



Francis Malcome Werts

April 25, 1938 - October 12, 2025

Saluda, SC

Francis Werts

Francis Malcome Werts, 87, of Saluda, South Carolina, passed away peacefully in his home on October 12th. Born on April 25, 1938, Francis lived a life marked by dedication, craftsmanship, and quiet strength.

Known throughout Saluda as the go-to mechanic for Chevrolet cars and trucks, Francis built a reputation over decades for his skill, honesty, and unwavering work ethic. He began his career with Matthews Chevrolet, Pete Keisler Chevrolet, and Weathers Chevrolet in Saluda, as well as Pendarvis Chevrolet in Edgefield. In the early 1980's he transitioned to Columbia Nitrogen in Augusta, Georgia, where he worked until his retirement. Even after retiring, Francis continued to lend a hand, working part-time with his friends William, Slick, and John Gibson at Gibson Trucking.

Francis proudly served his country as a member of the 1st Armored Division stationed at Fort Knox. A lifelong racing enthusiast, he was also a former dirt track car owner in the 1960's, a passion that reflected his love for engines, speed, and community.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe A. Werts and Edna Mitchell Werts; his brother, Giles H. Werts; and his beloved wife of 65 years, Gayle Pardue Werts.

Francis is survived by his children: Kathy Bradley and husband Mark of Kingwood, TX; Joe Werts and wife Lori of Ninety-Six, SC; and Beth Richey and husband Daniel of McCormick, SC; a sister: Sara Joe Werts of Batesburg, SC. He leaves behind cherished grandchildren: Haleigh (Wil) Freeman of Memphis, TN; Michala Bradley of Charleston, SC; Douglas Bradley of Austin, TX; Nolan Richey of McCormick, SC and Drayton Richey of McCormick, SC. He is also survived by his loyal canine companion, Sissy.

He was a lifelong member of Mt Pleasant Lutheran Church in Saluda, SC and a Masonic member of Travis Lodge No.241.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at Mt Pleasant Lutheran Church, 101 N Calhoun Street, Saluda, SC 29138 conducted by the Rev. James Glander. The family will receive friends prior to the service from 10 am to 11 am.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest memorials be made to Mt Pleasant Lutheran Church, 101 N Calhoun Street, Saluda, SC 29138 or to the Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont, 408 West Alexander Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29646.

The family wishes to express deep gratitude to nurses, Lauren Coates and Cheryl Peterson, for their exceptional care and compassion.

Francis's legacy lives on in the lives he touched-with a wrench in hand, a story to tell, and a heart full of quiet kindness.

Please share your memories and condolences online at www.rameyfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church
101 N Calhoun St
Saluda, SC 29138

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Celebration of Life

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church
101 N. Calhoun Street
Saluda, SC

Tribute Wall

ME

“ *Mariellen & Elisabeth purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Francis Malcome Werts.*



Mariellen & Elisabeth - October 17, 2025 at 02:34 PM

BF

“ *Becky, Joey and family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Francis Malcome Werts.*



Becky, Joey and family - October 15, 2025 at 12:05 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Francis Malcome Werts.*



October 14, 2025 at 06:37 PM

LK

“ *Love, Ron and Jan Knecht planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Francis Malcome Werts.*

Love, Ron and Jan Knecht - October 14, 2025 at 06:37 PM

WG

“ *William & Naomi Goodman lit a candle in memory of Francis Werts*



William & Naomi Goodman - October 14, 2025 at 02:38 PM

BM

“ *My daddy worked with Francis at Matthews Chevrolet, Daddy thought a lot of Francis*

Bonnie Morelock - October 14, 2025 at 10:16 AM

BM

“ *Bonnie Morelock lit a candle in memory of Francis Werts*



Bonnie Morelock - October 14, 2025 at 10:11 AM

TP

“ *The Sharon Plant planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Francis Malcome Werts.*

The Sharon Plant - October 14, 2025 at 09:46 AM

TP

“ *The Sharon Plant purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family of Francis Malcome Werts.*



The Sharon Plant - October 14, 2025 at 09:46 AM

GC

“ *Francis was a unique and kind man. He was very skilled in his trade and always listened to your problems. He was my good friend and will be missed. Gene Cason*

Gene Cason - October 14, 2025 at 09:45 AM

RS

“ *Richard Bradley Starling lit a candle in memory of Francis Werts*



Richard Bradley Starling - October 13, 2025 at 05:39 PM

RS

“ *He was great person he was a devoted family man and worked hard for his church bless you all*

Richard Bradley Starling - October 13, 2025 at 05:39 PM

DK

RIP my friend good man

dennis Kelly - October 15, 2025 at 09:52 AM