

Russell Allen Watkins

March 28, 1938 - July 12, 2025

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It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Russell Allen Watkins, who peacefully left us on July 12, 2025, at the age of 87. Born in Washington, D.C. to his loving mother and stepfather Leona and Johnny Chapman who preceded him in death. Russell lived a full life centered on love for his family, service to his country and a zest for life.

Russell is survived by his two children Nancy Hicks and Russell Watkins, their mother Patricia Watkins, three grandchildren Heather Lancaster (John), Wayne Hicks (Megan), Tyler Watkins, four great-grandchildren Brennan Burch, Emma Lancaster, Ellie Lancaster, Lincoln Lancaster, Jane Hicks and his wife Charlotte Ingram. His devotion to his family was unwavering love, kind and hardworking spirit that touched all the lives that knew him.

Russell proudly served his country in the United States Navy for eight years, receiving an honorable discharge in 1963. His dedication to service reflected the character he carried throughout his life. A man of many talents, Russell was known as both a great car salesman and skilled barber, bringing his warm personality to every interaction.

He was Catholic holding deep belief in Jesus and prayer. He would say he prayed for us every night.

Russell found joy in life's simple pleasures. He enjoyed dancing and won many contests; he enjoyed shooting pool and loved watching football especially the Redskins. He loved caring for his beloved dogs Lucky and Skipper, and most importantly, cherishing time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He always remembered birthdays and enjoyed the holidays all together with the whole family.

Russell will be remembered for his warm smile, kindness and sharp sense of humor and his passion for life. His legacy lives on through his children, grandchildren and all who were fortunate to know him.

Funeral services will be held on August 18, 2025 at 2:30 pm in Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery's chapel , with a priest officiating and honors provided by a military honor guard.

He will be deeply missed and forever in our hearts.

Cemetery Details

MD Veterans Cemetery - Cheltenham, MD

11301 Crain Highway
Cheltenham, MD 20623

Previous Events

Service

AUG 18. 2:30 PM (ET)

MD Veterans Cemetery - Cheltenham, MD
11301 Crain Highway
Cheltenham, MD 20623

Tribute Wall



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Russell Allen Watkins.*



August 17, 2025 at 12:37 PM



“ *Mike & Lynn Maxwell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell Allen Watkins.*

Mike & Lynn Maxwell - August 15, 2025 at 01:20 PM



“ *Mike & Lynn Maxwell purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Russell Allen Watkins.*



Mike & Lynn Maxwell - August 15, 2025 at 01:20 PM



“ *Love your Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell Allen Watkins.*

Love your Family - August 14, 2025 at 03:42 PM

LF

“ *Love your Family purchased the Ocean Breeze S
pray for the family of Russell Allen Watkins.*



Love your Family - August 14, 2025 at 03:42 PM



“ My dad was such a great guy! He wasn't the best with the phone I had to call him several times to get him to pick up. Then he got good at it and would call me all the time. He would hang up and call right back and say one more thing I wanted to tell you. I would laugh because I knew he was going to do it. Even sometimes I would answer the second time and he would say I forgot when I remember I will call you back... I would call the police for a well check visit if I couldn't get a hold of him in a couple of days. They would say he is smiling and doing good and he would call me. One time I was calling many times in a row and keep getting text message I will call you back. He did not know how to text..I was so scared. I called the police I was freaking out I said someone must have him held in his apartment using his phone. They rushed there and said he was smiling and ok. Thank God. He must have hit a button that auto responses a text. The police showed him the button and helped him with his phone.

His thoughtfulness was so sweet when I brought my grandkids to see him just for a visit he always had something for them. He would say the first of the month the thrift store has 50% off and he would go and buy the good stuff...lol

His gifts were always different. John's last gift was so heavy.. He loved it and said he would never get rid of it.



Nancy Hicks - August 14, 2025 at 03:36 PM

GW

“ Geoff and Sue Wanamaker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell Allen Watkins.

Geoff and Sue Wanamaker - August 11, 2025 at 05:53 PM

GW

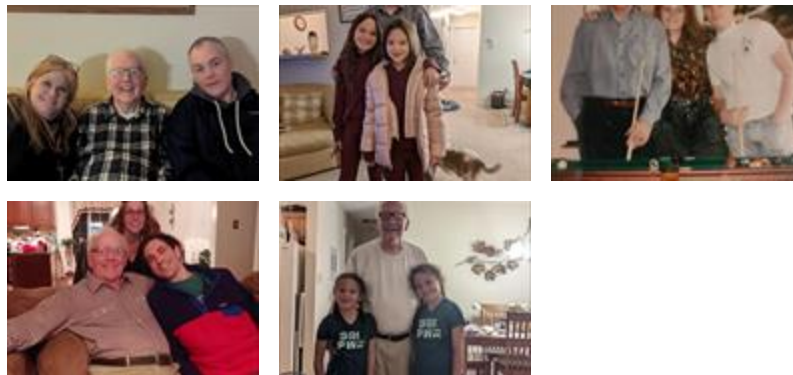
“ Geoff and Sue Wanamaker purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Russell Allen Watkins.



Geoff and Sue Wanamaker - August 11, 2025 at 05:53 PM

NH

“ 11 files added to the album RUSSELL WATKINS



NANCY HICKS - August 05, 2025 at 02:23 PM