



William "Buddy" Whitlock III

November 29, 1938 - July 4, 2020

On November 29, 1938, William Eugene Whitlock, III, ("Buddy") was born in Lake City, Florida. He passed away on July 4, 2020 surrounded by family. The second of three children, Buddy grew up in High Springs and Perry. He spent much of his childhood outdoors and loved fishing and playing baseball. His father, Gene was a state representative from Alachua County, and Buddy served as a legislative page as a boy.

Buddy attended Taylor County High School in Perry where he starred on the football and baseball teams and voted best looking in his senior class. He graduated in 1956, and then briefly attended the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, before returning home and joining the United States Army. In the Army, Buddy served as a dental technician while stationed in St. Louis, Missouri.

After his military service, Buddy returned to Florida. And to the dismay of his father, a proud and loyal Gator, Buddy enrolled as an undergraduate at Florida State University. There, he joined the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, where he met many lifelong friends and became a loyal Seminole and supporter of the football team.

After college, he attended law school at Florida State University, and graduated in 1971, a proud member of its third graduating class. Like he did

wherever he went, in law school Buddy made countless friends who remained dear for the rest of his years. Admitted to practice in 1972, Buddy had a long and successful career as a trial attorney.

In 1979, Buddy embarked on another adventure, moving to Quito, Ecuador on behalf of a client working on a large construction project in the city. He did not speak any Spanish at the time and did not pick up much. He did, however, forever change his life when he met Elsa there. As he frequently noted, she took his breath away and within seven months she was his wife. Soon thereafter, Buddy and Elsa moved back to the United States and he resumed his law practice as they built a life together.

In 1986, Buddy moved to Tallahassee, where he practiced law ever since. Over a legal career spanning nearly 50-years, Buddy helped countless clients deal with countless problems mostly in family law matters. He served his clients well and was a passionate advocate for those he represented. Although skilled in all aspects of the legal practice, Buddy was most at home in the courtroom. He thrived on the pressure and intensity of trial and took pride in never backing down to anyone.

When he wasn't fighting for his clients, he could often be found the golf course. Buddy was an avid golfer, and a good one. He travelled the world with friends to play, taking trips to Scotland and the Dominican Republic. And even in his later years he could outdrive golfers half his age. He didn't brag much about his game, but he did keep a plaque with each of his four holes-in-one on his wall.

More than anything, Buddy was a friend to many and the life of every party. A gifted storyteller, he could captivate an audience with countless tales from a long life well lived. He loved crossword puzzles, reading, and travelling, especially to Peru where he loved the food. He was always well-dressed and

was in remarkably good shape into his eighties.

Preceded in death by his parents, William Eugene Whitlock, Jr., Carolyn Holt Whitlock, and his siblings James Holt Whitlock and Mary Carolyn Puckett. He is survived by his wife Elsa and daughter Ashley Terry, son William E. Whitlock IV, and daughter Paige Hering, ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He will be missed by all including his many close friends.

Service with Military Honors and interment is scheduled for Friday July 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. The following day, Saturday July 25, 2020 and 2pm, friends and family will celebrate Buddy's life at one of his favorite places, Golden Eagle Country Club.

The family is being assisted by Skip Young, and cared for by Jackie Fulford of Young Fulford Funeral Home and Crematory, Tallahassee, Florida.
(850) 610-4444 YoungFulford.com

Cemetery Details

Tallahassee National Cemetary

5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Previous Events

Ful Military Honors Service

JUL **24.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Tallahassee National Cemetary
5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Celebration of Life

JUL **25.** 2:00 PM (ET)

Golden Eagle Country Club
3700 Golden Eagle Drive East
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Buddy" Whitlock III*

October 22, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“ *William "Buddy" Whitlock III*

October 09, 2023 at 11:25 AM



“ *William "Buddy" Whitlock III*

September 22, 2022 at 01:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.*



July 24, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ *Elsa & Family, Our deepest sympathy on the passing of your love one. I have such fond memories of Buddy from my childhood to adulthood. Buddy's humor, laughter and love of life was infectious. Words can not express my sorrow and pain on your loss. Thank God that Buddy is at peace and no longer suffering. We love you and wish you peace and joy.*
Bill, Mary Gregory and Family

Bill & Mary Gregory - July 24, 2020 at 11:43 AM

JD

“ Jose D. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



Jose D. - July 23, 2020 at 09:41 PM

IF

“ Iris & Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



Iris & Family - July 23, 2020 at 05:34 PM

LF

“ Larry Morris Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



Larry Morris Family - July 23, 2020 at 04:34 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



July 23, 2020 at 02:26 PM



“ Fournier Law - Patty, Gena, & Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



