



Billy E. Rutherford

November 12, 1931 - December 3, 2021

On 3 December 2021 Billy Eugene Rutherford of Springfield, Va., age 90, died peacefully at Fairfax Hospital of age-related causes.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 68 years, Joyce Rutherford and five adult children: Mark (Denise) Rutherford of San Clemente, Ca., William 'Ron' Rutherford of Fairfax, Va., Carol Carlisle (Rob Lassiter) of Springfield, Va., Eric (Rochelle 'Sissy') Rutherford of Lynch, Ky., and Kirk (Marta) Rutherford of Springfield, Va. He also has nine loving grandchildren and nine great grandchildren, as well as nieces and nephews.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents Emma and William Rutherford, and sister Shirley Hoffman and brother H.C. 'Bud' (Mary) Rutherford, all hailing from Fayetteville, N.C.

Billy was a decorated veteran who served the United States honorably for 29 years, including combat tours in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He joined the Air Force at age 17. After two years in the Air Force, he transferred to the Army to attend Officer Candidate School and Jump School at Fort Benning, GA. From there he served in the Korean War as an infantry platoon leader and soon after commanded a company as a second lieutenant. He completed flight school in 1956 and was ultimately rated as a pilot in single and multi-engine helicopters and airplanes, and as an Instrument Flight

Examiner. Billy commanded platoons, companies, battalions, and brigades. He retired at the rank of Colonel from the U. S. Army in 1979. He enjoyed his career and time after leaving the Army. He often credited Joyce with doing a great job and contributing to any success he had by managing their home and five children even as he served two tours in Vietnam.

While in the Army Billy also earned his M.A. in Adult Education, which he applied to a second career in Training and Development. He worked as a corporate executive in the private sector aiding in the development of numerous, significant training systems and programs; and, until his passing, as the founder and President of American Integrated Training Systems, Inc. where he led and mentored several instructors working with private, local, and national emergency service and military agencies worldwide training others to deliver the Emergency Vehicle Operators Course he helped develop. Billy had a passion for teaching and encouraging safety and readiness.

He loved riding motorcycles, flying airplanes, and playing golf for as long as he was able. He will be remembered for sharing his time and possessions, vacations, and his advice with others until the end.

Billy's children would like to acknowledge and extend their sincere appreciation for the special care and attention he and Joyce have both received from their compassionate friends and neighbors.

Jefferson Funeral Chapel in Alexandria will host a memorial service at 10 a.m. on Friday, December 10, 2021. There will be an interment service for both Billy and Joyce together at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC **10**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Jefferson Funeral Chapel
5755 Castlewellan Drive
Alexandria, VA 22315
(703) 971-7400
info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com
<https://www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Jefferson Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Billy E. Rutherford*



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - December 07, 2021 at 02:54 PM

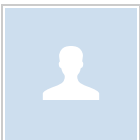
AC

“ *I just learned about the passing of Billy. He is a icon in Emergency Vehicle Operations education and training. Billy and I go back many years, he was a mentor to me. I will miss his smile - his guidance and all the contributions he made to make hearing a siren a lot safer situation.*

Heaven gained an Angel, rest in peace my friend

Alex Castro - Florida

Alex Castro - March 13, 2023 at 01:58 PM



“ *Billy E. Rutherford*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



December 09, 2021 at 08:42 PM



“ *Mary LaRosa purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



Mary LaRosa - December 08, 2021 at 02:13 PM



“ *HRLT & HR Team purchased the Reflections of Glory Wreath for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



HRLT & HR Team - December 07, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



December 07, 2021 at 09:20 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



December 07, 2021 at 09:13 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



December 06, 2021 at 03:05 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Rutherford's passing. He was a very special friend to my parents and our entire family. We are all blessed to have known him. Sending love and prayers to Mrs. Rutherford and the entire family. 💜*



Mary LaRosa - December 06, 2021 at 02:51 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.*



December 06, 2021 at 09:58 AM

DT

“ Billy was a great patriot, father, husband, mentor and dear friend. I have many fond memories of time spent with him. I was amazed by his hospitality when he ordered Iron City beer, from my hometown, for a visit in Orlando. He already looking down upon us from inside the pearle gates. God bless and I hope I'll see you on the other side brother.

Don Traeger - December 05, 2021 at 10:33 PM



“ Billy was larger than life~ filling up a room with his zest for life. Our families share so many fond memories from our years as neighbors in Springfield. VA. My parents treasured their friendship with Billy. Sending prayers and love to each of you~

Barb Bechtel - December 05, 2021 at 09:14 PM

RO

“ Billy, was the most caring person. I could never thank him enough for all he did for me when I had cancer. A great guy!

Richard OBrien - December 05, 2021 at 06:09 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.



December 05, 2021 at 01:11 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Billy E. Rutherford.* ”



December 05, 2021 at 12:07 PM