

Raffensperger testifies at grand jury probe of Trump's bid to overturn 2020 election

BY DAVE WILLIAMS
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger testified Thursday before a Fulton County special grand jury investigating former President Donald Trump's attempts to overturn the 2020 election in Georgia.

Trump spent an hour in a recorded phone conversation on Jan. 2 of last year pressuring fellow Republican Raffensperger to "find" enough votes to overturn the Georgia results. Democrat Joe Biden had carried Georgia the previous November by 11,779 votes.

Raffensperger refused to go along with Trump in the exchange, which the secretary described in a subsequent book "Integrity Counts."

Fulton District Attorney Fanni Willis' office has been investigating the phone call and other aspects of the then-president's efforts to reverse Biden's victory in Georgia for months. However, the special grand jury was impaneled just last month to subpoena witnesses and begin hearing evidence.

Along with Raffensperger, the grand jury also has subpoenaed two of his top deputies, General Counsel Ryan Germany and Elections Systems Implementation Manager Gabriel Sterling, to testify next week along with three former secretary of state's office staff members.

The panel also has subpoenaed a series of documents including audits, hand counts or other evidence that Biden won the presiden-

tial election in Georgia; a forensic audit of the Dominion Voting Systems machines the state used during the 2020 election; and transcripts from a state Senate hearing held on Dec. 3, 2020, on claims of election fraud featuring former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Trump's personal lawyer.

Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr also has reportedly been called to testify later this month.

Raffensperger's refusal to cooperate with Trump landed the secretary on Trump's enemies list.

Trump recruited U.S. Rep. Jody Hice, R-Greensboro, to challenge Raffensperger in last week's Republican primary. Raffensperger turned the tables on the former president by winning the primary by a large enough margin to avoid a runoff.

Trump also tried to get back at Carr by endorsing John Gordon, a political unknown, to take on the attorney general on the same GOP primary ballot. Carr won that race by an even larger margin than Raffensperger's victory.

After hearing from the witnesses and gathering other evidence, the special grand jury will decide whether Trump or others should face prosecution. If so, it would be up to a regular Fulton County grand jury whether to indict the former president.

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OBITUARIES



Harold Vincent Barry

Harold Vincent Barry ("Hal"), 82, passed away on May 31, 2022 at Piedmont Hospital in Newnan, Georgia. Hal, the self-proclaimed "small-town Iowa farm boy," was born on April 23, 1940, to Ray and Ann Barry in Fairbank, Iowa. Hal was the second eldest of six children and attended Iowa State University where he subsequently met his beautiful wife of 59 years, Linda Kunkle Barry. Hal and Linda moved to Atlanta in 1969, after a brief stint in Jackson, Mississippi, to pursue his career in real estate finance and development.

Hal was well known for his passion and love of real estate. He was the president and co-founder of several real estate brokerage/development companies in Atlanta, most notably, Portman Barry Investments and Barry Real Estate Companies. He quickly became known

as one of the visionaries of real estate development and had a massive impact on the landscape all over the southeast. Hal's early successes included the financing of Perimeter Center, Cumberland Office Park, the John Portman's Peachtree Plaza Hotel and Merchandise Mart, the Georgia Pacific Building, Interstate North Office Park, and many Ritz Carlton hotels. Hal's development projects included over 4.5 million square feet of projects, including Northpark Town Center, Riverwood, and Allen Plaza in downtown Atlanta, and over 30 office buildings around the Southeast. The local real estate community is filled with former Barry employees who have become shining stars on their own merit, and everyone will attribute at least a part of their success to the mentoring and leadership of Hal Barry.

Hal and Linda followed their love of the country and moved permanently to their horse farm in Newnan, in 1994, where they developed their passion for horses and fox hunting. Hal founded the Bear Creek Hounds hunt club in 2001 and rode as Master of Foxhounds for many years. It gave him a tremendous joy to mentor the new riders as they became more accomplished and earned their colors. Hal and Linda conducted foxhunts twice a week, and his hunt membership and his horse community

gravitated to his zest for life and his passion for the sport. Hal lived life to the fullest, always wanting everyone to have fun, and pursue their dreams to the fullest extent. Hal's love of horses and animals extended beyond his farm as he chaired the Atlanta Steeplechase for many years and continually pushed to make it bigger and better for all who attended.

