



## Allen Parrish Payne

November 1, 1949 - April 14, 2025

Allen Parrish Payne was born November 1, 1949, in Danville, Virginia, to the late Tommy Allen and Beatrice Parrish Payne. He departed this life on April 14, 2025, in Orlando, Florida, surrounded by his family, his faith, and the sunshine.

He attended George Washington High School (Class of 1968) amongst lifelong friends. After graduating from the University of Richmond (Class of 1974), he moved back to Danville, Virginia, where he met the love of his life, Debra Lee Fowlkes, while working at Virginia Bank & Trust. They were married May 5, 1984. Together, they built a family with their daughters, Stephanie and Sarah, grew in their faith, and loved one another endlessly for 41 years. He enjoyed a rewarding career as a Branch Manager and Assistant Vice President at Virginia Bank & Trust before retiring in November 2004. He was a faithful member of North Main Baptist Church until both he and Debra moved to Florida to perfect his Donald Duck impersonation and become full-time grandparents to their granddaughters, Rosetta and Beatrice.

Allen is survived by his wife, Debra Fowlkes Payne; his daughters, Stephanie Lauren Payne Lordi and husband Antonio, and Sarah Elizabeth Payne; granddaughters, Rosetta Charlotte and Beatrice Iolanda Lordi; his sister, Terri Payne Shoecraft and husband Bruce; and nephews and nieces, Robert Bruce Shoecraft and wife Leslie, Joseph Austin Shoecraft and wife Jamie, and Julia

Thomas Shoecraft and husband Garrett.

He is also survived by two cousins, Carol Gatewood Ballin and Susan Everett Corley; a lifelong friend, Kenneth Merricks; and predeceased by his aunts, Virginia Parrish Gatewood and Kathleen Parrish Everett; and one cousin, Lynn Everett Hall.

A memorial service will be held at the Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 2:00 pm. The family will receive friends prior to the service from 1:00-2:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be made to God's Pit Crew online at <https://godspitcrew.org/donate/>.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Allen Parrish Payne, please visit Jessie Kate Decker's Milk Farm Flowers for a local florist at <https://milkfarmflowers.squarespace.com/shop/p/sympathy-flower-basket> or the Wrenn-Yeatts Sympathy Store.

Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Home, Westover Chapel is serving the Payne family.

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

MAY 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel  
5858 Riverside Drive  
Danville, VA 24541  
(434) 793-5511  
info@wrenn-yeatts.com  
<https://www.wrenn-yeatts.com>

## Memorial Service

MAY 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel  
5858 Riverside Drive  
Danville, VA 24541  
(434) 793-5511  
info@wrenn-yeatts.com  
<https://www.wrenn-yeatts.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Allen Parrish Payne*



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**Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes** - May 15, 2025 at 04:17 PM

PE

*Allen was a great guy. Went to school with him many years and ending with the class of 68 best class ever at GWHS. Thanks for being my friend but not only mine but everyone's. Great guy who always had a mission to do the best he could. Rest in peace now.*

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**Peggy Owen East** - May 16, 2025 at 11:13 AM

CJ

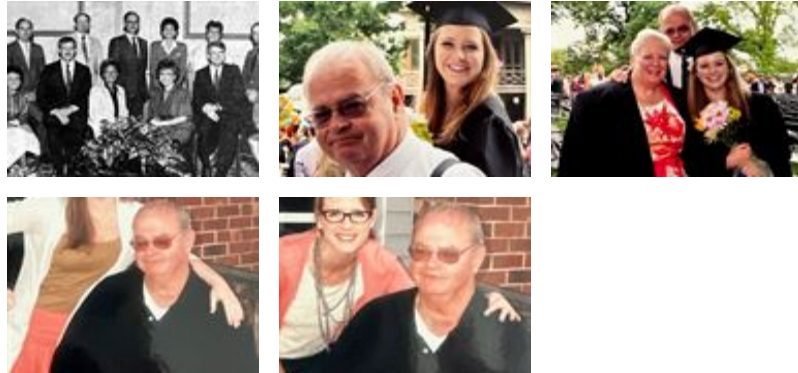
*I met Allen when he was dating my dear friend Debra. I knew right away that this special man was the perfect mate for her. My husband Rush and I had many special and fun times together with Allen and Debra, from being newly married to becoming parents, and then grandparents...40+ years of precious friendship! Longtime friends like these are priceless and rare, Thanks, Allen, for taking such great care of my friend. You were the best Dad and Grandpa, and your kind heart shined through in everything you did. I envision you and Rush in deep conversation now, enjoying heaven together.  
Rest well, Allen. We will surely miss you here.*

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**Cathy Jennings** - May 16, 2025 at 06:28 PM



“ 162 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes** - May 13, 2025 at 07:36 AM



“ *Joe & Martha Doss lit a candle in memory of Allen Parrish Payne*



**Joe & Martha Doss** - May 12, 2025 at 03:19 PM



“ *Dear Debra. Lynsey just told us about Allen. Sending our deepest sympathies. Greg and i remember you both fondly and of course sweet Sarah. I know the Lord will uphold you during this time. Take care of yourself.*

*In His Love  
Greg and Lori Palmer*

**lori palmer** - April 29, 2025 at 06:45 PM

LJ

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Allen. He was my branch manager @ VB&T for many years. I thought a lot of Allen. He was one of the Best. We shared a lot of memories, laughs & good times. He loved his family & often spoke of them. Prayers for his family.  
Lisa Jones

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**Lisa Jones** - April 27, 2025 at 10:00 PM

TF

“ So sorry to hear Debra

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**Thomas Farley** - April 23, 2025 at 09:41 PM

SC

“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss, thoughts and prayer for all of you,  
Sheila Thacker Compton

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**Sheila Compton** - April 23, 2025 at 03:18 PM

CO

“ I am so sorry to read of Allen's passing. I worked at Virginia Bank & Trust with him for a few years during the years when he and Debra met and were married. He was a fine person and a good friend, very caring, genuine, well respected, and had the best sense of humor. My sincerest condolences to you, Debra, and your family, and to you, Kenneth.

Cathy Hodnett Owen  
Allen, Texas

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**Cathy Owen** - April 23, 2025 at 01:12 AM

KS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. We love you all and we are praying for you.

Kimberly Smith - April 22, 2025 at 10:17 PM

VC

“ SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT ALLEN. WE WORKED TOGETHER AT VBT AND WERE GREAT FRIENDS AND SHARED ALOT OF LAUGHS. HUGS AND PRAYERS TO THE WHOLE FAMILY. HE WAS THE KINDEST MAN AND HAD A HEART OF GOLD AND LOVED HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS BIG TIME

Vicky Coleman - April 22, 2025 at 11:15 AM

SB

“ Debra and girls, so sorry to hear about Allen. I know you all will miss him dearly. My love and a blessing for all of you.



Sandra Brewer - April 22, 2025 at 05:33 AM

MM

Debra, So sorry to hear about this. God be with you and family in the days ahead.

Marie Marlowe - April 25, 2025 at 03:04 PM

KM

“ I have lost a wonderful friend who was like a brother. We worked together for many years. Outside of work, he & Debra and girls made me welcome in their home. I will never forget the good memories. Rest in peace my brother until we meet again. Much sympathy to Debra, Stephanie, Sarah, Rosetta, Beatrice, his Sister, Terri and all the family members.

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**Kenneth Merricks** - April 21, 2025 at 08:44 PM