

Walter Douglas Swift

Date April 21, 2009
Section(s) Obituary
Byline

Walter Douglas **Swift**, 92, of St. Simons Island died Saturday, April 18, 2009, at the Brunswick hospital of the Southeast Georgia Health System.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. today, April 21, 2009, at St. Simons Island United Methodist Church with the Rev. Benjy Varnell officiating.

Honorary pallbearers will be the Rotary Club of St. Simons Island.

Born February 24, 1917, in Manhattan, N.Y., to the late Frank Meador and Alberta Rankin **Swift**, he attended Georgia Tech and received an LLB Degree from John Marshall Law School in Atlanta. Mr. **Swift** was a founding and charter member of the Southern Loss Association and was employed by the General Adjustment Bureau, the Hartford Fire Insurance Co., the National Board of Fire Underwriters and retired as vice president and manager of claims administration and property claim services of the American Insurance Association, New York, N.Y.

He was a natural hazard and catastrophe specialist, serving on committees of the National Academy of Sciences National Research Council and the American Society of Civil Engineers. He served on the Arson Task Forces of the States of New York and New Jersey and on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. He participated in and chaired workshops at the Institute of Behavioral Sciences, University of Colorado.

Mr. **Swift** was the author of "Multiple Line Adjusting," a textbook on insurance adjusting, published by Rough Notes Co. in 1975 and reprinted several times.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the European Theater of Operations and the Army Reserves. He was the recipient of three Battle Stars including Battle of the Bulge and was separated from service as a Major.

Mr. **Swift** was a member of the Rotary Club of St. Simons Island and a Paul Harris Fellow. He had served as a Trustee of Embury Methodist Church, Little Silver, N.J., and was a member of St. Simons United Methodist Church. He was a member of the Military Officers Association of America.

Survivors include his wife, Emily Sanford **Swift** of St. Simons Island; a daughter, Tracey Anne **Swift** Cochran and husband Arthur W. Cochran III of Auburn, N.H.; a stepdaughter, Renee Emily Wiman of Norfolk, Va.; two grandsons, Arthur W. Cochran IV and Patrick Cochran; four nieces, Eunice **Swift** Smith, Susan **Swift** Haverstick, Jean **Swift** Scarborough and Rachael **Swift**; two nephews, Leslie Waters and wife Nancy, Thomas L. **Swift** and wife Kathy, and their daughters, Katie and Maggie.

In addition to his parents, Mr. **Swift** was preceded in death by two brothers, Frank

Meador **Swift** of St. Simons Island and Lamar **Swift** of Atlanta.

Memorials may be made to St. Simons United Methodist Church or the Rotary Club of St. Simons Island Foundation.

Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.