



Larry Dale Matheny

February 11, 1946 - March 4, 2026

In Loving Memory of Larry Dale Matheny

A Life Well Lived

Larry Matheny, aged 80, of Wilmington, NC, passed away peacefully on March 4, 2026, surrounded by loved ones. Born on February 11, 1946, Larry lived a life filled with adventure, dedication, laughter, and unwavering love for God, family, and friends.

Larry's passion for learning was evident throughout his life. After graduating from Ritenour High School in St. Louis, he earned a bachelor's degree at Mizzou, where he was a member of Delta Sigma Phi. He furthered his education by earning a graduate degree from both St. Louis University and Webster University.

While at Mizzou, Larry was set-up on a blind date with a classmate named Elizabeth, "Betsy" Watterson. Their meeting marked the beginning of a 55-year love story that took them from St. Louis to several states across the Midwest and South, ultimately making Wilmington their home. Together, they had three children: Kristin, Michael, and Megan. Their family grew to include two sons-in-law, Ryan Gilroy and David Rogers, and two grandchildren, Cannon Gilroy and Graham Rogers.

Larry will be remembered for his loyalty to those he loved, his sense of humor, his adventurous spirit, and his love of travel. He dedicated much of his life to his work as a hospital administrator. In retirement, he continued to serve as an American Cross board member and as a volunteer in his beloved church,

leaving a lasting impact on everyone who knew him.

Larry is preceded in death by his parents, Kathleen and Cloyce Matheny, his younger brother, Steve and his son, Michael. He is survived by his brother Gilbert Matheny, sister Kathleen Houston, sister-in-law Kay Wolf, brother-in-law, John Houston along with five nieces and nephews.

Larry's memory will forever live in the hearts of those who loved him.

Tribute Wall

DW

“ *Larry was such a great personality. We worked together to build wheelchair ramps and projects after a hurricane. He was always a positive figure on Sunday morning when he was able to usher and greet.*

I'm so sorry that I only learned of Larry's passing today and missed saying goodbye I'll see you later in heaven Larry.

Best wishes and comfort to you Betsy.

Donald.

Donald Warren - March 17 at 07:22 PM

JH

“ *I haven't seen Larry in several years but remember him as a great guy.*

He and I had many competitive ping pong games in the basement of the fraternity house.

I was saddened to hear of his passing but it certainly sounds from everything I read in the obituary that he did truly have a life well lived.

Jerry Hennenhoefer - March 14 at 01:41 PM