

OBITUARIES

Elmer J. Waterman

Elmer James Waterman, 77, Bonaire, Georgia, entered into rest on Saturday, April 12, 2025.

Elmer was born on January 15, 1948, in Oberlin, Kansas to the late Gerhardt Waterman and Mildred Wilkening Waterman. Raised on a farm just outside of Oberlin, Elmer's early life was rooted in the values of family, faith and hard work - principles that would define his character and guide his every step.

Elmer attended Oberlin Grade School and graduated from Decatur Community High School in May 1966. Also in 1966, Elmer answered the call to serve and enlisted in the United States Air Force. His 24-year military career took him across the globe, including a tour in Vietnam. Trained as an Aerospace Ground Equipment Mechanic, Elmer was proud of his vital role in ensuring mission readiness - always reminding others, "No Air Power without Ground Power!" He carried that same dedication into his post-military civil service career.

Wherever he was stationed, Elmer embraced the culture and people of each new place, returning home with photos, stories and souvenirs to share with his loved ones.

In 1973, Elmer married the love of his life, Margaret Jecha, in Timken Kansas. Together, they built a home filled with love, laughter and the timeless values they both held dear. They raised three children, passing along the lessons of integrity, compassion and service to others.

A man of deep faith, Elmer was a devoted member of Our Lady of the Skies Catholic Parish, where he served in many roles over the years. He was a proud member of the Knights of Columbus Council 14488, a Fourth Degree Knight with Assembly 179, and a dedicated mem-



ber of its Honor Guard. Elmer was also actively involved in the Cursillo movement, which enriched his spiritual life and allowed him to mentor others in their faith journeys.

Elmer had a servant's heart and a hands-on spirit. Through his work with Rebuilding Together, he contributed to numerous projects that made a lasting difference in the community. And for those who knew him, his ever-present tractor wasn't just a machine, it was a tool for helping neighbors, friends and strangers alike.

Elmer leaves behind a legacy of steadfast love, quiet strength and humble service. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

In addition to his parents, Elmer was preceded in death by his brothers, Edwin Waterman, David Waterman, and sister Karen Eskew.

His memory will forever be treasured by his loving wife, Margaret M. Waterman; children, Lisa Waterman, Chrissy Andrews (Wayne), and Tim Waterman; and brother, Melvin Waterman; along with many other loving family members and friends.

A funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Warner Robins, Georgia. Afterward, Elmer was laid to rest in Magnolia Park Cemetery, Warner Robins.

Donations may be given in memory of Elmer Waterman to Knights of Columbus Charities at 1 Columbus Plaza, PO Box 1966, New Haven, CT 06509, or Rebuilding Together Warner Robins at PO Box 8664, Warner Robins, GA 31095, or your favorite charity.

Go to www.mcculloughfh.com to sign the Online Registry for the family. McCullough Funeral Home and Crematory has the privilege of being entrusted with these arrangements.

~Letter to the Editor~

Letter to the Editor:

The American Red Cross conducted a blood drive at the La Crosse City Auditorium on Friday, June 20. Our goal was 40 units of blood and we collected 31. This included one first time donor. There were four Power Reds, one deferred donor and one no show.

First of all, thanks to everyone who donated their blood. Each one of you helped to save at least three lives. Thank you to the City of La Crosse for the use of the auditorium and to the Rush County News for informing the public of the blood drive. I

would like to thank Kathy Pechanec and Linda Bittel for helping at the registration desk. A big thank you to Landmark National Bank for providing the lunch and to Carol Scheuerman, Joyce Parrott, and Rhonda Karst for serving.

Our next blood drive will be on Friday, August 22 at the La Crosse City Auditorium from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Again, thanks to everyone for making this a successful blood drive.

Gary Schmidt
La Crosse Blood
Drive Coordinator

Law enforcement activity

Rush County Sheriff Mark Knowles reported law enforcement activity for June 22 through June 28.

