



## Edward L. Rhawn

February 27, 2026

Edward L. Rhawn, 84, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, went home to be with the Lord on February 27, 2026, surrounded by the warmth of family and friends who loved him dearly.

Edward was born in the quaint and wonderful town of Catawissa, Pennsylvania, where he grew up, graduated from Catawissa High School in 1959, and found lifelong friendship in his best friend Johnny Mensch. The two were inseparable — sharing laughter, adventures, and a bond that time could never diminish. Even after their beloved wives passed away, Edward and Johnny would spend long, golden afternoons reminiscing on the phone about the years gone by, their laughter filling every conversation. After Johnny's passing in 2022, Edward never stopped sharing those treasured memories, carrying them forward with his daughter Rachael and his grandsons Kemp and Jacob, who were blessed to hear every story.

At the age of 17, Edward enlisted in the United States Navy and served proudly aboard the USS Lloyd Thomas from 1959 to 1963. He often said those were the best years of his life — until he met Anita. As the family would tell you, it is a love story and a half. Edward and Anita built a life together that was nothing short of beautiful, spending almost 55 years in a marriage defined by devotion, laughter, and unwavering partnership. He embraced Anita's family as completely and wholeheartedly as his own — and they welcomed

him with open arms and unconditional love. That bond, which extended warmly to nephews and nieces alike, was a source of deep joy for him throughout his life. Together they raised two daughters, Rachael and Jennifer, always placing his family at the center of everything he did. Edward was, above all else, a full-time husband and father.

Professionally, Edward served as a court reporter at the Lancaster County Courthouse, retiring at the age of 57. He spoke fondly of his years in service to the court and the community he called home.

Those who knew Edward knew a man of remarkable character. He was a true gentleman and one of great moral character; his circle was small but shared great integrity. Loyalty was a quality he looked upon as a strong reflection of character. He possessed a sharp and curious intellect, a gift for humor that could light up any room, and a love of learning that never faded. He read hundreds of books over the course of his lifetime and was still pursuing new knowledge just one week before he passed. He was a man who never stopped growing.

The most defining of all was Edward's extraordinary faith. He studied the Scriptures for hours each day, and those who knew him well would say there was no one who walked more closely with the Lord. His prayer list — always being added to — reached 84 souls he lifted up daily by name. He shared the Gospel with every person who crossed his path, and continued doing so until he could no longer speak.

In his final month, Edward made remarkable new friendships with the volunteers, caregivers, and nurses who walked alongside him. It was evident to all who witnessed it: they loved him, and he loved them right back. That was Edward - turning each encounter into something meaningful and every relationship into something that would last.

The family extends their deepest gratitude to Hospice and to Central Penn Nursing Care for the exceptional care and unwavering commitment shown to Edward in his final days. A special and heartfelt thank you to Jonathan, Jahneisha, Toni, Julie, Isabella, Kathy, Michelle, Miriam, and all the others whose kindness, compassion, and dedication made Edward's final days brighter, more joyful, and more comfortable than words can express.

His legacy will live on in the lives he touched, the prayers he prayed, the stories he told, and the Gospel he shared without reservation or apology.

Edward was preceded in death by his parents, Irene and Guy Rhawn of Catawissa, Pennsylvania, and the great love of his life, his wife Anita Rhawn.

He is survived by his daughters, Rachael Rhawn Rosas (Steven) and Jennifer Blakeley; his grandsons, Kemp Spencer (Jaycie) and Jacob Spencer; and his beloved great-granddaughter, Orianna Spencer. Edward is also survived by Anita's cherished family in Puerto Rico, whom he loved as his own: Teresa Flores, Bernardo Flores (Anita), Julio Flores, Aida Flores, Rene Flores (Diana), Angela Flores, Norma Flores, and Miriam Flores (Rafael). He is further survived by many beloved nephews, nieces, and cousins on both sides of his family, each one held close to his heart.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."  
— 2 Timothy 4:7

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ *Ed was an excellent court reporter and a gentleman. My condolences to his family.*

*Mike Babic*

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**Michael Babic** - March 25 at 12:45 PM

JS

“ *I had sent a birthday card to Ed in January as I have done every year for 25 years. This year I did not get a humorous letter on return. I have waited and just today looked to Google for answers. I pray for Ed every morning for 35 years and now I am so moved to know he is no longer here. Ed and Anita were cherished friends of my husband Lloyd and myself. Lloyd passed on January 9 2024. Ed worshipped with us for many years at Seed of Abraham congregation and. He was the second Pastor there for many years... he was LOVED by all who were part of SOA!! Anita and Ed were our sister and brother in the Lord .... My whole family loved Ed and we all have the most wonderful memories of his sincere caring and his unbelievable sense of humor. I often talked with Ed on the phone and I know how much he loved and cherished Anita. The Lord was so pleased to join them!!!! My heart is heavy for his passing but I can just imagine Ed and Lloyd in Heaven!!!!!! Please accept my deep sympathy for losing such a man as Ed. Judith Scalyer Ronks Pa*

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**Judith Scalyer** - March 09 at 05:20 PM

JC

*Ed...a man of faith, wisdom, guidance and integrity.  
He inspired so many at the Seed of Abraham and taught and listened  
with peace and understanding.  
His love for the Lord and his lovely Anita was so evident.  
His children and grandchildren were spoken of often.  
Vaya con Dios my friend.  
Joanie and John Carroll.*

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**Joan Carroll** - March 11 at 12:23 PM

RS

*Fair Winds and Following Seas, Shipmate! Our greatest sympathies to  
his family and friends. Crew of the USS Lloyd Thomas Reunion*

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**Robert S Sheffer** - March 19 at 11:50 AM



*Judith, thank you for your lovely tribute to my father. I would love to  
connect with you. I will look to see if I can find the card you sent to my  
dad but if you would please send me a note with your contact  
information to my father's address, I can then connect with you.*

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**Rachael Rhawn Rosas** - March 24 at 08:00 PM