, all of Baxley, Terry (Richard) Pagel, Sherry (Wesley) Gordon and Gary Rowland, all of Callahan; sister Virginia Beasley; and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

Pallbearers were Dexter Lee Rowland, Jr., Evan Rowland, Ethan Twiggs, Dustin Bass, Timmy Stephan, Richard Stephan and Chase Schroeder.

The family received friends prior to the funeral service held Monday, November 11 in the Burgess Chapel of Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors.

Arrangements under the direction of Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors, Fernandina Beach.

Condolences may be expressed at www.oxleyheard.com.