



Eugene "Gene" Claude Wade

December 27, 1944 - September 1, 2025

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It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Eugene Claude Wade, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and faithful servant of Jesus Christ. Known to all his friends as "Gene," he touched countless lives with his warmth, kindness, and unwavering faith.

Gene was born on December 27, 1944, to the late Cecil Marcus Wade and Jamell Watts Wade. He was a devoted Christian who lived his life with Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. His spiritual foundation guided every aspect of his life and served as a source of strength and comfort to all who knew him. A proud graduate of Great Falls High School in 1963, Gene went on to earn his Business degree from the University of South Carolina in 1967. Following graduation, he answered the call to serve his country, joining the Army in 1967 and actively serving until 1973. His military service reflected his dedication to duty and his love for America.

In 1976, Gene married the love of his life, Charlene Holt Wade, known as Charlie. Their marriage was a testament to love, commitment, and partnership that blessed them with nearly five decades together. Charlie survives him, along with the three children: Shannon Wade Mills (Tommy) of Blackstock, SC; Jason Kirk Wade of Black Mountain, NC; and Jonathan James Wade (Emily) of Homewood, AL.

Gene's greatest joy came from his role as grandfather to six cherished

grandchildren: Thomas Mills (Samantha), Lydia Mills, all of Blackstock, SC; Amelia Wade, Ethan Wade, both of Black Mountain, NC; Holt Wade, Elizabeth Wade both of Homewood, AL. He delighted in watching them grow and creating lasting memories with each of them.

He is also survived by his older brother, Cecil Alvin Wade, of Columbia, SC; two sister-in-laws, Donna Collins (Jerry) and Debbie Williams (Bryan); two nieces, Peggy Ann Williams, and Mellinee McDowell and three nephews, Michael Wade, Jeff Wade, and Christopher Williams.

Gene was a passionate sports enthusiast who found great joy in following his favorite teams. Whether watching the New York Yankees dominate the baseball diamond, cheering on the Carolina Panthers on Sunday afternoons, or supporting his beloved South Carolina Gamecocks, Gene's enthusiasm was infectious.

Gene was a faithful member of Autaugaville Baptist Church, where he developed strong friendships with all the members. He held a particularly special bond with Brother Michael Gillyard, who faithfully maintained weekly visits with Gene, demonstrating the Christian fellowship that Gene treasured. Gene's legacy lives on through the love he shared, the faith he demonstrated, the service he gave to his country, and the joy he brought to others. His memory will be cherished by all who were blessed to know him.

A special thank you to the staff of SouthernCare New Beacon and special gratitude to Dorethea Howard.

Services will be held on Saturday, September, 6, 2025 at Autaugaville Baptist Church located at 2502 AL-14, Autaugaville, AL 36003 at 11:00 am, with visitation starting at 10:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation or the Autaugaville Baptist Church or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Autaugaville Baptist Church
Autaugaville, AL

Memorial Service

SEP 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Autaugaville Baptist Church
Autaugaville, AL

Tribute Wall

KG

“ Charlie, we are so sorry to learn of Gene's passing, we loved Gene and we certainly love you! We have very fond memories of Gene may he rest in peace. Sending our deepest condolences and much love to you. All our Best, John and Kelly Gay

Kelly Gay - December 22, 2025 at 01:19 PM

BF

“ Dear Wade Family, you all have my deepest sympathy. Gene and I were good friends during our last years in high school. Gene was smart, with an easy going nature and had good sense of humor, just a good guy & pleasure to be around. We had lost contact with each other for many years until he called me last year. It was so good to talk with him - we still had our "Great Falls" bond. We talked about a month ago & I will always cherish that conversation. Bobby Ford.

Bobby Ford - September 06, 2025 at 10:37 AM