A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION OF LIFE
for

L.L. (Buddy) Cockrell

December 15, 1949– October 11, 2026

November 7, 2026 - 11:00am

Williamsburg United Methodist Church
Williamsburg, Virginia

ENTRANCE

GATHERING MUSIC

WORDS OF GRACE AND GREETING

*HYMN *How Great Thou Art* UMH 77

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who gave us birth, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray.
You know our needs before we ask, and you know our ignorance in asking. Give us now your grace, that, as we shrink before the mystery of death, we may see the light of eternity. Speak to us once more your solemn message of life and of death. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die, and when our days are accomplished, help us to die as those who go forth to live, so that living or dying, our life may be in you.

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down
in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters; he restoreth my soul. He
leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea,
though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for thou are with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

REMEMBERANCES

SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 4:6-8

MEDITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN *Amazing Grace* UMH 378

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

God of us all, your love never ends. When all else fails you are still God.
We pray to you for one another in our need, and for all everywhere who grieve with us this day. To those who doubt, give light; to those who are weak, give strength; to all who have sinned, show mercy; to all who sorrow, grant your peace.
Keep our love for one another true and strong. And help us always to trust ourselves and one another to your everlasting love. Amen.

O God, all that you have given us is yours. In the beginning, you gave Buddy Cockrell to us. So now we give Buddy back to you. Receive him into the arms of your everlasting mercy; Raise him up with all your people in glory. Receive us also, and raise us all up into new life to serve you in this world and in the world that is to come. Amen

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

L.L. (Buddy) Cockrell

L.L. "Buddy" Cockrell, 76, of WindsorMeade in Williamsburg, VA passed away unexpectedly at his home on October 11, 2026. Born in Hampton, VA on December 15, 1949, he was preceded in death by his father, Laverne Laughton Cockrell, Sr.; mother, Ella Mae Diehl Cockrell; and daughter, Kelly. He was also preceded in death by his brothers-in-law, Carl Thompson, Jr., and Gus Best.

Buddy attended Hampton Roads Academy, Hampton High School, and Christopher Newport University before joining the Air Force from June 1969 to March 1973. During his service, he was a Missile Electrical Equipment Specialist and Instructor.

Buddy was also the Co-Founder, President, Executive Director, and mentor of RPC Industries, Inc. and JACKCRETE. During his career, Buddy always prioritized the success of the entire polyurethanes industry in addition to his business. For the betterment of many, he served as the founding Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Polyurethane Foam Contractors Division of the Society of the Plastics Industry ('86-'87), presented at the Polyurethanes World Congress in Aachen, Germany ('87), testified before the United States Congress Committee in Washington, DC ('87), served as the SPI Elastomeric Coating Committee Chairman ('89-'91), held the Treasurer position on the Executive Committee of the Sprayed Polyurethane Foam Alliance for nearly a decade, and participated in research projects with NIOSH and OSHA leading to worker safety advancements.

He was a member of the Williamsburg United Methodist Church and the WindsorMeade Residents' Council.

Buddy loved spending time with friends and family at Lake Gaston, North Carolina, especially when he could be out on the water boating. He treasured time with Brenda, his beloved wife of 45 years, and walks and naps with Cody. He loved traveling with family, friends, and Gerry's travel group. With Brenda by his side, he explored all seven continents and collected rocks from all over the world. Buddy loved bourbon and the friends he toasted. He found great delight in being the WindsorMeade Santa Clause for the last two years. Buddy especially loved watching his nieces and nephews grow up.

