



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION NOMINEE APPLICATION

NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name Rachel Tanner Bronnum
First Middle Last

Name of Organization (if applicable) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

MEDALLION HONOREE CANDIDATE INFORMATION

(Name as you would like it to appear on Medallion, if selected)

Name Grover Herman Tanner
First Middle Last

Nickname _____

Date of Birth 1907 Date of Death (if applicable) 1983

Address in Lawrenceville 650 West Crogan Street
Lawrenceville 30046

Please submit a brief summary (not to exceed 375 words) describing the proposed candidate's qualifications for nomination. This description is required for consideration and will not be reviewed should the word limit be exceeded. You are also invited to submit a photo and the nominee's biography with your nomination.

HERITAGE TRAIL MEDALLION NOMINATION SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Nominee: Grover Herman Tanner

When Lawrenceville was a small town and dependent on its citizens to build the community, Herman Tanner was a vital force. A Lawrenceville native born in 1907, he was the father of seven children and worked toward a strong school, church, and community for his family.

In 1944, the Lawrenceville School burned and had temporary quarters. After World War Two ended, the City Council voted to build a new school. Herman, who was a city councilman and Chairman of the Lawrenceville Board of Education, served as unpaid construction manager, devoting time, resources, and energy to the project. The result was a solid brick two story building deemed one hundred per cent fire proof.

With his family, he owned W. T. Tanner Hardware Co. located on the Lawrenceville square. In 1953, he founded a feed and poultry business which he operated for twenty years. He was an officer in the Kiwanis Club, a volunteer and supporter of Hi-Hope Service Center, and a past Worshipful Master of the Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge.

Herman was a pillar of the Lawrenceville First United Methodist Church. During the years, he chaired the Administrative Board, the Pastor-Parish Committee, the Campground Committee, Building Committee, and served as church Lay Leader and Church Treasurer. A short time before he died, he broke the ground for the present sanctuary on Crogan Street in a special ceremony.

Always interested and knowledgeable about county and family history, Herman was involved in the first Elisha Winn House Restoration. He participated in writing and editing the Gwinnett County Family History Book published in 1981. As with his other projects, Herman was a hands-on worker at the Winn House.

A raconteur of the first rank, Herman was known for stories of early Lawrenceville. He recounted incidents laced with earthy humor and memorable characters. His children are his legacy and contributed to the community in fields of law, medicine, and education, and the arts.

Biography

Grover Herman Tanner

Grover Herman Tanner was born on [REDACTED], 1907 in Lawrenceville to W.T. Tanner and Emma Maynard Tanner. He was the sixth of ten children in his family. Herman graduated from Lawrenceville High School and attended Emory University in Atlanta and the business school at the University of Georgia. He worked in his family's hardware business, owned a cotton gin, and supervised farming operations in Dacula and Lawrenceville. In 1953, he opened a Purina Feed dealership and operated a poultry business, including a hatchery and feed mill. He retired in the late seventies and enjoyed farming and raising cattle.

In 1938, Herman married Margaret Sumner, who lived in Sylvester, Georgia. He and Margaret were parents to seven children: Rachel Tanner Bronnum, Bill Tanner, Peggy Tanner Weiss, Emily Tanner, Nancy Tanner Sloss, Marian Tanner, and Susan Tanner. Herman and Margaret were enthusiastic volunteers in the church and community, working tirelessly to make their community a better place.

Herman's hobbies included wood-working, genealogy, quail hunting, reading, building, and anything that allowed him to be outdoors.

In 1980, Herman was diagnosed with cancer and died on [REDACTED] 1983 after courageously fighting the disease.

