



Major John Shirley Fowler

August 14, 1942 - February 26, 2021

To view the service for Major John Shirley Fowler's live stream please use the link below:

www.facebook.com/ZandersFuneralLIVE

John Fowler was born on August 14, 1942 in Birmingham, AL to parents E. O. "Jack" Fowler and Ida Shirley Fowler. He graduated from Ensley High School and Howard College (now Samford University). John was a proud member of Sigma Nu fraternity. Anyone who spent more than 10 minutes with John heard about the fond memories he accumulated during his college years.

John retired from the US Army Reserve as a Major and was an insurance bondsman for nearly 50 years before retiring at age 74. He worked hard but always enjoyed life and liked to have fun.

An avid Florida Gator fan, John dubbed himself the "Ala-gator," which meant he was the Alabama raised Florida Gator fan. He was legendary in his family for his mischief, mayhem, musical talent, sense of humor, loquaciousness, and (above all else) his steadfast commitment to his wife Jackie, his family, and Christ Jesus. John was a member of First Baptist Church of Sweetwater for more than 30 years and thanked the Lord before every meal he ever sat

down to eat (and we all know that was a LOT of prayers).

When asked what his definition of success was and what his life's greatest accomplishment was, John answered "Jackie" to both questions.

Undoubtedly, John adored spending time with his beautiful bride of more than 50 years, Jacqueline Bragg Fowler enjoying the wonderful life they built together.

John passionately loved doo-wop, rhythm and blues, and beach music. He amassed a vast collection of albums and compact disks. He especially loved music with the organ and brass. He had an extraordinary gift of playing the piano and organ by ear, and when visiting his South Carolina cousins as a youth, he frequently entertained them with his playing, much to their delight. A highlight of his life was serving as guest organist for Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, Big Joe Turner once in a nightclub in Birmingham.

The significance of his love of music is exhibited by the fact that he passed away coincidentally while his all time favorite, Ray Charles, sang "Georgia on my Mind." When asked by his granddaughter Jennifer what kind of end of life service he wished to have, John shared that he wanted a celebration of life that included a New Orleans style funeral march. So, an upbeat, New Orleans style celebration of the great life John Fowler lived is what he will get.

Cemetery Details

Edgewood-Greenwood Cemetery ~ Apopka

141 South Edgewood Drive
Apopka, FL 32703

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 3. 11:30 AM (ET)

Edgewood-Greenwood Cemetery ~ Apopka
141 South Edgewood Drive
Apopka, FL 32703

Tribute Wall



“ *Major John Shirley Fowler*

October 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Major John Shirley Fowler, We will never forget everything you have done to keep our country safe and free for us and for future generations. Thank you, and God bless America.*

John - March 14, 2021 at 07:36 PM



“ *My Sincerest Condolences to Jackie and your family. I have so many enjoyable memories with John over the years. We did business together when he was with HRH & I was at Reliance Surety. John always made me laugh with his great expressions and we shared interesting & memorable conversations. I had some of my most memorable times with John, attending Gator Games (and Fraternity House Parties), NCAA Basketball Tournaments, House of Blues Concerts (Dr John was a favorite of his). I wish you and your family peace in this difficult time and hope the memories of great times with John bring you all comfort. John has been and will continue to be missed, he was one of a kind.*

Paul Ciambriello - Guignard Company, Longwood Florida

Paul John - March 14, 2021 at 06:09 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.*



March 08, 2021 at 11:37 AM



“ *To the Fowler Family. I had the pleasure(and fun) to do business with John and his sidekick Greg during the HRH days in the 90's+ years. John made work fun; we could discuss underwriting deals and then head to a steak place in Orlando(I can't recall the name of the restaurant) for a martini and a big steak. And a bunch of laughs.*

I fondly recall how kind John and Jackie were to me and my family. Rest in peace, my friend.

Steve Anderson

*Washington International Insurance/NAS Surety-back in the day
Swiss Re Corporate Solutions*

steve anderson - March 08, 2021 at 10:48 AM



“ *I worked with John for many, many years and always looked forward to our lunches when he came to town. I loved to hear his stories about "doo-wop" and his time in the military. He was a true gentleman. My prayers are with the family.*

Paula Nelloms

Fisher Brown Bottrell Insurance Inc.