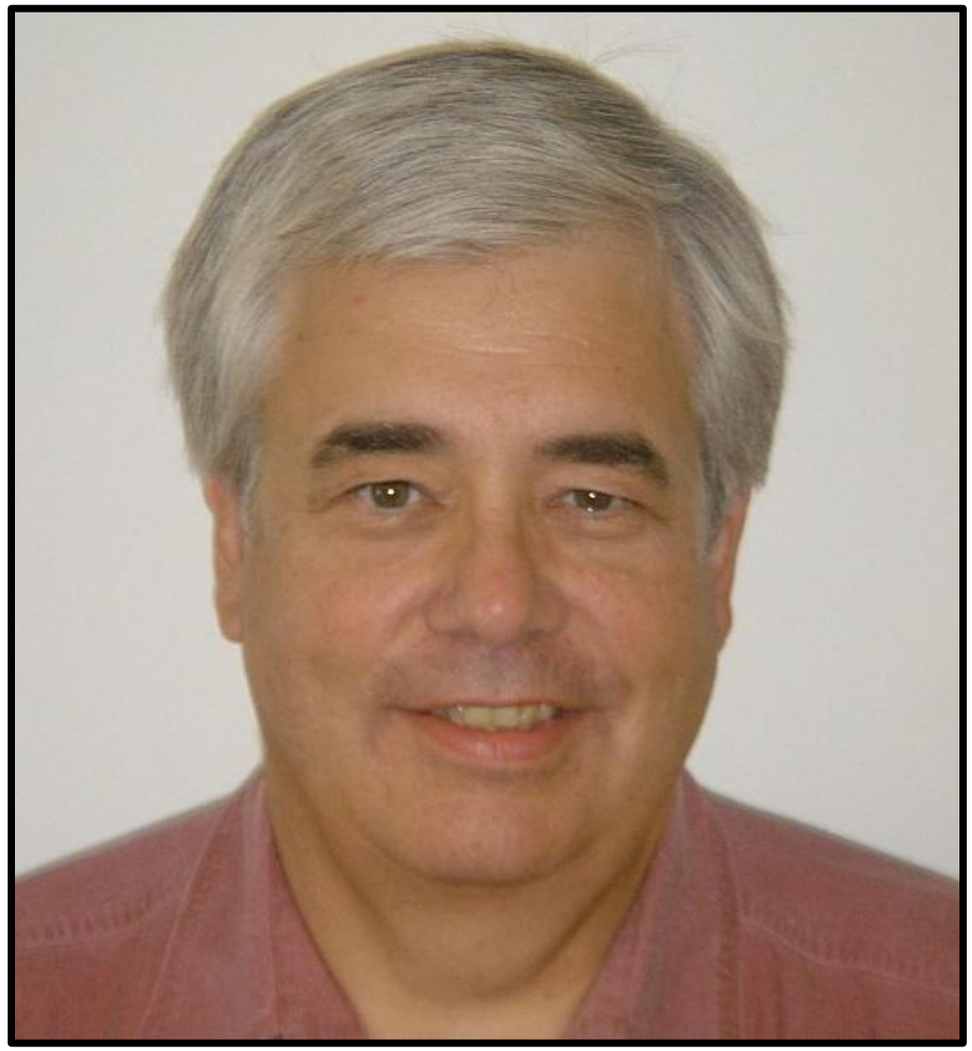
In addition to his cherished wife, Brenda Austin Cockrell, Buddy is survived by his sister, Margaret Thompson Best; several nieces and nephews, Tracy (Don) Patty, Carl (Jennifer) Thompson III, Leslie (Robert) LaBelle, Brian Patty, Caden and Lucy LaBelle, Tony (Doris) Sellers, Kim Orr, and Vicky McCuen; and sisters-in-law, Betty Sellers and Barbara Orr. He also adored his triplet godchildren, Gary, Ashley, and Kimberly.

Over the years, Buddy and Brenda have cultivated many treasured friendships including Bryan, Maria, Liam, Brayden, and Violet Heldreth; the Kingsmill neighborhood friends known as the "Usual Suspects" (Buddy & Brenda, Ron & Ann, Gus & Marge, Al & Rose, Bob & Susanne); and the WindsorMeade family and team members. Buddy will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and professional colleagues.

A memorial service will be held at Williamsburg United Methodist Church, 500 Jamestown Rd, Williamsburg, VA at 11:00 AM on Saturday, November 7, 2026 with a reception to follow.

A celebration of life will be held at WindsorMeade in early 2027 with details announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice. He found great joy in helping others, and a gift to a cause close to your heart would be a fitting tribute to his generous spirit.



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