



Carlton Bankston

November 20, 1939 - August 31, 2015

Carlton Ray Bankston, 75, of Holden Louisiana, passed away at his home on August 31, 2015 after a long and courageous battle against cancer. Mr. Bankston was born on November 20, 1939, in Holden, Louisiana. He was a member of Magnolia Baptist Church. He graduated from Holden High School where he achieved all-state honors in basketball, a sport which he enthusiastically taught his two sons. After high school he joined the U.S. Marine Corp. He went through basic training in San Diego and served tours of duty in Hawaii and the Mediterranean. Mr. Bankston stated the Marines were easy after enduring the challenges of farming in south Louisiana and playing basketball for Alton Leggette. Following his service in the Marines, he began a 39 year career in the airline industry working for National, Pan American, and Delta Airlines. During his career with the airlines he resided in Miami, New York, and Atlanta, but always kept his "home" in Holden. Working for the airlines allowed Mr. Bankston to easily pursue one of his joys of life which was traveling. Always planning a trip, he visited all 50 states, along with Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. Upon retirement from Delta Airlines where he served as a flight dispatcher, Mr. Bankston returned to Holden to pursue his other joys: gardening and visiting with family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Dorothy Wagner Bankston; sons, Steven Ray Bankston (Kymberly) of Birmingham, Alabama, and Stuart Lyle Bankston (Rebecca) of Holden; grandchildren, Barnes Ray Bankston, Carter Bankston, Christopher Bankston, Myia Bozeman (Derrick), Tyler Bankston,

McKenzie Bankston, Gauge Bennett, and Kati-Grace Bankston; sisters, Annette Wagner Harvey and Fayrene Mitchell; sister-in-laws, Shirley Bankston and Mildred Bankston; along with several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Bankston is preceeded in death by his parents, Hollis Ray and Erma Howze Bankston; as well as brothers, Byron and Geron Bankston.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation for Mr. Bankston from the chapel of Brandon Thompson Funeral Home, Hammond, on September 2nd, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. until the funeral service at 1:00 p.m. Interment will follow in Howze Family Cemetery, John Barber Rd, Holden.

Condolences and other information are available online at www.thompsoncares.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Howze Cemetery

Holden, LA 70744

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 2. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Hammond, LA
12012 Highway 190 W
Hammond, LA 70401
(225) 567-1884

Funeral Service

SEP 2. 1:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Hammond, LA
12012 Highway 190 W
Hammond, LA 70401
(225) 567-1884

Tribute Wall

VB

“ Although I worked for Pan Am from 1981 to 1991, I didn't meet Carl until I was hired as an Assistant Flight Superintendent in 1996. After I was upgraded to Flight Superintendent, I often worked alongside Carl, Leo Myer, and Joe Hagen. Carl was witty, kind, and gentlemanly as others have noted. He could also go hard core Marine on you in an instant! I learned that lesson when we brought him down to ice level during an Atlanta Thrasher pregame warm-up. Players would routinely flick pucks to the glass to unnerve fans. During the game, the glass shattered and I felt eyes boring through me. I turned to look at Carl and he “chastised” (let's leave it at that) me for putting him right on the glass during warm-ups without warning him the glass could shatter. I offered up the free tee shirt I received when we entered the arena which seemed to appease him. He said he would give it to his granddaughter. All others in our group gave Carl their shirts for his other granddaughters; glass shattering event forgiven. There are other stories like the time a box truck cut him off revealing the “How's My Driving” number. But my fondest memory will always be his genuine and fatherly manner anytime I sought his advice or counsel.

Godspeed Carl,

Vinny Belfini

Vincent Belfini - September 07, 2015 at 02:03 PM

WE

“ I always enjoyed working with Carl. He was such a gentleman and Delta Professional. My deepest sympathy to his family.

William Ewert - September 06, 2015 at 02:08 AM

JJ

“ After reading all the previous postings about Carl there is not much more that I can add except to say. I enjoyed working with Carl at NAL & PAN and six of us sharing a home on Long Beach was a blast. Gwen and I enjoyed our visits with Carl and Dot on John Barber road.
God bless Carl

John & Gwen Uhrich

john uhrich jr - September 05, 2015 at 12:48 PM

MD

“ Carl was a great guy with a keen sense of humor. I was fortunate enough to work with him at Delta, and I always appreciated his professionalism and wit. God speed my friend, and your family is my thoughts and prayers.

Mike DiBenedetto - September 02, 2015 at 05:59 PM

RD

“ Carl was one of the finest men I ever worked with, and call my friend. Some men are big in size, but small in character and integrity. Carl was big in all three. God has dispatched you into eternal life. Your trip will be smooth and worry-free.
You will be missed, but not forgotten.
Rudy Daniels

Rudy Daniels - September 02, 2015 at 01:25 PM

KK

“ I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Carl at Delta Air Lines. What a kind and gentle soul. Condolences to the family.
Ken Kaschok

Ken Kaschok - September 02, 2015 at 11:39 AM

TT

“ *Carl was a true southern gentleman and always a pleasure to work with. Condolences to his family.*

Truman Tinsley - September 02, 2015 at 10:58 AM



“ *I always enjoyed working with Carl. He was a true gentleman.*

Ruben Rodriguez - September 02, 2015 at 08:58 AM

LC

“ *Carl was always a true gentleman. It was a great privilege and a pleasure to have known him during his years at Delta...a good man.*

Larry Clowney

Larry Clowney - September 02, 2015 at 08:02 AM

ML

“ *Dorothy and Family,*

So very sorry to hear about Carlton. Sometimes it seems like words are so inadequate. We are unable to attend the services, but we want you to know that we are praying that God will give you strength and comfort and that you will feel his presence at this very sad and trying time. It seems like we did not get to see the Wagner family so much, but when we did, I was always impressed with how fun-loving and full of joy you all seem to be ! I'll always remember the joking and laughter when we did get together, and it seems to me that many times Carlton was right in the middle of it !