Hal was addicted to the "thrill of the chase," whether it was pursuing a new business venture, or chasing down his prey via horseback. "Tally-Ho!", he would scream when he found a new business lead or his hounds locked on to a scent. He was driven by the Theodore Roosevelt quote: "It's not the critic that counts," and had it framed in his office for everyone to see. Being the ultimate optimist, he was never going to be held back or told that he couldn't do anything. He was a respected and determined business leader, the consummate husband, father, grandfather and compassionate friend.

Hal and Linda have been a part of the Catholic Church in the local communities in both Atlanta and Newnan. Hal furthered his commitment to the church by serving on the board of the real estate committee for the Archdiocese.

You will be dearly missed but never forgotten, Big Hal Barry.

Hal is survived by his

beautiful wife, Linda, and their three children: Jean Barry Underwood (Will), David Lee Barry and James Vincent Barry of Atlanta. "Papa" is also survived by seven grandchildren: Katy Underwood Phillips (Wade), Emmett Underwood IV, David James Underwood, Connor James Barry, Adrianna Lee Barry, Brandt Walker Barry and Harold Vincent Barry II. Hal is also survived by two sisters, Eleanor Buzynski (John), Ramona Brumley (John); his sister-in-law, Diane Gerringer Barry (Phillip); and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Raymond and Ann Barry; his sister, Patricia Smith; and his two brothers, Phillip Barry and Roger Barry.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 11 a.m. at Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, 3 Village Road, Newnan Georgia 30265. Following the service there will be a reception for close friends and family at Bear Creek Farm, 1539 Bear Creek Road, Moreland, GA 30259.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Bear Creek Hounds, 855 Bear Creek Road, Moreland, GA 30259 or Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church. www.smmcatholic.org.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.mckoon.com.

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Jacqueline Couch Roberts

Jacqueline Couch Roberts, age 90, passed

away peacefully on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at Piedmont Newnan Hospital, surrounded by her family.

Jackie, as she was known by friends and family, was born on Feb. 26, 1932, in McCollum, Georgia, to the late Willie Claude Couch and Nettie Hanna Couch.

Along with her parents, Jackie is preceded in death by her husband, Donald "Don" Lester Roberts, and sisters, Claudia Couch and Juanita Griffing.

She is survived by her children, Zandra

Thompson (Richard) of Newnan; Tony Roberts (Becky) of Elberton, Georgia; Teri Himes (Rob) of Newnan; and Bonita "Boo" Peake (Evans) of Brandon, Florida. She is also survived by 22 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service celebrating Jackie's life is Monday, June 6, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson St. in Newnan, with Dr. Tim Riordan and the Rev. Tim Mulkey officiating.

Burial will follow the

service at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Newnan. The family will receive friends on Monday from 10 a.m. until service time at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in Jackie's name to SonRise Baptist Church Building Fund, 6 Shenandoah Blvd., Newnan, GA 30265.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory | 770-253-4580



William Larry Singleton

1944-2022

Atlanta real estate developer Larry Singleton passed away peacefully surrounded by his "girls"—Janet, Susan, and Julie—in St. Simons Island, Georgia on Tuesday, May 31, 2022. Following multiple strokes, he battled dementia for several years. In the past few months, his body began to give out and he developed pulmonary fibrosis. Even though his health rapidly declined, every day he had family and friends by his side.

Larry had a knack for picking out properties and achieved early success with Adams Singleton, later Singleton Properties, developing residential areas in suburban Atlanta

— primarily subdivisions in Cobb and Gwinnett counties. In 1990, he retired and moved to Sea Island, Georgia. When playing golf did not keep him engaged enough, he bought the Sea Palms Resort, 800 acres on the St. Simons marsh. He owned and grew the property for 20 years and treasured warm relationships with his staff and employees.

William Larry Singleton was born in Milledgeville, Georgia, on July 22, 1944, the younger son of William "Bill" Otto Singleton and Ruth Singleton. The family moved to Newnan where Larry grew up — he treasured his Newnan roots — and was known as "The Big L," the top tackler on the Newnan High School football team. He attended Ole Miss where he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and earned another nickname, "Cracker."

