



## Cecil Walter Heishman

September 10, 1933 - March 12, 2025

The staff of Heishman Funeral Home/Valley Funeral Service sends condolences to the family of Cecil Walter Heishman.

Cecil Walter Heishman, 91, of Fort Valley, VA, passed away peacefully at his home on March 12, 2025. He was born in Fort Valley, VA, on September 10, 1933, to Elmer and Elizabeth Heishman. Born and raised on his family farm, Cecil was the youngest of seven children.

In 1953 Cecil graduated from Edinburg High School and soon after married the love of his life, Ella Maureda Shipe. They were happily married for nearly 70 years.

Cecil enlisted in the Navy and served during the Korean War and was honorably discharged in 1957. He was a lifelong member of the VFW in Edinburg and a charter member of the Fort Valley Ruritan Club.

At the age of 17, Cecil built his first chicken house and began raising broilers. He continued raising broilers from the 1950s into the late 1990s. He always helped his brother, Charley, make hay and work on the farm. In addition to farming, he was a skilled carpenter, plumber, and electrician. Cecil built many homes for family and friends, including his own home. He also worked as a full-time electrician at Avtex for many years.

A talented and hardworking man, he cherished time with his family and friends and was always willing to help his neighbors. As a devoted member of Faith Lutheran Church, he played a key role in merging the two Lutheran churches in Fort Valley during the 1970s and helped build the Faith Lutheran Church in 1973. He sang in the choir, played the clarinet with the Faithful Tooters, and served on both the Church Council and the Board of Directors for many years. Known for his deep baritone voice, he would often sing solos for special occasions.

Cecil lived an active and adventurous life. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, traveling many times to Alaska and later to Colorado and New Mexico. Cecil played softball for many years, enjoyed skiing, camping, swimming, and bowling, and even played baseball at the Edinburg Old Time Festival well into his 80's. Later in life, he became known for his apple and cherry pies, a skill lovingly taught to him by his wife, Maureda.

He is survived by his two sons, Phil Heishman and Larry Heishman, and his daughter, Peggy H. Plauger (Terry); four grandchildren, Bradley (Nicci) Dooley, Daniel Dooley, Alethea Heishman, and Calvin Heishman; six great-grandchildren, Allen Heishman, Warren, William, Walker, and Mickey Dooley, and Claire McClung; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Maureda and grandson, Dustin Heishman.

Pastor Larry Closter will officiate the Memorial Service at Faith Lutheran Church in Fort Valley on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at 11:00 am. A meal will follow at the Fort Valley Fire Hall.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Fort Valley Fire Department, 7088

Fort Valley Road, Fort Valley, VA 22652.

Online condolences may be left at [valleyfs.com](http://valleyfs.com)

Arrangements by Heishman Funeral Home Inc., Valley Funeral Service  
Branch, Edinburg.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church  
4260 Fort Valley Road  
Fort Valley, VA 22652

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Cecil Walter Heishman.*



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April 02, 2025 at 03:59 PM



“ *He was always smiling no matter what he was doing I got to k own him over the range of 7 years and it was great to meet and know him he was always a shinning light of God's love and guide he will be greatly missed but he is home now we all will see each other again one day*

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**Tyler johnson** - April 02, 2025 at 01:44 AM



“ *Sending our heartfelt condolences. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this most difficult time. May God put His loving arms around you all to give you the strength to endure these most hardest of days.*

*Larry Cave & Sandy Burner-Cave*

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**Larry Cave & Sandy Burner-Cave** - March 28, 2025 at 10:34 AM

GA

“ Dear Phil and extended family,

*I share my deepest empathy for your loss of Cecil. He was a man that was blessed because he blessed others with his labors. Surely a man reaps what he sows in this life and in the eternal worlds....2 places. The spiritual sowing surely is the most important of all in life, not materialism, so that all we do will be to the glory of God, not us.*

*I first met Cecil in 2004 for piano service, and then again in 2017, and then with Phil who made a piano purchase from me near the same time. We all had a positive experience as I recall. Cecil would now confirm to us all in his eternity, that God is the essence of the purest love and His truth is the most vital part of all for us to live out through the grace and power of His Love Who enables us to do His will.*

*As our Savior said, “Do unto others as you would have them to do unto you. Forgive others, so we may also be forgiven by God. Abhor that which is evil. Cleave to that which is good. Love not the world, fleshly lusts, pride, or the lust of the eyes. Flee idols! Revenge not evil for evil, but overcome evil with good. Then a promise is left us, if we believe Him and do what He says, He will say to the redeemed, the repentant, the purified people, enter into eternal life because you have been faithful in a few things....I will make you a ruler over many things. He that is faithful unto the end of his life, the same will be saved from eternal hell.”*

*May the Spirit of His grace be with you all, without any dissimulation,*

*Gordon Allen, Allen’s Pianos: [pianos@shentel.net](mailto:pianos@shentel.net)*



**Gordon Allen** - March 24, 2025 at 09:45 PM

CP

“ Thoughts and prayers to all of you at this difficult time. I was very fortunate to have known Cecil all my life and even worked with him at one time. It was an honor to have known him and a bigger honor to call him a friend. He will be missed by many in our community. May he rest in peace.

**Charlie Plauger** - March 24, 2025 at 06:28 AM

AW

“ Worked with Cecil for years at Avtex. What a Special Guy he was. Very talented in so many crafts. He was a true gentleman who loved his family. He will be truly missed but be assured remembered by many.

**Alan Wimer** - March 21, 2025 at 12:02 PM

HH

Harold and Uncle Cecil meet in France my ship was docked and I just happened to go on deck and see a ship go by with a number I had forgotten was Cecil's later that day I went aboard his ship and found him what's the chance of that happening sympathy to the family we're thinking of you

**Harold hollarsharon1@gmail.com** - March 23, 2025 at 07:31 PM