



## Francis Dallas "Sonny" Hunt

April 21, 1924 - May 13, 2022

Francis Dallas Hunt, affectionately known to everyone as "Sonny," passed away peacefully on May 13, 2022. Sonny was born on April 21, 1924, in Cordele, Georgia and moved to Griffin as a young child. Sonny graduated from Griffin High School in 1942 and attended the University of Georgia until being called to serve in World War II. He served valiantly in the War and was awarded a Purple Heart. Despite not being trained for the infantry, he was ordered to join the infantry at the last minute in the Battle of Monte Casino, Italy. Wounded by mortar fire in a foxhole, but fortunately still alive, he and a fellow wounded soldier limped back in the night, swam a river, and made their way to a medic tent. After almost a year of recuperation in a convent (on which Sonny blamed his hair falling out), Sonny returned to the States to serve the remainder of the war. Following his service in the Army, Sonny returned to UGA to graduate. He came back to Griffin to work with his grandfather in their Buick dealership. Sonny became a lifelong member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks. He served as Secretary of the Griffin Lodge for over 50 years. He was a member of the Rotary Club for 69 Years as well. Sonny lived at his family's home on East College Street for over 75 years. After the death of his father in 1961, Sonny cared for his mother Edna until her passing. He lived at the Hunt family home until declining health at age 97 and was convinced to move to The Woods before his passing.

Sonny always had a smile on his face and was the life of many parties. He

was a very social person, and for many years was integral to keeping the descendants of Dal and Edna Hunt in touch with each other. Famous for his memory of people, places and events in Griffin, Sonny became a connection to friends of all ages in the community and a historian of sorts. Many of those friends were very kind in taking care of Sonny in his later years for which his family is thankful. Sonny will be sorely missed by his family and by all his friends in Griffin.

Sonny was oldest child and only son of George McAlister Dallas Hunt Jr. (“Dal”) and Edna Margaret Bartholomew Hunt. He is survived by his sister Margaret Hunt Denny, and nieces and nephews including Jennie Newton (Suzanne), Floyd Newton III (Katrina), Godfrey Newton (Rebecca), Margaret Denny Dozier (Scott), Richard Denny (Lisa), Dallas Denny (Margaret), Lee Griffith (Robert) and Anna Crider. He was predeceased by his other two sisters, Jean Hunt Newton and Elizabeth Hunt (“Betty”) Crider.

Funeral services for Francis Dallas “Sonny” Hunt will be conducted Friday, May 20, 2022, at 11:00 AM at St. George’s Episcopal Church with Reverend Kirk LaFon officiating. Burial will follow in Oak Hill Cemetery.

For online condolences please visit [www.haistenmcculloughfuneralhome.com](http://www.haistenmcculloughfuneralhome.com).

Haisten McCullough Funeral Home, 1155 Everee Inn Road, Griffin, GA 30224.

# Cemetery Details

## Oak Hill Cemetery

Memorial Dr.  
Griffin, GA 30223

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. George's Episcopal Church  
132 N. 10th St.  
Griffin, GA 30223

# Tribute Wall



“ Francis Dallas "Sonny" Hunt

October 07, 2023 at 09:35 AM



“ I just belatedly learned of Sonny's passing. Many happy memories of Sonny through the years. Some of my earliest memories are of Sonny and Aunt Edna coming by to visit my Grandparents. What a fabulous person Sonny was-took such great care of his mom.

*Deepest Sympathies-  
Jeff Manley*

Jeff Manley - June 07, 2022 at 04:28 PM



“ Sonny, you were a good friend to all and loved by many. You will truly be missed.

*Floyd and Mary Routzahn*

Floyd Routzahn - May 19, 2022 at 07:43 PM



“ Griffin will not be the same without our dear Sonny Hunt! He was a true southern gentleman, a great story teller and the kindest and most caring person possible.  
When I was growing up I always enjoyed going to the Elks Club with my parents because I knew I might see Sonny there on a Saturday night! He was a character and always fun to be around. God bless you Sonny 🙏.

Mary Kelly Coleman - May 19, 2022 at 07:19 PM

BS

“ *Sonny and I worked together for many years. He is one of the best and a good friend. He will be missed.*

*Broadus Smith*

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**Broadus Lee Smith** - May 19, 2022 at 05:56 PM

JB

“ *Griffin has lost a gentleman, faithful friend, a patriot, and a great story-teller. He was one of my mother's best friends, along with his sister Jean. (Mother was Helen Domingos Bull) I send sympathy to the family as they mourn his loss. Jan Bull Burgess, Columbia, SC*

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**Jan Bull Burgess** - May 19, 2022 at 09:04 AM

BK

“ *Cocktails and raw oysters, Jekyll Island, never forget it! R.I.P.*

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**Bo Knight** - May 18, 2022 at 07:40 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Betty Jo Betz** - May 18, 2022 at 08:14 AM



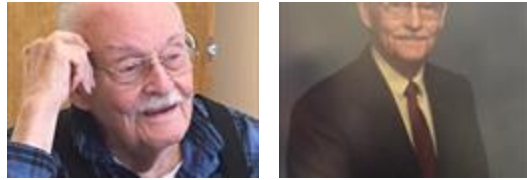
*This was Sonny at his front door on his 96th birthday, April 21, 2020, while we stood in his decorated front yard and a line of Sheriff's cars pulled up with lights and sirens and a helicopter circled the house. Our beloved friend left the planet comfortably and knowing he was well-loved by an awful lot of folks!*

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**George Brown** - May 19, 2022 at 09:13 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**George Brown** - May 17, 2022 at 09:36 PM

SP

“ *Sonny was a true Southern Gentleman! He will be missed.*

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**Susan F. Pasquali** - May 17, 2022 at 06:51 PM

CC

“ *Sonny Hunt was a sweet, kind gentleman in every way. I enjoyed Saturday night dinners at the Griffin Moose Lodge. He knew so much of the history of Griffin, always a pleasure to listen to his stories. He will truly be missed by the Carlyle's.*

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**Charles & Susie Carlyle** - May 17, 2022 at 05:26 PM

DH

“ *What a good man. Always kind and ready to share a story. Thank you Sonny for showing us how to live a long treasured life. Even with setbacks, your light always shined. I'm glad my fraternity brother, Jim Ogletree, was a good friend of yours. And thank you to my cousin on the other side of the tree, Otis Blake, for always keeping me up to date on Sonny.*

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**Dallas Hunt** - May 17, 2022 at 04:43 PM