



## Valerie A. Nabors

February 21, 1948 - December 19, 2015

Valerie A. Nabors was born on 21 February 1948 to Chief Warrant Officer 4 Columbus D. Jude and Mrs. Marie Jude in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Valerie and her family lived for many years in Long Branch, New Jersey and also on various US Army military installations around the world. She was the second of five children. Her siblings include: Mr. Columbus D. Jude, Jr, a military veteran who resides in Fayetteville, North Carolina; Mr Leon Jude, a military veteran who resides in Jessup, Maryland; Dr. Colleen Jude, who resides in Hollywood, Maryland; and, Mr. Glenn Jude, now deceased.

Valerie proudly embraced the affectionate title "military brat" for 19 years, until she met her husband and the love of her life, Robert, on 28 May 1968, while serving as the manager of the Army and Air Force Exchange Annex in Fort Monmouth. After spending a magical summer together courting on the beautiful "Jersey Shore" and prior to Robert's posting in Vietnam, they married in an intimate ceremony attended by only four guests, in Niagara Falls, New York on 6 October 1968. Valerie and Robert celebrated 47 years of marriage on 6 October 2015.

Valerie stood shoulder to shoulder with her husband Major General Nabors, through 35 years of Military service. She supported him tirelessly through more than a dozen postings within the United States and six overseas tours; six command tours of duty; several operational deployments; and more than a

score of relocations. In the critically important capacity of "First Lady", she gave a voice to often overlooked military family members, obtained resources on their behalf; provided counseling and guidance; and ensured that when a Soldier was deployed that his or her family was cared for and protected. Needless to say, she was spectacularly successful in her many endeavors, and provided a strong foundation for her successors to follow.

Valerie and Robert had three sons: Rob, Chief of Staff for the Department of Veterans Affairs; Richard, senior manager at the US Army Night Vision Laboratory, Research, Development and Engineering Command; and Jonathan, now deceased, a beloved elementary school. Her irrepressible spirit, steady hand, and loving heart guided each of them through the travails and excitement of growing up with the many moves they experienced. Under her watchful eye, they grew to adulthood as happy, well-adjusted citizens. In a lifetime with many accomplishments and scores of prestigious awards, such as the Secretary of the Army's Award for Distinguished Civilian Service, the Chief of Staff of the Army Civilian Commendation Award, the United States Army Europe Soaring Eagle Award, the Dragon Command's Three Coin Set of Excellence, to name a few, the accomplishment in which she took the greatest pride was her three sons. In her eyes and heart, her accomplishments and those of her husband paled in significance to those earned by her three sons, no matter what they achieved. Valerie was the original "Mama Grizzly"---fierce, loyal but above all else, loving.

Valerie died on Saturday, December 19, 2015. She is survived by her mother, husband, three siblings, two sons, six grandchildren and thousands of Soldiers and their families (all of whom, although not biological families, were still "families of her heart").

During her long and distinguished life, she held many titles: daughter, beloved sister; devoted wife; loving mother; military "First Lady" extraordinaire; and doting grandmother who felt that it was her Constitutional right to spoil her six

grandchildren. In each of these roles, she brought a rare sensitivity; sense of urgency; limitless compassion; uncommon wisdom; and an all-encompassing love to caring for people. She was the gold standard for selfless service to others and the Nation.

As Valerie continues her journey into the loving hands of God and undertakes to make her final of 20 homes in Heaven, she will be loved, honored, respected and missed by all of those who were privileged to have known her. Without any equivocation whatsoever, Valerie was a Great Lady.

# Tribute Wall

RN

“ Miss you Mom.

Richard Nabors - May 19, 2025 at 09:50 PM

RO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rose - February 21, 2025 at 10:27 PM

RO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rose - December 18, 2024 at 08:30 PM

RO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rose - February 18, 2023 at 11:32 PM



“ Valerie A. Nabors

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

**Jefferson Funeral Chapel** - January 28, 2019 at 09:26 AM



“ Mary and I extend our gratitude of knowing your family and Valerie in particular. As part of the soldier family in the 2nd Signal Brigade, Germany, she was by your side, on your back, or in your mind as the "rock" upon which the brigade family was built. Be at peace.

September 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ There are those who do grace the human race with their presence. Valerie was most assuredly one of them. General Nabors, I am so sorry to hear of her passing and empathize with the immeasurable loss I know you must feel. My husband Woody and I met you both at Ft. Monmouth and had the profound pleasure of working with you both through AUSA (Woody was the chapter president at the time) to better the lives and fortune of our soldiers and their families. Woody developed major health issues and fought many battles valiantly but finally lost the war. He left us in December 2014 so I can relate to the void that is unavoidable in a remarkable partnership between two people who love each other beyond the ability of words to describe. My heartfelt sympathy to you and your beautiful family. My thanks to the spirit of Valerie that will live on and remind all of what the best of humanity is all about!

