



Roger Lee Fortner

JUN 26, 1940 - JUL 5, 2024



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Roger Lee Fortner

JUN 26, 1940 - JUL 5, 2024

Roger Lee Fortner, 84, of Huntersville, NC moved to his heavenly home July 5, 2024.

Roger was born in Wyoming County, WV on June 26, 1940 to the late Onnie L. Fortner and Lillian Ellis Fortner. After graduation, Roger served three years in the US Army, serving two years in Germany. He graduated from Marshall University in 1964 and earned an MBA from West Virginia University in 1974. Roger spent nearly 40 years in international exporting helping U.S. businesses export their goods overseas, primarily with the U.S. Department of Commerce. He retired in 2003 as Director of Charlotte Export Assistance Center which served five states. He was greatly respected for his work and received two Excellence in Export Service Awards, a Silver Medal Award and a Vice President's Hammer Award.

Roger was a member of Lake Norman Baptist Church where he served as teacher, administrator and usher. He was involved in the Jaycees and was passionate about youth sports and is remembered as a favorite coach by many of his former players.

Roger was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Judith Watkeys Fortner, son, Michael (Mary) Fortner, daughter, Shay (Rob) Heckard and granddaughters, Grace (Alex) Goins and Emily Heckard. He also leaves behind a brother, James Short and sisters, Hope Fortner and Marlo Fortner.

In addition to his parents, Roger was preceded in death by sisters Geneva "Sally" Mitchell, Penelope Dillon, brother Malcolm Fortner and his beloved Aunt Minnie and Uncle Wayne Bailey.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Lake Norman Baptist Church on July 12, 2024 at 12:00pm, with visitation an hour before the service. A reception will be held following the service. He will be interred at Ridgelawn Cemetery in Huntington, WV at a later date.



Obituary

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In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund at 34 Washington Street, Suite 310, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481 or at <https://curealz.org/outreach/in-memory/roger-lee-fortner/>. Cure Alzheimer's Fund is a non-profit dedicated to funding research with the highest probability of preventing, slowing or reversing Alzheimer's disease and over 90% of their revenue goes directly to fund research programs. Contributions may also be made to Lake Norman Baptist Church.

James Funeral Home is assisting the family, online condolences may be made at www.jamesfuneralhomelkn.com.




Events


Roger Lee Fortner

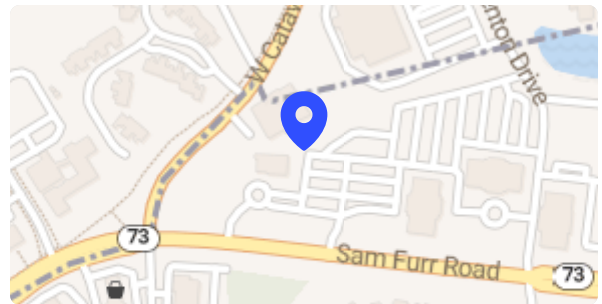
JUN 26, 1940 - JUL 5, 2024

Visitation

 **Friday**, July 12, 2024


 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET


 **Lake Norman Baptist Church**
7921 Sam Furr Road, Huntersville NC 28078

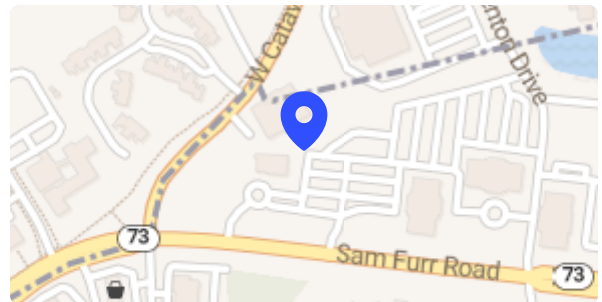


Celebration of Life


 **Friday**, July 12, 2024

 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET

 **Lake Norman Baptist Church**
7921 Sam Furr Road, Huntersville NC 28078

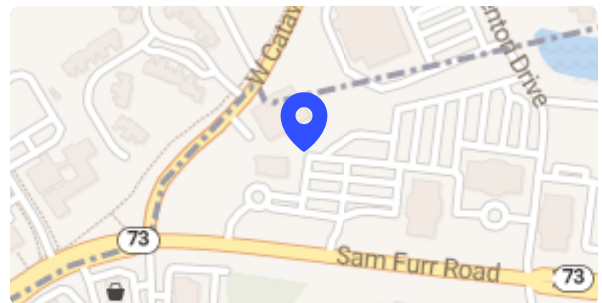


Reception

 **Friday**, July 12, 2024

 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

 **Lake Norman Baptist Church**
7921 Sam Furr Road, Huntersville NC 28078





Tribute Wall

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Linda Jones posted:

My sincere condolences are with the family of Roger Fortner. I was acquainted with him as a colleague working for the US Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration. I know he will be missed by family and friends alike. Linda Jones

September 10 at 7:34 PM



Anonymous sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Fortner family.



July 11 at 6:19 AM



Rocc planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Roger.



July 10 at 10:39 AM



Anonymous sent a Serene Retreat to the Fortner family.



July 10 at 10:39 AM



Anonymous sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the Fortner family.



July 8 at 3:16 PM



William Davidson posted:

Mrs. Fortner and Shay so sorry for your lost Now he's with our Father in Heaven. in prayer for you all. Bill Davidson

July 8 at 1:49 PM



Tribute Wall

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Karen M. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Roger.

July 8 at 4:16 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Fortner family.

July 8 at 4:16 AM



Lee & Wanda Ferguson posted:

Roger was always kind ,thoughtful and compassionate. We will miss his smile and soft kind voice .Lee and Wanda Ferguson

July 6 at 11:49 AM



Debbie Rucker posted:

I have such fond memories of Roger sitting with granddaddy Rucker in the rehab facility throughout the night. I'm so grateful for the time that Judy and Roger got to spend with Dana and Mary Ruth Rucker throughout their years May God bless the Fortner family and fill their mind with the most wonderful memories and comfort their hearts with his love. Dana and Debbie Rucker

July 6 at 9:29 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Roger by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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