



Joseph Lee Helms

February 19, 1935 - August 26, 2016

Joseph Lee Helms, Sr., 81, died peacefully at his home in Alexandria, Virginia on Friday, August 26, 2016, surrounded by his loving wife of 38 years, Debra, and their four children, Paul, Katherine, Mark, and Adrienne. He is also survived by his beloved sisters Eudora Andrews and Ann Taylor Lemoine, sons Joseph Helms Jr. and Christopher Helms and daughter Barbara Lewis Martin; grandchildren Christine, Virginia, Marisol, Paul Jr., Jonathan "Jack", and Thomas "Tommy"; great-grandson Gabriel; and many nieces and nephews.

Born in Scotland Neck, North Carolina on February 19, 1935, Joseph is preceded in death by parents Ira and Pearl Lavender Helms and siblings Ira Jr., Thomas, Virgil "Buck", and Florence. A 1953 graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth, Virginia, Joseph attended the University of Richmond before graduating with honors from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University in 1958 where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta. Joseph enjoyed a long career as a dedicated Professional Engineer in Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, and South Carolina. In the early years he worked for Babcock & Wilcox and Mobil Chemical Company and later as a consultant for the FBI, U. S. Department of State, U.S. Coast Guard, and Portsmouth Public Schools.

From an early age Joe continued to cultivate a deep, personal relationship

with Jesus Christ. Forever a family man, Joe spent his life serving others. He celebrated his children's accomplishments and the Hokies' victories and enjoyed gatherings with his "international family", politics, live music, woodwork, tinkering with cars, his three "granddogs", and traveling with his beautiful sweetheart.

Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Lee Helms*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Obituary Wall*



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - January 28, 2019 at 10:06 AM



“ *Katy and family: Deepest condolences on the passing of your father. I always remember you as a daddy's girl! I'm praying and thinking of you.*

September 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Aunt Debra, Katy, Paul, Adrienne and Marc, We are deeply saddened by Joe's passing. He was a wonderful uncle and beloved brother of my dad. Thinking of you and sending our love, Jenny (Helms) Abrams and family*

August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sandi and I Lift up Uncle Joe, thankful for his relationship with Jesus Christ, his ultimate healing, and presence with the Triune God for eternity ! We pray for God's mercy and compassion for all his family and loved ones.*

August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Debra and family,
Please accept our deepest sympathy on your great loss. We loved Joe's sense of humor and beautiful smiles. He will be missed.
Randy and Alma*

August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Eudora and I have fondest Memories of growing up together with Joe in our big family. Sad to hear of Joseph's passing into his Heavenly Home. We were all fortunate to have Christian Parents and Grandparents who provided us with a strong faith, educational purpose, work and endurance skills. God Bless all Joe's family. May God strengthen you, give you comfort, and help you remember the good times with him. Our dearest love, Sisters Ann and Eudora.*

August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM