



## John Daniel McLeod Jr.

March 1, 1933 - August 9, 2024

John Daniel McLeod, Jr., aged 91, went to be with the Lord peacefully at his home on August 9th, 2024. He has been a proud resident of Leesburg, Florida, since 1960. John was born to Dr. John and Dorothy McLeod on March 1st, 1933, in Mansfield, Ohio. John graduated from Fishburne Military School of Waynesboro, Virginia, attended the University of Richmond, and graduated from Valdosta State College in the top five percent of his graduating class with a BS in Economics/Business. He was in the ROTC and a Kappa Alpha Order member, earning the distinction of Scabbard and Blade in the Military Honor Society. John was also a Mason, Scottish Rite, York Rite, and Shriner.

John, a devoted family man, married Sherry Joy Spooner in 1956 in Moultrie, Georgia. Their sixty-eighth wedding anniversary was a testament to their enduring love. John, a veteran, served in the Army from 1956 to 1958. His commitment to his family was unwavering as they raised their two beautiful daughters, Kelly (Jack) Neale and Stacy (Bruce) Rider, both of Gainesville, Florida. Their family grew with the blessings of seven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. John's love for his family was as strong as his dedication to his business, which was admired by many.

John and Sherry founded Royal Fence and Patio in 1960, which later became Royal Aluminum, with manufacturing & distribution centers in Leesburg, Florida, and Colombia, South Carolina. Their retirement in 1998 marked the

end of a successful business journey. However, John's commitment to his community continued. He shared his professional wisdom as a past director of United Southern Bank, Director of Lake County Industrial Development Authority, and board member of numerous bank branches in Leesburg. His service extended to the Board of Directors of Cornerstone Hospice, the Leesburg Regional Medical Center, as a trustee of Fishburne Military School (Waynesboro, Virginia) and Oak Hall School (Gainesville, Florida). He was also a former president of the Beaver Run Association (Breckenridge, Colorado) and was responsible for the development of the last phase of the Imperial Terrace community. Most importantly, John's faith was a guiding force in his life. He served as a trustee, deacon, and Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church of Leesburg, ministering to others through acts of kindness and sharing the gospel since he accepted Christ as his Lord in 1978.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. John McLeod and Dorothy Heffrin; his brother, Neil; his half-sister, Dorothy Novotny; and his great-grandson, Arthur Neale Van Sciver. He is survived by his wife, Sherry; his daughters, Kelly (Jack) Neale and Stacy (Bruce) Rider; his grandchildren, Kittery (Arthur) Van Sciver, McLeod Neale, Ashley (Kevin) Tormes, Skyler (Keri) Neale, Andrea (Stafa) Abid, Breckley (Jon) Erny, and Allison Rider; his great-grandchildren Madelyn, Kendall, and Riley Tormes; Adele, Hope, Kate, and John ("Jack") Van Sciver; Campbell, Palmer, Murphy, and Hampton Neale; and Piper, Skye, and Saylor Erny.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 16, 11:00 AM at the First Baptist Church of Leesburg Chapel with reception to follow at the Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the St. Jude Hospital, Shriners Hospital for Children, Lake County Animal Shelter, or Lovey Loaves Special Needs Animal Rescue of Orlando, Florida.

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home of Leesburg, Florida.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Leesburg  
220 N. 13th Street  
Leesburg, FL 34748

*In the chapel*

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Daniel McLeod Jr.*



**Beyers Funeral Home** - August 13, 2024 at 12:07 PM

JM

🥹 *Beautiful tribute to a beautiful man and his beautiful family! Love you all,  
Jenny Manis*

**Jenny Manis** - August 13, 2024 at 06:52 PM



“ *John was a 2nd father to me growing up, and I loved him dearly. Rest easy, good sir.*

**T** - October 11, 2024 at 05:38 PM

RC

“ *My deepest sympathy to Sherry and all of your family. May God be with you.*

**Robbie Jean Bell Clark** - October 04, 2024 at 04:18 PM

NH

“ John ( and Sherry) hired me as a “wet behind the ears “ sales rep, many moons ago , at Royal Aluminum. We were acquainted from church, and the McLeods introduced me to my wife Tonia, by opening their home to welcome, feed, and teach the young adults group at First Baptist. ( I assure you, that was a lot of food and cooking ! ) I am forever grateful for their ministry of hospitality, as well as their personification of how a marriage should work. Their example shown in their love for one another still echos and reverberates into the hallways of our life.

