



Franklin Talmadge "Tal" Buchanan Jr.

August 5, 1956 - September 9, 2024

Franklin Talmadge "Tal" Buchanan, Jr., 68, of Bonita Springs, FL (and formerly of Bristol, TN), passed away in the presence of his loving family on September 9, 2024, after an unexpected illness. Tal was born on August 5, 1956, in Bristol, VA, to the late Dr. Franklin T. Buchanan, Sr. and Marjorie Haas Buchanan. He had been a resident of Bonita Springs since 1979.

Tal graduated from the University of Virginia in 1978 with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and then relocated to Florida. Upon moving to Bonita Springs, Tal began his life work as a PGA-certified golf professional and instructor. His successful career spanned more than 40 years and began at Spanish Wells Country Club, where he became the long-time, well-loved Director of Golf. Tal would go on as a golf pro and instructor at numerous Southwest Florida championship golf courses, including Heritage Bay, Palm River, Cypress Woods, Arrowhead, and Palmetto-Pine. Tal had a great passion for teaching youth golf and earned love and respect from the kids he taught, many going on to play and compete professionally themselves. Throughout his life, Tal organized, headed, and participated in innumerable golf events and programs catered to children, including the Southwest Florida Junior Golf Association, youth golf programs, summer camps, and lessons.

Tal was a golf professional by trade, but he was a great lover of sports by nature. He knew almost everything there was to know about professional and

college sports from the past century and was a lifelong, diehard Atlanta Braves fan. Tal loved to fish, often spending hours or sometimes days on the water, and enjoyed being a charter captain in his younger days. An incredibly brave man, Tal sought out enjoyment in unexpected places. Not long ago, he rode his Honda VTX1800 motorcycle daily, rain or shine; he jumped out of an airplane to skydive more times than he would admit to most of his family members; and he attended an impressive number of live rock concerts with the stories to tell of them.

His bravery was only surpassed by his kindness to everyone he encountered. Tal was a good-hearted friend and neighbor, a caring mentor and teacher, an adoring father, and the most proud PawPaw(granddad) on the planet. Tal's humor, heart, wit, and warm presence will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by all whose lives he touched.

Tal is survived by his loving daughter, Dani Buchanan Birg (Roman) of Kent, WA and granddaughter, Aurora Jade Birg. He is also survived by his brother, George C. Buchanan (Nikki) of Greenville, SC and his five nephews; Dustin Todaro, Mitchell Buchanan, Blake Buchanan, Connor Buchanan, and Thomas Wilke, as well as 6 grandnieces and grandnephews.

A Memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, October 4, 2024, at Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, 28300 Tamiami Tr. S., Bonita Springs, FL 34134

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 4. 1:00 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home
28300 Tamiami Trail So.
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
(239) 992-4982
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

Tribute Wall

BD

“ I am totally speechless. We worked together on and off for 20 years. I truly loved this guy. May he rest in peace. Prayers to his family. Huge loss

Britton Dudley - May 13, 2025 at 09:17 PM

SE

“ Tal was the first Pro at Heritage Bay and I learned a lot from him. He was a great pro but a nicer human being. I will always remember him, as will many here at Heritage Bay. I only heard of his passing today. I posted his obituary on our Heritage Bay Happenings Facebook page. Had we known at the time, many of his HB family would have attended his memorial. Rest in Peace Tal. I can just picture him at the driving range, leaning on his club and happily sharing a story with everyone within earshot. One of a kind.



Sue Eaton - February 23, 2025 at 11:25 AM

ES

“ I went to school with Tal at the University of Virginia and, in fact, he was a fraternity brother of mine. On behalf of the brothers of the Beta House of Sigma Nu, Rest in Peace “Sully” and a toast to all the good times had at UVA.

Ed Shedlick - October 05, 2024 at 08:42 AM

JA

“ Fishing with Tal is a memory I'll cherish forever. We talked about life and how much he loved his family. He was a great neighbor, better friend, but will always be considered family. We love you Tal.

The Angius Family



Joe Angius - October 04, 2024 at 11:46 AM

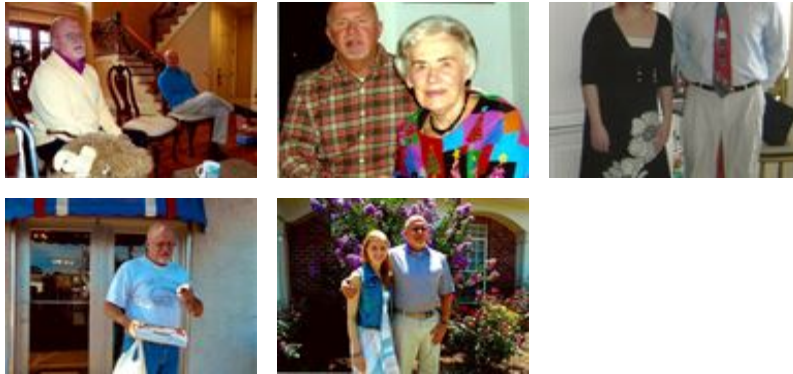
CS

“ Chella S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Franklin Talmadge "Tal" Buchanan Jr..

Chella S. - October 04, 2024 at 09:54 AM



“ 116 files added to the album LifeTributes



Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home - October 03, 2024 at 10:20 PM

DT

“ Tal was a fellow professional and friend for many years. He loved the lord and shared his faith. He was kind and loving and giving. Tal walked with integrity and was a true professional and man of God. I will miss our talks and inspiration to each other. RIP my friend and my heart hurts but I will see you one day. Love you. Dan Thron PGA professional.

Daniel Thron - September 21, 2024 at 06:26 AM

SB

“ A fellow Tennessean, who was a Hard worker, Kind, & treated those around him with respect. Also, he was so good to my sister & nephew. Rest well, friend❤️

sue Boesel - September 19, 2024 at 04:31 PM

PD

“ Rest in peace Tal. From our wonderful neighborhood, Meadowwood, we all loved you and George! To George - I know the loss of your brother will have a profound effect in your life! To Dani - when a daughter loses her father, her hero is gone but never forgotten! Love and prayers for each of you and your respective families! Yal will live on in the hearts of many Tennessee High School Alumni! 💕🙏

Patty Casteel Denton - September 19, 2024 at 03:18 PM



“ *I miss you, dad.
I will honor you with every breath I take.*



Dani Birg - September 19, 2024 at 02:30 PM