

Willard Snyder

Date September 24, 2012

Section(s) Obituary

Byline

Willard Alexander Snyder

Dr. Willard Alexander **Snyder**, 85, of St. Simons Island died Friday, Sept. 21, 2012 at his residence following an extended illness.

Willard **Snyder** was born on July 8, 1927 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. He graduated from Tuscaloosa High School and attended the University of Alabama, where he was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. His college career was interrupted by service in the U.S. Army at the end of World War II. He served for 18 months in the Occupation Forces on the island of Hokkaido, Japan. He returned to the University of Alabama, where he completed his Bachelor of Science degree and earned a master's degree in Biology.

While in college, he met his lifelong partner, Virginia Moore Holley. Willard and Virginia were married on Aug. 25, 1951 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. The couple moved to Waycross, where Willard's first job was with Wyeth Pharmaceutical as a pharmaceutical representative.

In 1955, he decided to pursue a lifelong dream to become a doctor, graduating with a medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia in 1959. After post-graduate work in Columbus, Willard and Virginia moved to Brunswick in 1961, where he entered a general medicine practice with Drs. Inman, Hunt and Mercer. Dr. **Snyder** served as president of the Glynn County Medical Society and was instrumental in developing the Medical Intensive Care Unit at the Glynn-Brunswick Memorial Hospital, where he was medical chief of staff. Dr. **Snyder** practiced family medicine until his retirement in 1991.

After retirement, Dr. **Snyder** enjoyed fishing, golf and taking care of his grandchildren whenever possible. Dr. **Snyder** was a member of the Rotary Club of St. Simons and the Attitude Adjustment Group. He served as an elder in both the First Presbyterian Church of Brunswick and the St. Simons Presbyterian Church.

Dr. **Snyder** is survived by his wife, Virginia Holley **Snyder**; daughter, Susan **Snyder** Reeves of St. Simons Island; and sons, Dr. Willard Alexander **Snyder** Jr. (Carol) of Brunswick, and Dr. David Claude **Snyder** (Ellen) of Atlanta. Dr. **Snyder** was blessed with six beloved grandchildren, Holley Reeves of St. Simons Island, Emma **Snyder** and Will **Snyder** of Brunswick and Laura **Snyder**, Mary Beth **Snyder** and Matt **Snyder** of Atlanta.

Visitation with the family will be from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the St. Simons Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be made to Hospice of the Golden Isles or St. Simons Presbyterian Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home.

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