January 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *May the Nabors family find comfort and support in this time of loss. They are admired by all and she was the bedrock of their achievements.*

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *General Nabors and Family, we are so sorry for your loss and send our sincere condolences and prayers. Val was a special person and true advocate of making life better for everyone she met. We will always remember her warm and welcoming persona, her gracious hospitality, and her witty sense of humor.*  
*Angelo & Lisa Iossa*

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *MG Nabors and Family. I am saddened to hear of Mrs. Nabors passing. Please accept my sincere sympathies for your great loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and yours. May God Bless you all. Mary Tilelli Redfield*

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Valerie was a customer at my store. She was always bubbly and energetic despite the fact that she was dealing with health issues. I loved helping her by pushing her cart and picking up the items she would tell me to get. We all at Giant got to know and love Ms. Valerie as we called her. She will truly be missed. We all at Giant (798) send our condolences to her family. We too feel your loss.*  
*R.I.P Ms Valerie*

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bob and family, No words are adequate in expressing the depth of sorrow you and all of us feel during this time of bereavement. Trustfully however, knowing that you and Val are loved and admired by so many is comforting. You and the entire Nabors family are in our thoughts and prayers. Joyce and I will long cherish our friendship and the laughs we shared after becoming "classmates" in 1994. God bless you and your family as HE also blesses your valiant lady.

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Very deepest condolences for your loss

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ MG (ret) Nabors,  
Our deepest condolences to you and your family during this most difficult time. Mrs. Nabors was well loved and respected by so many and had such a big heart. She was always so good to me and treated me like family. I will truly miss her and her Christmas cards. You are in our thoughts and prayers.  
With love, Susie & Eddie Idec

---

January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept our sincere sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Bob and Janice Gorrie

---

January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bob,*  
*Valerie was a wonderful and caring lady. We are deeply saddened by her loss and wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to you and your family.*  
*May God hold her in the palm of His hand.*  
*Bill and Elaine Campbell*

---

January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Clifford and Barbara Janey*  
*As we join others in opening up the new 2016 year, we will always cherish the year ago holiday at your home with your wife Valerie. It was a visit to a home museum where joy stood on the shoulders of tradition. There were family moments captured in timeless pictures, whose missions to frame happiness, endure. And decorations added stage setting value to a home already blessed with love. We remain truly honored and privileged to be in the company of the Nabors. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*  
*God's continued blessings bring you and your family comfort,*  
*Clifford and Barbara Janey*

---

January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Shelia and I extend our deepest and heartfelt condolences. The life of Mrs. Nabors will be forever remembered as inspirational, nurturing, and caring. We will miss and always LOVE You! MG(Ret) Nabors and Family, GOD's continued blessings and comfort...Mac and Shelia McNeal*

---

January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Bob and Family:*

*To say we are saddened by Valerie's passing is an understatement. Knowing the both of you for so many years, afforded us the pleasure of being family. Through these years, both you and Valerie demonstrated such devotion and love to your God, family and country. In spite of her many struggles, Valerie remained the devoted, loving, and caring person she was determined to be. I still remember the evening, days before Christmas, that she insisted I take her shopping for 30 minutes. After spending 2 1/2 hours in the stores, she finally conceded to return home where you were anxiously waiting. It is this determination and dedication that Valerie will be most remembered, not to mention the inner and outer strength she exhibited on a daily basis. The most lasting memory she left us with is this love, strength and dedication. Those of us who knew her are all the more blessed. You and your family are always in our hearts and prayers.*

*We love you, Domenic and Elaine*

---

January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *It is with our deepest compassion, sympathy and sincerity that we sign this guestbook in memory of Mrs. Valarie. I had the honor of meeting her, while she was decorating the company Christmas tree for the soldiers of the HHC, 5th Signal command barracks. We can remember her laughing, wrapping and talking to the soldiers like her very own children. So approachable, she was such a servant and a beautiful lady with a heart of gold. She "made things happen" and the soldiers truly loved her and you, as well. Our prayers for strength are with you and your family, MG (Ret) Nabors. In time, it's going to be alright.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ Dear Bob, I like to think that Valerie closed her eyes to a lifetime of pain only to re-open them to the glory of the face of God and then, I'm sure, to the outstretched arms of her beloved son. Deepest condolences for this huge loss.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ With deepest sympathy.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ Bob and family, We are so sad to hear that Valerie finally lost her valiant flight. She was such an amazing woman and a true inspiration.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ I cannot tell you how deeply saddened we were to hear that Valerie is gone. Patty and I send you our deepest condolences for this loss. Val was such a presence. Her courage in facing each challenge every day was remarkable and an example for all of us. Her greetings were uniquely embracing and nurturing, always about us rather than about her. I can only guess at what her absence will mean to your family. Thank you for the many years of service you both provided to our soldiers and their families. Val's remarkable example of leadership and courage was an inspiration to all of us.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ It is with much sadness that we learned of Valerie's passing, but we know she is now with God. Our love and prayers,*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ Hoping it helps to know we deeply care about you on the passing of your beloved wife and mother. With deepest sympathy.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ Bob, We were very sad to hear about Valerie's passing. Please accept our deepest condolences.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ Dear Bob, I am deeply saddened by the news that your dear wife, Valerie, has passed. May Our Lord bless and comfort you and your family during this difficult time. Our heartfelt condolences go out to you. We will keep you and your family in our prayers.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ We know that mere words cannot lessen your grief, but please know that you and Valerie are in our thoughts and prayers.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*“ With our deepest sympathy. Your friends at the Source for Learning.*

