



### **In Memory of Dwain Chambers**

**Mayor \* Businessman \* Family Man \* Christian  
Well Done Thy Good and Faithful Servant**

Once Dwain Chambers committed to something, he stuck with it.

- ❖ He was a member of Prince Avenue Baptist Church for 84 years.
- ❖ He operated Sunshine Cleaners across the street from this gingko tree for 67 years.
- ❖ He was married to Betty for 64 years.
- ❖ He was a member of the Rotary Club of Athens for 62 years.
- ❖ He taught Sunday school for more than 40 years.
- ❖ He operated The Carpenter's Shop Christian Bookstore, next door to the cleaners, for 30 years.
- ❖ He served on the Athens City Council for 24 years.
- ❖ He served in the Army reserves for 16 years.

Dwain was a leader.

- ❖ He was mayor of Athens from 1987 to 1991, the last to hold that position before the consolidation of city and county governments.
- ❖ He was president of the Rotary Club of Athens in 1966-67.
- ❖ He chaired the board of the Athens YMCA.
- ❖ He was chairman of the deacons at Prince Avenue Baptist Church.

Dwain's faith was paramount in his life. He was 9 years old when he surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. He attended Prince Avenue Baptist Church faithfully. He was also a Gideon, partnering with others to distribute Bibles to any and all.

Dwain was a devoted family man. He often referred to his bride, Betty Jean Weatherford, "as the most beautiful woman he ever saw." They were married 64 years before she preceded him in death in 2019. They had three children: Susan, Paul and Bryan. There were 10 grandchildren: Kent, Christopher, Karen, Chase, Katie, Mary, Chip, Betsy, Patricia and Matthew. And there were 13 grandchildren. He was Granddaddy.

Dwain was a civic-minded man. He served on the Athens City Council and was the last mayor of the City of Athens. The Athens Human Relations Council named him man of the year. He donated more than 10 gallons of blood over the course of his life.

Dwain was a sharp businessman. He graduated from Athens High and then the University of Georgia with a degree in agricultural engineering. He operated Sunshine Cleaners on Chase Street for 67 years before closing it in 1922. Next door, for 30 years, he operated The Carpenter's Shop Christian Bookstore. He often quipped, "Cleanliness is next to godliness." He wore a suit and tie to work daily, even in summer. He earned the nickname "Sunshine" because of his sunny disposition.

This tree was dedicated Dec. 14, 2023. Dwain was born Dec. 14, 1929 in Homer, Ga. He attended his last Rotary meeting Dec. 14, 2022. He died May 5, 2023.

His faith sustained him. As a result, his family thrived, his friendships nurtured, his firms endured and his friends were encouraged.

Well done, good and faithful servant. Matthew 25:21

