



## Larry Darrell Berry

August 16, 1940 - January 6, 2021

Larry Darrell Berry passed away on January 6, 2021, after a brief illness. Mr. Berry was born in Griffin, GA on August 16, 1940 to L. D. and Jewell Hawkins Berry, and celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary to Patricia Diane Berry on Christmas Day, 2020. Mr. Berry was a graduate of Griffin High School and the Georgia Institute of Technology and served in the U.S. Army, stationed at Ft. Jackson, SC during the Vietnam War.

Larry started as an electrical engineer at Western Electric and remained with the company for the rest of his career as it became first AT&T and then Lucent Technologies. There he developed friendships with a group of about two dozen fellow engineers, friendships that spanned 30 years working together and two decades into retirement, as these friends continued to meet together yearly to check in and catch up on each others' lives.

Larry's life was guided by his deep faith in God, and he served faithfully as a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Cherokee Baptist Church, and The Pointe Church. In the days when the majority of the county had no fire service, Larry helped establish the Hickory Flat Volunteer Fire Department and served as its chief for over 40 years, working with other county volunteer fire departments to create an organization that became a model of neighbors working together to build a better community for all. When the comprehensive volunteer fire infrastructure was finally absorbed into a professional countywide fire service, Larry continued as a trustee of the Hickory Flat Volunteer Association, working with his closest friends from the fire department to provide CPR/AED and first aid training to the community at little or no cost. Larry was a loyal friend who loved the people of Cherokee County and Hickory Flat and who poured his life into his community; as one tribute noted, "His footprint on the ground in Hickory Flat will remain forever."

Larry was predeceased by his parents, L. D. and Jewell Berry, and his brother, Edwin Kline Berry.

Larry is survived by his beloved wife, Diane; his three daughters and the sons-in-law to whom he was a second father, Laurie Berry-Dorroh (Dan) of Greenville, SC, Susan Berry (Drew) of Anderson, SC, and Melinda Freeman (Chad) of Canton, GA; nephews Roan Berry and Todd Davis; and Aaron Freeman (Jenny), Justin Freeman, Lydia Dorroh, and Colin Dorroh--four well-loved grandchildren who always knew how much their Pop-Pop cherished them.

In the interest of public safety, the family will hold a private graveside service at a later date at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, GA, with those who knew and loved Larry present with them in spirit. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to The Pointe Church, Canton, GA, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, or the charity of your choice. Online condolences may be made at [www.darbyfuneralhome.com](http://www.darbyfuneralhome.com).

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Darby Funeral Home** - February 22 at 05:10 PM

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“ I first met Chief Berry when I was hired to be Cherokee County fire chief. Larry was initially opposed to the formation of a County fire department because he knew that his Hickory Flat Fire department was a great service for the community. Yet he also so the need to assure the safety of all the people in the county. I never questioned his love for the community and the people who served it because he was so totally dedicated to the betterment of fire rescue services not only in his community but county wide. His life long dedication to serving the people in Cherokee County and beyond will never be forgotten.

Thank you for your service. You made people safer every day  
Rest in peace Chief Berry your work is done  
Ron Graner, Fire Chief (retired)

**Ron Graner** - January 14 at 10:21 AM

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“ Diane, I worked with Larry for many years at AT&T and knew him well while he served and helped establish Hickory Flat Fire Department. My son Bryan Lowery worked with Larry for many years while my son worked and served at Circle 5 Volunteer Department. I will miss Larry and count it an honor to have known him all these years. May God bless all his family at this difficult time. Rest in peace Larry for you served others for so long and so well.

**Danny Lowery** - January 12 at 07:26 AM

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“ My condolences to all of Larry's family. I worked with him for many years at WECO and AT&T. We stayed in touch every year at the engineer's luncheon. He will be missed.

**George Banks** - January 09 at 02:57 PM



“ We are sending our heartfelt condolences and lifting the Berry Family in prayer. Our love, from the Vick family.



**Cara Vick** - January 09 at 12:30 PM

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“ My prayers for the family upon the passing of Larry. May he Rest In Peace.

**Doug Scales** - January 08 at 06:10 PM

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“ I spent memorable many hours with Larry discussing the fire service, rebuilding his Farmall tractor and Volkswagon engines, and other activities.

**Ossie** - January 08 at 01:47 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Larry Darrell Berry.



January 08 at 08:36 AM

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“ Diane, so many wonderful memories we have of Larry and all the family. We love you all and it was our privilege and honor to have been your pastor and friend for many years. God bless each of you. Our deepest sympathy. Rubin and Connie

**Rubin Smith** - January 07 at 07:34 PM