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bob, Valerie, as you well know, was an amazing woman. Her strength of character and determination enabled her to overcome or deal with SO MUCH. There were times while you were still on Mulberry Bottom that I didn't think she would make it another year. But she knew she needed to be there for you and the boys - and she was. She was very proud of you and your service and took her role as your wife very seriously, thinking of the people who worked for you and what she could do for them, especially around the holidays. She often expressed her desire to do even more for everyone, but still managed to do an incredible amount for family and friends.

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ I write to convey my condolence to you and your family on the occasion of Valerie's passing. I am aware that Valerie has been physically challenged for a number of years and, although challenged, she made the most of life for herself and those around her. She was a very spirited friend and wonderful to engage in conversation. I am also aware of your devotion to Valerie; she was your Princess and you cared for her with all the love and devotion of a good husband.

---

January 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Robert I'm so sorry for your loss. I just met Valerie about 2 short years ago at a scholarship fundraiser ball. Robert and I had just found out his mother and my grandfather were brother and sister. She invited me to her home the first day I met her. She welcomed my me and the family as though we knew each other all our lives. She was a wonderful lady with a kind giving spirit. I only wish I had more time to get to know her better. My children and husband send their condolences. You will be missed and not forgotten. I love you and the family.

Anita Gould, Mario, Kayla, Mario Jr., Malcolm, & Kennedy

---

December 31, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Bob: Sandy joins me in sending our most sincere condolences to you and all the family. We remember our time together in Stuttgart with such great fondness, and we share your sorrow in the loss of Valerie. Please know our prayers are with you, and we know your faith will sustain you.

Len and Sandy Wishart

---

December 31, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ What an amazing, strong and loving \"First Lady.\" While I did not know Valerie personally, I felt her kindness and caring through the actions of her husband Bob. While everyone is saddened by her passing, I am certain that the service will be a joyous celebration of her life and good deeds. May God bless Bob, her sons, and her grandchildren and ensure that her legacy continues to live through them.

---

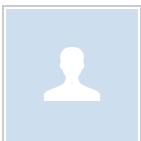
December 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ I offer my deepest and most sincere condolences to my 'extended family', the Nabors. It was a pleasure to have had Mrs Nabors in my life and make me feel like one of her own. I had a special relationship with my boss, mentor and hero...but I also had the great fortune to have a friendship with Mrs N as well. I'll miss her and pray that God continues to bless the family as he welcomes "Mom" home.

---

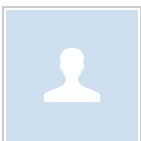
December 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Lindsay and I sends our sincere condolences to the entire Nabors family. We had the great pleasure of knowing Valerie for many years and she was, without question, one of the sweetest and most sincere and genuine people one could ever know. She had such a big heart and such a great love and passion for the well-being and welfare of soldiers. She was the biggest advocate for soldiers and all of us who served in a command led by Bob Nabors were blessed to benefit from Valerie's untiring efforts on our behalf. We are indeed saddened by her passing but her love and spirit will remain alive in our hearts and minds. The world has lost a great person - but heaven has gained an angel.

---

December 28, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Unfortunately, I did not have the honor of ever meeting Mrs. Nabors, however, the pleasantness of General Nabors tells me that he was a happy man and I'm positive that she played a part in that. Her story is amazing. May your family be comforted in knowing that she is Home. -- Sharene A. Cook

---

December 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *What a beautiful lady; what a beautiful life. I'm sorry I never had the chance to meet this incredible woman. My sincere condolences to MG (Ret) Bob Nabors and his entire family. - Lynn Rejniak*

---

December 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jule and I wish to extend our heartfelt condolence on the loss of this beautiful woman, wife and mother. MG(Ret) Bob Nabors and Val were and remain a constant source of inspiration to many. Their love and support of one another along with their leadership of every unit they either commanded or were assigned to, is worthy of emulation. Even in their time of loss, the Nabors family has somehow found a way, to comfort all of us. May God continue to bless you and your wonderful family...MG Warren Patterson and Jule*

---

December 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM