



Dr. Howard L. Runyon

August 25, 1938 - January 2, 2026

Dr. Howard L. Runyon, 87, went to meet his Lord and Savior on January 2, 2026. He was born in Sweetwater on August 25, 1938, to Ethel and James Runyon. Dr. Runyon served in the United States Air Force from 1956-1960. He became a psychologist who worked many years in the Athens City School system and maintained a part-time private practice. Dr. Runyon loved the UT Volunteers football program, enjoyed working and spending time on his farm and playing with his dog, T-VO. Dr. Runyon was an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Athens.

In addition to his parents, Dr. Runyon is preceded in death by his daughter, Jill Baker.

Dr. Runyon is survived by the love of his life, Christine "Chris" Runyon to whom he was married for 69 years. His children Howard Runyon Jr. and Christi Kelly. He also leaves behind seven grandchildren, Morgan, Christopher, Austin, Will, Jared, Marina, Micah and two great-grandchildren, Levi and Noah.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2026, at 10:00 am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Athens with a receiving of friends to follow.

Kyker Funeral Home in Sweetwater is honored to care for the Runyon Family.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 10. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
123 Jackson Street
Athens, TN 37303

Tribute Wall

VH

“ *Vera Hyatt lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard L. Runyon*



Vera Hyatt - January 12 at 08:29 AM

VH

Dr. Runyon was wonderful while working with him in ACS.

Vera Hyatt - January 12 at 08:32 AM

JS

Dr. Howard was my cousin. When there was a special family gathering we could always count on Howard and Chis being there. He will be missed.

James Sluder - January 13 at 06:51 PM

SH

“ *Shelbytuck lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard L. Runyon*



Shelbytuck - January 09 at 07:00 PM