Through one of his bankers, Larry was introduced to his beloved wife, Janet Ross of Atlanta. "You'll probably marry her," the banker said, and 10 months later, in 1976, so he did. They lived the early years in Atlanta before they moved to Sea

Island where he earned yet another nickname, "The Commodore," because he always managed to have a boat.

Larry was a well-rounded sportsman who loved hunting and fishing. He had special places on the Wye River in Easton, Maryland; in the Mississippi Delta; and in Sun Valley, Idaho. He was happiest when sharing them with family and friends. He loved to travel with Janet and enjoyed adventures with friends, making memories.

He and Janet were members of Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta and the St. Simons Presbyterian Church. They also attended the Community Church and Wesley United Methodist Church in St. Simons.

Larry was most proud of his three "girls" and will be remembered primarily as a loving husband and father and friend to all. He was an open-hearted and generous man, accepting of all people. He was known for his characteristic rosy cheeks and the twinkle in his eye. Larger than life, Larry loved to make jokes, had a witty sense of humor and enjoyed a good laugh. You just

couldn't help but smile from the inside out in his presence. His spirit was contagious.

Larry is survived by his devoted wife of 47 years, Janet Ross Singleton and their two daughters and husbands: Susan Singleton Dunn (Patrick) and Julie Singleton Willis (Joel) all of St. Simons. Five grandchildren who will miss their "Papa" are: Patrick Brian Dunn Jr. (who has his grandfather's distinctive dimple), twins Lauren Singleton Dunn and Catherine Snyder Dunn; Mary Benton Willis and Caroline Clay Willis. He was predeceased by his older brother, Wayne Singleton and his beloved black lab, Scout.

A Memorial service will be held at 3 p.m., Sunday, June 5, 2022 at Wesley United Methodist Church at Frederica, 6520 Frederica Road, St. Simons Island, Georgia. His ashes will be scattered by the family at a later date. In lieu of flowers, Larry would appreciate being honored with a donation to a charity close to your heart.

Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements. www.edomillerandsons.com

Business Briefs

United Community Bank launches consumer-friendly United essential banking account

United Community Bank now offers United Essential Banking, a low-cost checking account with consumer-friendly features including no overdraft fees, low minimum deposit to open and no minimum balance requirement.

The account is certified as meeting the Bank On National Account Standards from the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund. The goal of Bank On is to ensure that everyone has access to safe and affordable financial products and services.

United Community Bank has a location in Coweta on Bullsboro Drive.

Upgrade Labs expanding to Metro Atlanta areas

Upgrade Labs — a Human Upgrade™ Cen-

ter is expanding and will be offering franchise licenses in counties including Clarke, Cobb, Coweta, Dekalb, Fayette, Fulton and Gwinnett.

Upgrade Labs was founded in 2017 by Dave Asprey with a mission to help people reach their highest levels of performance. Asprey coined the term biohacking, which is the art and science of using technology with the environment in order to take control of human biology. The brand helps members reach their highest level of physical performance and restorative abilities through unique technologies, giving dramatically better results in less time than they would spend exercising the old way.

Each Upgrade location offers many innovative performance services such as The Cheat Machine, a patented, motorized resistance and computer software adaptive technology that gives you a week's worth of resistance training in just 15 minutes. Addition-

ally, Upgrade Labs pairs its performance services with a unique range of recovery services including The Big Squeeze, an FDA-approved full body detox massage and lymphatic drainage technology that gently removes excess water, slims the body, and expels toxins to improve the immune

system.

New restaurant, DJ's Place opens today

DJ's Place will officially open today at 2 p.m. The new restaurant is located at 114 Temple Ave., Suite C, Newnan. The menu will consist of

wings, burgers and fish.

Items for consideration as business briefs should be emailed to business@newnan.com, faxed to 770-253-2538 or mailed to Business Briefs, The Newnan Times-Herald, P.O. Box 1052, Newnan, GA 30264. Email submissions are preferred.

"There hath no temptation taken you but such is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

1 Corinthians 10:13

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