Fournier Law - Patty, Gena, & Family - July 23, 2020 at 11:03 AM



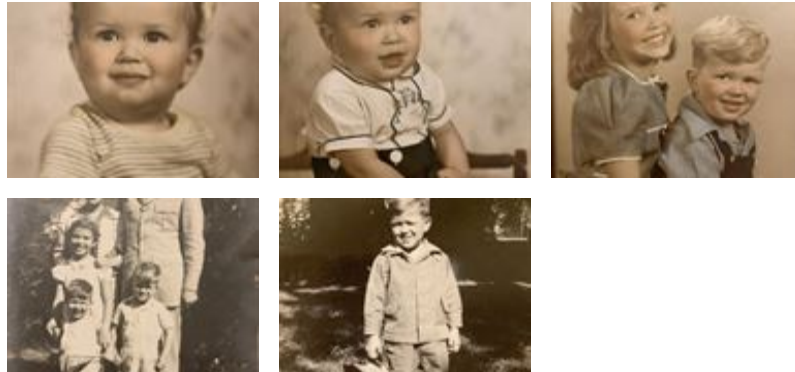
“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



July 23, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ 133 files added to the album LifeTributes



Young ~ Fulford Funeral Home and Crematory - July 22, 2020 at 12:32 PM

MD

“ I have many special and pretty words to define him but that could turn the list so long...
I used to call him Bill, he was a special person for me and my family, he was my brother-in-law but for me was much more than that. He was an unconditional friend, brother and specially a beautiful human being. He was always with his cute and friendly smile ready to share his kindness with everybody. We will miss him so much, his cheerful presence and above all those qualities his kind and beautiful soul.
Monica

Monica Dorca - July 21, 2020 at 11:15 AM



“ Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



July 21, 2020 at 10:38 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.



July 21, 2020 at 10:34 AM

MC

“ *Mary C. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.*



Mary C. - July 20, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.*



July 20, 2020 at 04:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Buddy" Whitlock III.*



July 20, 2020 at 02:47 PM

TB

“ *Buddy was a great attorney and will be missed by his many clients and fellow attorney friends.....Elsa our hearts are sad for you over your loss.....we will be saying prayers for you to find comfort in your long days ahead..... Tony & Teresa Bajoczky*



Teresa Bajoczky - July 17, 2020 at 03:22 PM

MT

“ As Ashley’s mother-in-law I, and of course Bill, had the wonderful luck of welcoming Elsa and Buddy into the family. They were family from the moment we met them. Such wonderful memories of Christmases, Easters and any occasion we could get together! (Always looked forward to Elsa’s awesome Spanish tortilla). Buddy was a joy to have around-never a dull moment with his interesting and humorous accounts of his incredible life and adventures. He was always there when any of the families young FSU students needed him- Jesse and Andrew in particular. Buddy, the world is definitely a little emptier without you in it! Rest In Peace and keep your friends and family in Heaven entertained-know you will. You will be greatly missed! 🙏💔

Marie Terry - July 17, 2020 at 09:23 AM



“ Buddy was a fearless attorney who did not mind taking on the tough guys who thought they could get away with battering or abusing women. Samira Frasch was lucky to have him as her lawyer. RIP and condolences to the family!

James Waczewski - July 13, 2020 at 03:04 PM

CF

“ Even as I am shedding tears and broken hearted about the loss of Buddy, I am honored that our paths crossed and to remember him as one of the best people I have ever met. I considered him my Oak Tree friend. I will always remember Buddy's generosity, compassion, sense of humor, ability to compromise, smooth style and willingness to help others. My heart and prayers go out to Elsa and the rest of the family during this difficult time. Heaven has gained angel- RIP Buddy. Love always...

Claudette Farmer

Claudette Farmer - July 11, 2020 at 09:28 AM

GW

“ *As a young boy growing up I always looked up to Buddy. His quick wit and humor was a trait that I truly admired. He was an individual that was respected and loved by all of us. RIP Buddy, give our family a great big hello from us.*

Gil Whitlock - July 08, 2020 at 01:57 PM

TB

“ *Buddy Whitlock was a fierce and memorable attorney and a great man. Love and prayers to the Whitlock family during this terrible loss.*

Tracey Bitner - July 08, 2020 at 09:51 AM

FW

“ *Prayers to all the family during this time. I can only imagine Buddys welcome to heaven from Uncle Gene, Uncle Bubba and Daddy... they are all sitting around again telling all types of tales..... Buddy was a good man and loved by all. Rest in Paradise Buddy..... Love you...*

Francene Whitlock - July 07, 2020 at 06:59 AM