



Terrell Hudson Trexler, Jr.

May 17, 1941 - November 11, 2025

Terrell Hudson Trexler, Jr. — known to most as Terry — passed away peacefully at his home in Napa, California, with his wife, Bonnie, at his side. He was 84.

Born on May 17, 1941, in Morganton, North Carolina, Terry's life was marked by perseverance, humor, and an enduring curiosity about the world. His father, Terrell Hudson Trexler, Sr., was a First Lieutenant and pilot in the U.S. Army Air Forces who died in a tragic plane crash in the French Alps following World War II, when Terry was six years old. Terry was raised by his mother, Vera Wright, and in the care of his extended family — his aunt and uncle, Josie and Earl Parnell, and their family, as well as another aunt, Ruby Hall, and her family.

Terry graduated from Dreher High School in Columbia, South Carolina, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from East Carolina College in 1965, where he was a proud member of Sigma Nu fraternity. It wasn't long before he discovered his professional calling in finance in New York City. Terry began his career in municipal bonds at Northern Trust Company, in the Chase Tower. Over the course of his 45 year career on Wall Street, Terry also worked at Weeden & Company, Refco, E.A. Moos & Co., and KeyBank/McDonald & Company.

New York was also where he met the love of his life, Bonnie Ann McNell. The two were married on July 24, 1971, beginning more than five decades of marriage defined by partnership, laughter, travel, and deep friendship. Together, they raised two children — a daughter, Colby Kate (married to Chris Clark), and a son, Andrew Wright (married to Carolyn Dingle) — and built a life centered on family and fun. While living in New York City, Terry enjoyed spending summers at the Jersey Shore where he often commuted to Lower Manhattan by seaplane. At the shore, he enjoyed membership at the Monmouth Beach Bath and Tennis Club and Deal Golf Club, where he had his one-and-only hole-in-one, witnessed by Colby.

After many years in New York City, Terry and Bonnie moved to Summit, New Jersey, where they lived until retirement. While in Summit, Terry loved his time as a member of Canoe Brook Country Club.

In 2013, they relocated to Napa, California — what Terry quickly proclaimed as “God’s Country.” There, he enjoyed his home in the Silverado Highlands, surrounded by the things he loved most: golf, wine, sunshine, friends and neighbors, delicious meals, and family. He was a regular at Trivia Night Tuesdays, followed the stock market, cheered for the 49ers, Giants, and Warriors, and savored life’s simple pleasures, such as listening to the Beatles and dancing with Bonnie. In Napa, he served as an usher for many years at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, where his warmth and good nature made everyone feel welcome.

Terry began each day reading the newspaper — a lifelong habit that reflected his curiosity about the world. He was also a sharp dresser who loved preppy clothes and carried himself with an easy, classic style. He could tell you the price of blueberries across six grocery stores without missing a beat — a skill he took equal parts pride and amusement in.

His huge smile, enthusiastic greetings, love of conversation, knack for finding a deal, and gentle soul will be remembered by those who knew him.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Bonnie; his children, Colby and Andrew, and their spouses, Chris and Carolyn; and four cherished grandchildren — Fiona, Beatrice, Lily, and Hudson.

A celebration of life will be planned in the future. For now, the family invites friends to raise a glass of good wine and toast to a life well lived — full of love, laughter, and great stories.

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I well remember when Terry pledged Eta Beta, Sigma Nu at ECU, as I was his big brother! My last visit with Terry was at our reunion in Lexington, VA. At that time Terry and Bonnie were telling me about their plans to move out to California. Thanks for the memories and fun times we shared! Brother Jim Stout

James Stout - November 29, 2025 at 11:24 AM



“ Terry & Bonnie. inseparable, laughing, and loving. my best friends on both coasts. Terry was one of those people who seemed to be part of my peripheral vision, never fully out of sight or mind...and the phone would ring, and we'd be right where we left off. I suspect that will only change when we are reunited... Dick Lahey

Dick Lahey - November 19, 2025 at 10:44 PM

JS

Terry and I were Sigma Nu pledge brothers at ECU in 1963..... only 5 of us in the group. Both of us were Geography majors. Had a blast and actually graduated. Only saw him a few times over the years at fraternity get togethers at ECU. Sounds like he had a great life!!!!
Jim Stanton. Eatonton Ga

Jim Stanton - November 26, 2025 at 09:30 AM

TW

“ He and I were Sigma Nu members at East Carolina College (now ECU). We had some good times together and he helped me the day of Sigma Nu Saturday when I was TJ the DJ on WPXY radio, to raise money for the East Carolina Summer Theatre. I am so sorry to learn of his passing. Thoughts and prayers for the family.

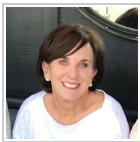


Thomas JERRY Williams - November 17, 2025 at 02:07 PM

MS

“ So sorry to hear of Terry’s passing. Great memories of fun times with Bonnie and Terry over the years when they lived in NJ. Sending Bonniea hug and an open invite to come visit us. 💜🤔

Melissa Sullivan - November 17, 2025 at 07:03 AM



“ Terry and Bonnie embraced all that Napa had to offer, they have been a welcome addition to the Silverado community. They have become cherished friends and we will continue on with Bonnie and keep Terry iin our hearts. I will miss his giant smile and warmth. He is somewhere with a glass of wine enjoying the afterlife! Peggy and Norm

Peggy Andrews - November 16, 2025 at 01:37 PM