

## Dr. Joseph Lee Edwards, Jr.

Dr. Joseph Lee Edwards, Jr. of Atlanta, GA, passed away on Jan. 9, 2018. He is survived by his son, Matthew Lee Edwards, of Atlanta.

Born in 1935, he was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lee Edwards, of Atlanta, and was preceded in death by his wife, Sue Barger Edwards. He earned bachelor's and doctorate degrees in physics from Georgia Tech and a master's in physics from Carnegie-Mellon (then Carnegie Tech).

Following undergraduate study, he served two years in the US Navy where he worked in low temperature physics. He later joined the Kelvin & Hughes America Corporation in Annapolis, MD, where he was an applications engineer responsible for marketing industrial controls and instrumentation. While living there, he sailed his Windmill in the Chesapeake Bay, competing successfully in regattas.

He returned to Georgia in 1964 where he met and married his beloved wife of 46 years and began a long career with Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station, later named the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI). Known as "Lee" to his colleagues, he worked on electronic warfare and radar countermeasures techniques, microwave antennas, electromagnetic field measurement techniques and more. He was a leader in establishing and managing GTRI's Airborne Electronics Laboratory carried by a modified twin-engine Convair 240 (T-29B). His leadership expanded to posts as associate director of GTRI's Electronic Support Measures Laboratory and of the Systems Engineering Laboratory; chief of the Systems and Antenna Applications Division; and manager of the Advanced Technology Technical Area. Lee retired from GTRI in 1996.

He was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, avidly participating in the choir and handbell choir, along with many other ministries. Earlier, he played clarinet with both the Tech Band and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra and sang with the Choral Guild of Atlanta and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus (under the direction of Robert Shaw). His musical talent led him to arrange and compose beautiful music that has been performed.

Lee has been admired for many substantial attributes including his uncompromising integrity, precision in all said and written, sense of humor, immense generosity for anyone in need, devotion to family, and unconditional and abiding faith in God.

A Memorial Service will be held Fri., Jan. 19, at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta. Interment will follow at Arlington Memorial Park in Sandy Springs.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Music Ministries of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, 1328 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA, 30309 or to another charity of choice.

This obituary was drawn from [one published](#) in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Jan. 14-15, 2018 and from Institute records.

