



Milton Heber Warwick

May 17, 1935 - November 13, 2024

Milton Heber Warwick passed away peacefully with his daughter close by at the Lower Cape Fear LifeCare Hospice Care Center. He was 89.

The second youngest of six children, he was born at home in Robeson County, North Carolina to Joseph Heber Warwick and Nora Leggett Warwick.

His family moved to Carolina Beach, North Carolina in 1941. He was six years old.

Milton was well suited for beach life. A natural athlete, he would spend hours swimming, body surfing, and fishing. He never grew out of his passion for the water, especially fishing. Over the years, he would go deep sea fishing as both a first mate and for his personal pleasure. He fished from the local piers too. Lakes and ponds were fair game to satisfy his taste for fresh water fish as well. He and his brother made single-man boats out of wood for fresh water fishing. He and his friends would walk by lamplight at low tide with a gig, hunting for flounder. He'd fish in the shorelines close to the bridge for rockfish in the wee hours of the morning when it was dark and cold. No problem, it was all about the love of fishing. But his personal preference was surf fishing. He was versatile in the baits he used. He'd purchase shrimp and bloodworms, but he'd also catch his own bait, either by throwing a cast net or digging in the shoreline for softshell sand fleas. Whether using a bamboo rod or a conventional rod and reel, he was a skilled fisherman with a reputation among the locals for success. Watching him cast was a thing of beauty and he made it look easy.

Other recreational past times included quail hunting, pool, and dancing—specifically the shag. He loved it and was a much sought out dance partner. He played hard, but he worked harder. For years, he worked as a brick mason and took great pride in his craft. His lines were always even and straight. He was an artist with a trowel in his hand. He laid the brick and concrete block for several homes on Carolina and Kure Beaches until 1983 when due to an injury to his left arm, he gave up full-time masonry to built homes as a carpenter.

In the Summer of 1963, he met the woman who would become the love of his life and perfect dance partner, Mary Ann Graham. They married in 1964 and welcomed a daughter, Norma Ann in 1965.

Husband, father, brother, uncle, papa and friend to many, Milton loved being with people sharing a good joke and a laugh. He could be serious, but he preferred to be playful. Children were instantly drawn to him. He was a man's man, but understood the importance of being loving and gentle too. He was a family man and wonderful, supportive father.

Like his mother, brother James, and his wife Mary Ann, he had a green thumb. He loved working in his garden and planting things in the yard.

Azaleas, roses, cactus, yucca bushes, and pampas grass were some of the plants to be admired in his yard.

Another thing on prominent display and close to his heart was drift wood.

Whether from the marsh close to home, or miles away, if he saw a piece he liked, he'd bring it home. He made a fence from driftwood around the front yard, while large beautiful pieces adorned the front and side yards.

In his twilight years, he found joy watching animals. He enjoyed observing the assortment of birds coming to dine on his feeder, from sparrows and cardinals to painted buntings and the occasional black bird from the kitchen window.

Sitting quietly at the edge of the front yard in the dark mornings, he enjoyed seeing squirrels, rabbit, and deer interact within feet of him.

Milton is survived by his daughter, Norma Ann Warwick (wife Krista Bailey) and several nieces and nephews. The last of his siblings, he was preceded

in death by his parents; sisters Miriam Luper Becher, Patsy Norris Joyner, and Angela Warwick Neville; brothers Joseph Lanier Warwick and James Moses Warwick; and his wife Mary Ann.

Family and friends are invited to "Celebrate Milton's Life " by sharing favorite memories of him on November 16,2024 from 2:00 PM-4:00 PM at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site, Ocean Grove, across from the Fort. Fisher Historical Museum, 1610 Fort Fisher Blvd S, Kure Beach, N.C. 28449.

He will be missed by all who knew him.

Tribute Wall

GD

“ *Spent good times trout-fishing the creeks behind Baldhead with him.*

Gary Doetsch - February 09, 2025 at 05:30 PM

AM

“ *The love story that Marianne and Milton shared is extraordinary. Against all odds, they were able to live out their dream of living by the water. They raised a child there, battled hurricanes there and were able to take care of one another until the end of their days. Their commitment to each other was well demonstrated in their love of each other and their love for their lives on the coast.*

Angela Mccorquodale - November 15, 2024 at 12:22 AM

MS

“ *A great friend*

Mike Smith - November 14, 2024 at 05:26 PM

DR

“ *Sending love and holding you tight*

Dianne Ross - November 13, 2024 at 11:05 PM

PG

“ *Milton as well as Mary Ann will be very much missed. We loved them both..So glad we got to visit with you all for a little while a few weeks ago. Love you.. In out thoughts and prayers. Ron and Pat*

Pat Greene - November 13, 2024 at 10:52 PM

SE

“ You will be missed by many my friend.

Sharon Efird - November 13, 2024 at 10:06 PM

BM

“ Milton was a great guy who joined me as the second of two sons in law of Verna Cameron Graham who was the mother of our wives, Lou and Mary Ann Graham.

I will miss visiting Milton when ever we had a an opportunity. He was always a great host and friend.

Bill McCorquodale - November 13, 2024 at 07:08 PM

TB

“ Milton was indeed a great man. Loved living beside him and your mom

Toni Bryant - November 13, 2024 at 06:37 PM

SR

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Milton, his wife, Mary Ann, and his daughter, Norma. What a loving family! No one could have a more devoted daughter, as is evidenced by this beautiful tribute obituary.

Susan Reilly - November 13, 2024 at 06:05 PM

NB

“ Enjoy the fishing in Heaven, Milton. You and your wife were "aces" at cards. I remember the time you were cleaning fish, and I had to keep my feeling under wraps bc I felt bad for the fish! Lol Those fish sure were tasty though. I hope you are happy joining your wife in Heaven. It's been less than 2 months since she passed, but y'all were together for so long, it only seems fitting you'd follow her to the other side. Rest in heavenly peace, both of you.

Nicole Bracknell - November 13, 2024 at 06:00 PM

AB

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. 🙏

Abby - November 13, 2024 at 05:47 PM

KM

“ A beautiful tribute for an extraordinary man. He was loved and will be missed.
Love you, sweet friend.

Kate Mansfield - November 13, 2024 at 05:38 PM