There were 4 civil process papers served and 1 complaint of cattle out.

There was 1 arrest during the week.

On June 22, outside agency to assist the railroad for a crossing arm malfunction in La Crosse, outside agency assist with Rush Center and Alexander Fire Departments for a baler fire in the 1000 block of Avenue X, assist with a traffic hazard in the intersection of Avenue T and County Road 120, conducted a vehicle check in the 600 block of East 16th Street in La Crosse, outside agency assist for Ness County Sheriff's Office to check a subject in Alexander, investigation of a 911 open line in the 100 block of West Elm in Bison, investigate an animal complaint on 12th street in La Crosse, investigation of a 911 open line in the 100 block of South Elm Street in Rush Center, investigation of a 911 open line in the 1700 block of Post Rock Drive in La Crosse, conducted a welfare check in the 2100 block of County Road 380.

On June 23, investigation of a 911 open line in the 400 block of East 10th Street in La Crosse, investigation of a 2 vehicle non-injury vehicle accident in the 500 block of Oak Street in La Crosse, investigation of harassment on South Main Street in Timken, investigation of a 911 open line in the 1900 block of County Road 390, investigation of a scam in the 800 block of Main Street in La Crosse, investigation of a traffic hazard complaint in Liebenenthal on Highway 183.

On June 24, checked on a subject walking on the highway in the 2600 block of Highway 183, citizen assist with a VIN inspection in the 1500 block of County Road 350, checked on two subjects walking on the highway in the 2700 block of Highway 4, investigation of a fuel theft in the 1400 block of Main Street in La Crosse, citizen assist with a VIN inspection in La Crosse, outside agency assist with EMS for a sick person in the 500 block of Main Street in La Crosse, investigate a driving complaint in the 1000 block of Highway 183, investigation of a 911 hang up in La Crosse.

On June 25, outside agency assist with EMS for a medical emergency in the 300 block of South Railroad Avenue in Timken, motorist assist in the 200 block of West Union Street in Rush Center, outside agency assist with EMS for a medical alarm in the

1600 block of County Road 370, citizen assist in the Sheriff's Office for fingerprinting for employment, warrant arrest for failure to appear, checked on a vehicle in the 3600 block of Highway 4, investigation of a 911 abandoned call in the 1700 block of Post Rock Drive in La Crosse.

On June 26, investigation of a 911 abandoned call in the 400 block of East 10th Street in La Crosse, assisted in a civil matter in the 300 block of South Railroad Avenue in Timken, citizen assist with a VIN inspection in La Crosse, citizen assist in the 100 block of East 8th Street in La Crosse for harassment, investigation of an animal complaint on 7th Street in La Crosse, investigation of a driving complaint in Liebenenthal, outside agency assist with Timken Fire for a vehicle fire in the 2900 block of Highway 96, citizen assist with a VIN inspection in La Crosse, motorist assist in Liebenenthal, investigation of a traffic hazard in the intersection of Avenue I and County Road 300.

On June 27, investigation of a 911 open line in the 100 block of Lincoln Street in Rush Center, citizen assist with a VIN inspection in La Crosse, assisted with a civil matter by telephone in the Sheriff's Office, investigation of a scam in the 300 block of Highway 96, citizen assist in the 200 block of South Railroad Avenue in Timken, investigation of a driving complaint South of La Crosse on Highway 183, checked on a vehicle in the intersection of Avenue P and Highway 183, investigation of smoke in the area in the 1600 block of Avenue E.

On June 28, assisted with a civil matter in the 1200 block of Avenue I, investigation of a 911 open line in the 2400 block of County Road 350, investigation of a theft in the 1800 block of Avenue S, motorist assist in the 2800 block of Highway 183, motorist assist in the 1100 block of Highway 96, investigation of a 911 accidental dial at an unknown location.

