

Walter Ray Allen, 76, of Atlanta, Georgia, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 15, 2025.

Walter's life passion and work was design. He was beloved by clients and colleagues because he approached every project the way he approached his life - designing every aspect with purpose and meaning. For this reason, he became owner and President of Ferry, Hays, Allen where he spent 45 years as one of the most successful and sought after commercial designers in the U.S. His design sensibility was legendary, as was his reputation for integrity and respect for all persons regardless of their station. He was tireless and cheerful in his quest to help anyone in his path.

Walter was born August 14, 1948, in Hamlet, NC to J. Ray Allen and Henrietta Waddell Allen. He grew up as a member of Mount Olivet United Methodist Church and was an active member of Saint Mark United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia for over forty years. He greatly enjoyed serving Saint Mark and its community, especially through mission trips to Honduras.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Trudy Allen Lampley (Bert), and his brother, Charles Henry Allen. He is survived by his partner, Marc Moss, brothers, Perry Allen (Jennifer), Bryan Allen (Della), and Scott Allen (Karen), cousin, Myra Waddell, and seventeen nieces and nephews.

Walter was a graduate of Winecoff High School (1966), Wingate College (1968), and University of Georgia (1970) where he received his degree in Interior Design. He enjoyed tennis, traveling, rooting for the Georgia Bulldogs, and following the contemporary arts scene. He especially loved spending time at his mountain home in Highlands, NC with Marc.

A memorial service will be held on February 7 at 2:00 p.m. at Mount Olivet United Methodist Church in Concord, N.C. with Rev. Cindy Nanney officiating.

Memorials may be made to Mount Olivet United Methodist Church in Concord, NC, Saint Mark United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and the Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Foundation.

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