John gave me a chance to learn sales, understand construction, and develop my communication skills. His gentle yet affirming demeanor was a constant reminder of how I should aspire to be. He was a good listener and a strategic thinker. His integrity , work ethic and compassion for others was something I had the privilege to observe for over eleven years, while working at Royal. John and Sherry , along with Allen Applebee helped me to grow up , professionally; and become the businessman I am today. Yes, still in construction related sales and marketing!

John’s commitment to his wife, his family, and to his Lord Jesus Christ was unwavering. He leaves a tremendous legacy that , by Gods grace, I aspire to emulate. Though I grieve at the loss of his presence, in my heart, I rejoice that I will see him again on the other side of eternity!

---

Neal Hayes - August 16, 2024 at 06:57 AM

LM

“*Neighbors 50 years ago on Fern Circle. Every time we saw John he encouraged and us and praised our Lord ! He was a success in family as a good husband, father, and grandpa ! His business reputation was of great integrity and business acumen ! We did not get to do much together but every report by friends was positive ! Lastly as his obituary mentions he was a devoted practicing Christian ! Thank the Lord for his influence in my life and his family and community ! He will be missed but we will all gather at the Great Reunion ! Blessings !*

---

**Larry Meeks** - August 15, 2024 at 04:07 PM

BW

“*I was blessed to grow up in Fern Circle in Leesburg and treated so kindly by John McLeod and his family. Even as a young boy riding my bike up and down the street, John would take time to talk with me. He then followed me and encouraged me throughout my career. You always remember the greatness of a man like John- not just for his business success but for how he made you feel just being around him. May God bless Sherry, Kelly, and Stacy and the McLeod family at this time.*

---

**Brad White** - August 14, 2024 at 10:04 PM

TG

“*The McLeod's were our neighbors down the street growing up in Fern Circle. Mr. McLeod was such a kind man and not only kind but also a smart and intelligent businessman. Strong Christian faith and it showed in him and the life he lived and his family. He was a Leesburg icon and will be truly missed. Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead, and loving memories to forever hold in your heart.*

---

**Tina Goddard** - August 13, 2024 at 09:08 AM

BH

“ I loved your Dad! He treated us with such respect and care as teenagers. He was a generous founder of Leesburg’s Christian Businessmen for Youth. I remember I asked him on very short notice for a flatbed truck to serve as a stage for a Christian concert on Leesburg High’s football field and he made it happen! One of our classmates attended and came to faith that night and is, today, an incredible Christian businessman in Leesburg. John McCloud was a humble world changer. He loved his daughters so much! We were all so blessed by him. Sending you, his beloved Girls, love and comfort.

---

**beth bragg henon** - August 12, 2024 at 10:02 PM

JM

“ We were old friends of John and Sherry. Our children. grew up together and we have so many happy memories of those days. Our love to Sherry, Kelley, Stacy and all the family. We know your faith in our Lord will be your strength in the days to come. Our hearts are with you.

*Jim and Margaret Mayfield*

---

**Jim and Margaret Mayfield** - August 12, 2024 at 02:12 PM

JM

“ God blessed me with 2 great friends John and Sherry McLeod. We met on Fern Circle in 1963. We shared trips to Colorado and Branson . They were there with us for Bill’s surgeries even flew to Atlanta for one of them. Precious memories! Love all the McLeods.  
*Jean Moody*

---

**Jean Moody** - August 12, 2024 at 10:59 AM