*Thinking of you all,
Max Laidlaw (Enid's son) and family*

Max Laidlaw - September 01, 2015 at 09:13 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Carlton Bankston.*



September 01, 2015 at 07:06 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carlton Bankston.*



September 01, 2015 at 03:06 PM



“ *David and Diane Morris purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Carlton Bankston.*



David and Diane Morris - September 01, 2015 at 02:25 PM

DM

“ Carl was one of the finest southern gentlemen that I ever had the pleasure of knowing and working with. I believe he was the only NAL dispatcher to visit me here in Alaska. I offered him a fishing trip but he declined saying that big oceans would make him seasick but I treasure his short visit to Homer. I always remember his outgoing friendliness and wanting to help when you needed him. It was and still is an honor to call him my friend and I am sure we will meet again one day. Rest in peace my friend and may God be with you and your family. Sincerely David Ray Morris

David Morris - September 01, 2015 at 01:37 PM

NJ

“ Norm and Linda Joseph purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Carlton Bankston.



Norm and Linda Joseph - September 01, 2015 at 11:14 AM

SS

“ Shayne Sanders purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Carlton Bankston.



Shayne Sanders - September 01, 2015 at 10:39 AM

PM

“ Pat M. purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Carlton Bankston.



Pat M. - September 01, 2015 at 06:36 AM

DW

“ Carlton, like his brother Byron, was a man of hard work and principle. I remember one night at the church we were having a 7 o'clock finance committee meeting. Carlton had recently had trouble with his back and was somewhat bent over and had difficulty walking. He and I arrived at the church at the same time, and the three portable dumpsters were sitting out front of the church and as Carlton passed by, even with his difficulty in walking, reached and grabbed one of them and pulled it to the back of the church where we kept them at that time. I was so impressed, I grabbed the other two. I have used that story countless times through the years as a demonstration that as a Christian if we see something that needs to be done, just do it. God bless the Bankston Family

Dr. Richard Wallace

Dr. Richard Wallace - August 31, 2015 at 09:56 PM

PM

“ Steven and family, I am so sorry for your loss. I will be Praying for all of you.



Patsy McKnight - August 31, 2015 at 05:28 PM

PM

Carlton, like my brother-in-law Byron, was a wonderful man who loved his family dearly. I remember him from my many visits to The States and his visit to London many years ago. He travelled from London to Norwich and stayed with us overnight bringing with him Christmas presents from Shirley. He travelled back to London the next day to return to The States. You cannot imagine how much that overnight visit meant to us. I learned more about him, his family, interests and background than I could ever have done on my visits to The States. He was a loving, caring husband and father - a real family man.. He believed strongly in his religion and attended church regularly sharing his faith with family and friends. RIP Carlton. You are now reunited with Byron. My condolences to Dorothy, Stuart and Steven and the rest of your family and friends. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this very sad time.

Pat Marshall - September 01, 2015 at 05:03 AM

RR

I had the honor and privilege of working with Carl for many years at National, Pan American and Delta. I have very good memories of Carl's professionalism as a dispatcher and also as a friend. I was also privileged that my father who was a pilot for National also worked with Carl for many years. When Carl would commute from New Orleans to Miami he used to help my sister on the aircraft when traveling with her infant children from New Orleans to Miami to visit our family to keep the children quiet and settled down. He was known by my family as a gentleman and good friend, always with a smile on his face. We will miss you Carl and thanks for everything you did for us. Randy Rohan

Randy Rohan - September 01, 2015 at 08:49 AM

NJ

We were blessed to know and work with Carl since we started with National Airlines in 1967/1970. At first I thought he was stiff and stern but quickly learned what a great friend and coworker he was. Before Pan Am gave us all that one way ticket to New York, he rented a garage apartment from my Mother. I met and got to know Dot and roomed with Carl or lived near them in New York and Newnan, GA (Atlanta) before Carl retired and they returned to Holden. I remember he sometimes had a sharp wit, but he was always ready and willing to help or assist in any way he could. A true friend and someone to look up to. Thank you for your service. You will be missed. Norm and Linda Joseph

Norm Joseph - September 01, 2015 at 09:38 AM

MC

*A person like Carl only comes along once in your life. We worked together at National and Pan Am and it was always a pleasure to have him our shift. He was always there to help you if you were in a bind. I have told others this story but for those what missed it here it is: I had covered a shift for Carl at National and with mergers & whatever, he never got around to working a shift for me. I had not even remembered it and then one day I get a letter from Carl with a check, to cover the shift!!
Return it ? You think he would accept it? NO WAY ! That's the kind of person Carl was.*

We know he had a First Class seat directly to Heaven.

God Bless and Semper Fi !

Michael Cooney

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Michael Cooney - September 01, 2015 at 02:04 PM