

George Benedict Martin

'75 Gone But Not Forgotten

George Benedict Martin, 67, a retired Delta Air Lines pilot and a former Air Force fighter pilot, died on Saturday, July 31, 2021 at his home in Peachtree City, Ga. George grew up in Newburyport, Mass. He was born to George and Mary (Dineen) Martin on Jan. 13, 1954, in Hampton, Va. The Martin family lived at 20 Johnson Street for many years. After graduating from Newburyport High School in 1971, George went to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs to become a pilot.

George graduated in 1975 and spent 10 years as an officer in the Air Force flying fighter jets, including the F-106 Delta Dart. He also flew the F-106 for the Otis Air National Guard on Cape Cod. George joined Delta Air Lines in 1985, where he spent 34 years flying Boeing jets to many cities around the world, finally retiring in 2019. George and his wife Lisa were married on May 29, 1976 in Colorado Springs. Two of their three children were born in Falmouth with their youngest born in Newburyport. After his military career, the family lived in Falmouth and in Hampton Falls, N.H., moving to Georgia in 1998. George enjoyed spending time with his family, running, reading, and playing chess. The classic film, *The Wizard of Oz*, was a personal favorite of his and he referred to it often in his life. He danced the father-daughter dance at the weddings of each of his daughters to "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." Always a New Englander at heart, he swam in the unheated neighborhood pool in Georgia well into November as he never found the water to be as cold as the Atlantic Ocean of his youth.

Survivors include his wife, Lisa Martin of Peachtree City, Ga.; son, Michael Martin of Indianapolis, Ind.; two daughters, Theresa Andriano and her husband Gregg of Pasadena, Md., and April McElrath and her husband Jason of Cupertino, Calif.; two brothers, J. Michael Martin of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Jack Martin of Provincetown, Mass.; four sisters, Maureen Madden Smolski of Newburyport, Mass., Catherine Spinazola and her husband Joseph of Medway, Mass., Mary Rumore and her husband Mark of Goffstown, N.H., and Tara Tripp and her husband Kenneth of Amesbury, Mass.

Instead of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in memory of George Martin to the Fayette Humane Society, Donation for Cats, through their website at fayettehumane.org/donate/ or by mailing a check to the Fayette Humane Society, PO Box 244, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Lisa and George supported the organization by fostering litters of kittens in their home. The Twomey, LeBlanc, & Conte Funeral Home, Newburyport, Mass., is assisting with arrangements.

A graveside memorial service was held on Saturday August 14, 2021 held at 11:00 a.m. at the Rowley Burial Grounds, Main Street, Rowley, Mass. Following the burial, and for those not able to attend the service, friends are invited to Maureen's home at 6 Newhall Lane, Newburyport. To offer online condolences please visit www.tlcfuneralhome.com.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of George Benedict Martin, please visit our [floral store](#). (/obituary/George-Martin/sympathy)