Paula - March 04, 2021 at 11:16 AM

RM

“ Roy & Martha McCray lit a candle in memory of Major John Shirley Fowler



Roy & Martha McCray - March 03, 2021 at 09:54 PM

BB

“ I always enjoyed lunches and business meetings with John. He was a great guy with a fun sense of humor. The surety industry is a little less fun and less interesting without him. Prayers for his family. Bob Bond

Bob Bond - March 03, 2021 at 01:38 PM

SM

“ Very fond memories of a true surety professional. John was a hard worker who also knew how to have fun! He will be missed.

Steve Murray, Liberty Surety

Steve Murray - March 03, 2021 at 11:45 AM

NF

“ Love, Nicole, James, Jady and Jake Fowler
We love you John!!!!



Nicole Fowler - March 03, 2021 at 10:10 AM

NF

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Nicole Fowler - March 03, 2021 at 09:58 AM

PP

“ Sympathy to Jackie and family. John was a fun man and will be missed by many. He could really play a piano. Pat Parsons

Pat Parsons - March 03, 2021 at 09:51 AM

JH

Jackie and family. I am so sorry to hear of Johns death. Will always remember the wonderful times we had together in Columbia and Jacksonville. Love you much

jackie houston - March 03, 2021 at 11:37 AM

JL

Jackie and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you all. You were always family to us as well as dear friends. We had so many wonderful times together. We will miss John as i know you all do. He was a very special person..

jimlewis lewis - March 04, 2021 at 02:01 PM

MI

“ *MILLY lit a candle in memory of Major John Shirley Fowler*



MILLY - March 02, 2021 at 05:22 PM

MI

“ *We love you Sweet DILLY & Family. Take comfort knowing Granddaddy is probably listening to Jazz with Jesus now with a Gators game on TV.*
-Annette & Regan Paugh

MILLY - March 02, 2021 at 05:21 PM

LB

“ *Love, Bobbie purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.*



Love, Bobbie - March 02, 2021 at 02:45 PM

LE

“ *Praying for Jackie and the family. Our family always appreciated John's smile, laughter and love for the Gators. He was always a welcoming person as he served the Lord as an usher at FBSweetwater. With our condolences, Chuck and Lori Ebersole*

Lori Ebersole - March 02, 2021 at 02:02 PM

BF

“ John was a true Gentleman in the Surety Business and it was a pleasure to get to know him and work with him over the years. He will be missed by many of his Contractor Clients and colleagues in the Surety World. - Ben French, Partner - Waldorff Insurance & Bonding/ME Wilson.

Benjamin French - March 02, 2021 at 01:17 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.



March 02, 2021 at 12:18 PM

JS

“ Jason & Alane at Allstar Surety purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.



Jason & Alane at Allstar Surety - March 02, 2021 at 11:12 AM

SR

“ John was a great asset to the surety bond industry and we were honored to know him and work with him. We send our deepest condolences to the Fowler family and our prayers for comfort along with happy memories. We have had many fun times together.

*Best Regards,
Susan Reich
Florida Surety Bonds, Inc.*

Susan Reich - March 02, 2021 at 11:11 AM

JC

“ I am so sorry to hear of John's passing. I used to love to get together with John share stories and a bourbon... or two.

JASON CENTRELLA - March 02, 2021 at 11:04 AM

GC

“ Great American Insurance Company purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.



Great American Insurance Company - March 02, 2021 at 10:39 AM

JG

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jennifer (John's granddaughter) - March 02, 2021 at 10:16 AM

DF

“ *Donald and Mary Fowler, and Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.*



Donald and Mary Fowler, and Family - March 01, 2021 at 10:42 PM

PJ

“ *Patricia Fowler Spooner, Bernie, Joan & Jane purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Major John Shirley Fowler.*



Patricia Fowler Spooner, Bernie, Joan & Jane - March 01, 2021 at 04:30 PM