



Richard Elford "Petie" Waldrop

May 19, 1953 - September 28, 2022

Richard Elford "Petie" Waldrop, 69 went to his heavenly home on September 28th 2022 after an extended illness.

He was born 5/19/1953 to Margaret and H.E Waldrop in Shelby, NC. Petie attended First Baptist Church Shelby and sang with the Goodnews Singers. He graduated from Shelby High School in 1971. His first band was Willie TKE and Smile. He toured with The Plum Hollow band in the late 70s. Later, in Wilmington he formed the band High Cotton.

Petie began his movie career working at Earl Owensby Studios. He later followed fellow crew members to Wilmington, NC to work at Dino De Laurentiis studios. He enjoyed a successful career as a Prop Master creating the famous PropWorld until his retirement in 2014. Petie loved his friends and family, his cats named Shark Bait and Daddy Frank. He enjoyed eating Cookout and Chocolate Pies. Trails End was one of his favorite places as well as making music at Hieronymus Brothers Seafood on Thursday nights. Many countless gatherings were had on Lullwater Dr. He will be remembered for his quick wit, never having met a stranger and his gift of gab.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Margaret and H.E. Waldrop and brother Don Waldrop.

Survived by his sister, Karen Waldrop, a brother Ken Waldrop (Pam), nieces , Christi Raduly and Brae Hogan (Danny)and nephews, John and Henry Waldrop. Great nephew, Daniel Hogan and great nieces, Erin and Emma

Hogan. Sylvia Bradley, a special sister-in-law.

Step Children Caitlyn "Dixie" Smith, Cody Smith and Cayla "Lil Shug" Edwards (Phil), Grandkids Cayden, Cooper, and Carley Edwards.

Memorials can be made to the Charity of your choice in honor of Petie.

A Celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Petie was a loyal friend, an excellent prop master, a talented musician and singer and a charming, quick-witted, all around great guy to be with. We had a lot of fun, shared a lot of laughs and did some strong, creative work together. He will be missed for sure, and remembered always for the kind, caring person he was.*

Matt Sullivan - December 14, 2022 at 05:15 PM

AB

“ *Petie was always thinking of others, funny, talented. We worked together in Wilmington and he's always been one of my favorite crew members and I looked forward to seeing him. He will be missed!*

Andrea Braswell - November 08, 2022 at 09:11 PM

JH

“ *We were friends from the get go. Recently spent a lot of time with him.,He was my friend and I will never pick a guitar again that I don't think of those old times playin music . It was his hope that when he got to feeling better he would put a little gospel group together and play those old hymns he grew up on. I'd like to think that happened just like he and the Lord planned it. I'll Fly Away was a favorite. And he did . Love ya Petie. Show em what ya got.*

Jeanene Huber - October 11, 2022 at 04:55 PM

SU

“ My deepest condolences to the family. Petey was truly one of the most genuine kind, funny, joyous persons I met and worked with in Wilmington. His music, his stories, his laughter, his friends and family, he loved and lived fully. He made the world a better and happy place. I'm blessed to have known him for even a brief time. Prayers and love

Suzy - October 06, 2022 at 10:57 PM

GM

“ Karen... I was sorry to see the passing of your brother. Prayers and thoughts are with you during this difficult time. I do remember you talking about him when we worked together. Prayers for all of your family Love, Gaye

Gaye monroe - October 04, 2022 at 10:02 PM

BV

“ Karen, I am so sorry to hear of your brother's passing. I knew him as Richard. He was a very accomplished fellow and I know that his family and friends will miss him terribly. You and the family are in my prayers.

Betsy Gillespie Vickers - October 04, 2022 at 09:50 PM

JG

“ I loved Petie, he was my very first set buddy at the E.O. Studios in the early 80's. We did many movies together over the 4 decades that I knew him, and seeing Petie on set always felt like home! He was a kind man, that will be greatly missed, but not forgotten!

Jeff Goodwin - October 03, 2022 at 08:53 PM

PT

“ God speed Petey

Paige Thomas - October 03, 2022 at 08:35 PM

JC

“ I met Petie when I came to Wilmington from NYC around 1992. He was a great guy from the first day I met him . One day he invited us to hear his band after work,
It was my first introduction to Bluegrass.
I would spend every Thursday night after that listening to Bluegrass at Hieronymus. I was hooked ! The place was jumping the moment his band took the stage, usually till quitting time. I am sad that he left us way too soon but I am glad to have worked with him on a few shows Petie was a true professional film maker, musician and a great guy. I am proud to have been considered his friend. RIP
brother Heaven has a heck of a Bass player now

John Cambria - October 03, 2022 at 07:54 PM

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John Cambria - October 03, 2022 at 07:44 PM

JS

“ Richard always had a smile and a good word for everyone. Know this is a hard loss for all his family and friends. He left a wonderful legacy of love to hang onto.

Jean spangler - October 03, 2022 at 04:31 PM