Anyone noticing anything out of the ordinary occurring in the county is encouraged to contact the Rush County Sheriff's Office, 785-222-2578 or if it is an emergency call 911. You can also follow us on Facebook at Rush County Sheriff's Office. Also check out our new app on Google Play and in the App Store on your mobile device, by downloading Sheriff Connect. Once you are in the app, search for Rush County Sheriff's Office. This app will connect you to get notifications in case of an emergency, plus provides many other resources.

From The Home Front... by Linda Kenyon



What day is this?

June is past, and July is already here. That means the year is half over, and I'm not sure where it's gone. The older I get the faster time passes, and I don't really think it's going to get any better. This week is the Fourth of July, which falls on a Friday this year. It may mean a three-day weekend for most people, but it just complicates my schedule.

We usually cook hamburgers and hot-dogs for any of the family who want to celebrate Independence Day with us. Everyone brings their own fireworks and we set them off in the street in front of our house. My son usually creates a fireworks masterpiece, and it's always exciting to find out if it works the way he wants it to. I'm never quite sure how many are planning on coming, so I usually fix too much food. If I have a lot left over, I send some home with anyone who wants it. Otherwise, it means I don't have to cook much the rest of the weekend. Now that's what I call a holiday!

I'm set in my ways, and Fridays are my days to come to La Crosse, water the plant in the News office and pet the cat.

I also usually work on the Archives for a little bit. It used to be my day to visit my mother-in-law at Locust Grove, but now that she's died I'm left with extra time on Friday. I'm not complaining, I'm just a creature of habit.

I'm left with the dilemma of when to come to La Crosse and water Wilbur, the Peace Lily, this week. I know I could ask Melissa to do it for me, but she claims she kills every plant she touches so she'd prefer I do it. She has even killed cacti, and that takes talent! Also, I don't want to go that long before seeing Carbon Copy again. He might forget who I am.

So, I'll figure out the week, holiday and all. It's just a good thing I have a pill organizer. I would never know what day of the week it is without that. I just have to hope I don't forget to take my pills one day, because then I'd really be off schedule. Getting older is not for the faint of heart!

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Comments from CC



It must be a new month. Linda is going around changing all the calendars in the office. I don't know if I'm going to like this new month or not. My birthday is July 4, and I will be 6-years-old. That might not be old to you, but a cat is considered to be senior when he turns 8. That just gives me two more years to be a kitten. But wait a minute! Linda always calls me Baby Cat, and I know she wouldn't lie to me. Maybe that means time will slow down for me and I don't have to worry about being old just yet!

Carbon Copy (CC) is a News office cat who has agreed to give us his opinion on things. He can be emailed at rcn@gbta.net.

Barbed Wire Beacon

Coming Judgment

Romans 2:3 "And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?"

This life seems to be quickly passing us by. When I was young, it seemed when it was summertime that it lasted a long time and the school year lasted even longer. Now, it feels like the years are going by quicker than I can count and that my children are growing up overnight. Our life is but a short period of time that soon will pass away. James 4:14 "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." This is why we need to be prepared for the coming judgment that no one will be able to escape as our text verse says. We also see in Hebrews 9:27 after death comes judgment, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" People today give no thought of the afterlife, or eternity. We live in the now and think only of today and its pleasure, people live carelessly not thinking about where they will spend eternity. Isaiah 47:8 "Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children:" Those that are saved will appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ and those of us that are living for Christ understand

that when we die, we do not go into the ground, but will be immediately to be with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8-10 "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. Wherefore we labour; that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." For those who are not saved, those who are trusting in anything outside of Jesus Christ for eternal life will stand before the Great White Throne of Judgment to give an account for their sin, and reject of the Lord before they are cast into the Lake of Fire. Rev 20:11-12,15 "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." The day of judgment is coming soon, for both the saved and the lost. Please, before it is too late, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus for Salvation so that on that day, Christ will be your intercessor.

Pastor Daniel Lineberry, Independent Baptist, Fundamental, KJV

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