



Marion "Red" Pickens Hamilton Jr.

Marion "Red" Pickens Hamilton, Jr. passed away peacefully at his home in Vestavia Hills, Alabama on April 28 at the age of 87. Red was born on September 17, 1936, in Edgefield, SC. He graduated from Edgefield High School in 1954, attended Wofford College earning a BA degree in 1958 and graduated from the University of Wisconsin School for Bank Administration in 1968.

Red married the love of his life, Pat Newman, in 1958 and they moved to Decatur, AL, where he worked for FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) until 1964 when he began a 26-year career in banking working for State National Bank, Central Bank of Alabama, Central

Bancshares of the South, and Colonial Bancgroup, Inc. In 1988, he left banking and became the organizer and manager of the consulting group, HDW Associates, Inc. He also entered a business venture with two friends for several years, purchasing and operating Rocky's Pizza on the southside in Birmingham.

He held various offices including the presidency of the Bank Administration Institute, American Institute of Banking, Young Bankers Section/Alabama Bankers Association, and Alabama Automated Clearing House Association. He was involved with the Kiwanis and Civitan Clubs and, for over 45 years, was an active member of Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church and the Trinity Fellowship Sunday School Class. Red took up running in his 40s and ran about 15 marathons and too many 10Ks to count. His passion for running led him to serve as President of the Birmingham Track Club.

Red retired in 2001. In retirement, he loved to hike and participated in many hiking trips with the Wesley Wanderers group at his church. He also regularly played golf with a group of friends. Red and Pat enjoyed traveling, especially with family. Red lived out his faith showing God's love through the many ways he offered his service to others. He was always willing to lend a helping hand whether it be serving ice cream at Hope Lodge, helping at the church food pantry, or using his red truck to pick up something for someone, help with moving, or deliver supplies. For over 13 years, Red was at the church at 6 AM every Tuesday morning to open the Lighthouse, the church's recreation facility, and volunteered as a church van driver. He also volunteered numerous hours with Habitat for Humanity and Hurricane Katrina relief.

Red is survived by his wife of 65 years, Patricia "Pat" Newman Hamilton; his three children and their spouses/partners: Lisa Hamilton Gwock (Eddie), Stephen Marion Hamilton (Beth), and Julie Hamilton Plummer (Rebecca Springer); his five grandchildren: Kristen Silton (Jordan), Kaitlin Gwock (Collin Armstrong), Rachel Hamilton, Natalie Hamilton, and Hannah Plummer; and his four great[1]grandchildren: Benjamin "Benji" Silton, Evelyn "Evie Ruth" Silton, Jonah Silton, and Virginia "Gigi" Gwock Armstrong. He is also survived by his sister, Wilma Allen and nieces, Jennifer Allen Patterson (Michael) and Miriam Allen. He is preceded in death by his parents Marion Pickens Hamilton, Sr. (1979), and Miriam Smith Hamilton (2002), and his sister Virginia Hamilton (1935).

A celebration of his life is scheduled for 11:00 AM at the Rutland Memorial Chapel in Vestavia Hills Methodist Church on May 20. The service will be preceded by visitation beginning at 10:00 AM at the church in the Chapel Narthex. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Red's life. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be directed to Joe Lee Griffin Hope Lodge in Birmingham, Habitat for Humanity, or Vestavia Hills Methodist Church Missions. The family would like to thank It's Our Heart Caregivers for their devoted and compassionate care.