

JOE WESLIE VAWTERS MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST



Joe Weslie Vawters was born March 21, 1939, to Joe and Rosa Lee Vawters in Huntsville, Texas. He received his education from Lutheran High School in Houston, Texas. After high school, he served in the United States Coast Guard from 1955 to 1984 and retired as a Master Chief.

Companion Vawters married the former Margaret G. Eaves on May 27, 1961 and they have one daughter,

Jeraldine W. Smith. He and his wife attend the Lutheran Church in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

He was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Moses Cook Lodge No. 111 in Picayune, Mississippi, on June 10, 2004 and is currently a member of Moses Cook Lodge No. 111 and is a dual member of Sherrard Byrd Lodge No. 353 Poplarville. He served as Worshipful Master of Moses Cook in 2008, 2011 and 2013. He served as Worshipful Master of Sherrard Byrd Lodge No. 353 in 2010. He was Exalted in Wilmon Stuart Chapter No. 146, Greeted in Luther Walker Council No. 57 and Knighted in Hattiesburg Commandery No. 21 on November 6, 2004. He has served as presiding officer of all three bodies. He received the Consistory Degrees in the Valley of Hattiesburg in 2004. He served as Venerable Master in

2010, Preceptor in 2011 and Commander of Kadosh in 2012 and is a KCCH in the Hattiesburg Scottish Rite Bodies. He received the ceremonies of the A. A. O. N. M. S. in 2004 at Joppa Shrine in Biloxi.

Other Masonic affiliations and honors are: General Grand Council Cryptic Mason of the Year Award in 2006, General Grand Chapter Distinguished Service Award in 2007, Knights Templar Cross of Honor 2010, Super Excellent Master's Degree, Grand Council of Anointed High Priests of MS, Thrice Illustrious Masters of MS, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, MS York Rite College No. 83, MS Priory No. 36, DeMolay Legion of Honor, Royal Order of Scotland, President, National Sojourners South Mississippi, Commander Hero's of 76, and Red Cross of Constantine.

He currently serves as Grand Representative to Mississippi from British Columbia in the Grand Lodge, Grand Representative to Mississippi from New Zealand in the Grand Chapter, Grand Representative to Mississippi from Maine in the Grand Council and Grand Representative to Mississippi from Michigan in the Grand Commandery.

Sir Knight Vawters served the Grand Chapter of Mississippi RAM as Grand Master of the First Veil in 2007, Grand Sentinel in 2010, 2012 and 2014. He served the Grand Commandery KT of Mississippi as Grand Warder in 2010 and 2011. He was elected as Grand Captain General in 2012, Grand Generalissimo in 2013, Deputy Grand Commander in 2014 and as Eminent Grand Commander in 2015.

At the 202nd Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Mississippi, F. & A. M. in 2020 he was elected to the distinction of Honorary Past Grand Master.

IMPORTANT DATES WILL BE UPDATED ONCE RESTRICTIONS ON MEETINGS ARE REMOVED