



Lt. Col. Edward P. Bledsoe, US Army (Ret.)

April 10, 1934 - February 8, 2016

Lt. Col. Edward P. Bledsoe, US Army (Ret.) of Sarasota, FL passed away peacefully February 8, 2016 at the Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans Home. He was born in Plant City, moving to Sarasota with his family at the age of 2 years old in 1936. He attended Sarasota High School, graduating with the Class of '52. He graduated from the University of Florida, serving in the ROTC, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army. Upon his retirement after serving 23 years, Edward worked as a logistician for the Department of the Army. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved fishing. He was a member of the Faith Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Beth" Bledsoe of Sarasota; his daughters, Patricia DeMontier and Lisa (Mark) English; grandchildren, Steven and Travis English; his brothers, Lt. Col. Dwight L. Bledsoe, USMC (Ret.) and his wife Judy of Sarasota, Charles P. Rawls and his wife Carol of Sarasota, and Lt. Col. Jester W. Rawls, US Army (Ret.) and his wife Faylene of Athens, GA; and many friends around the country.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, February 11th at 11:00 AM at Toale Brothers Funeral Home, 40 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota. Graveside services will follow at the Sarasota National Cemetery at 1:00 PM on Thursday.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Douglas T. Jacobson Residents Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 20729, Bradenton, FL 34203 or to the Faith Baptist Church Building Fund, 8751 Fruitville Rd., Sarasota, FL 34240.

The family graciously thanks the wonderful and caring staff at Douglas T.

Jacobson State Veterans Home in Port Charlotte, and TideWell Hospice.

Tribute Wall

PD

“ *Sorry to read that my father has passed. My condolences. Patti DeMontier*

Patricia DeMontier - February 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *Dear Brother, I will miss you terribly, especially our occasional fishing trips. You were a wonderful brother and you taught me a lot about life and human nature. I attended your service and you would have appreciated it as much as the rest of us...very dignified and there was a military contingent at the National Cemetery. Matter of fact I believe that's where I want my final resting place to be. It's a beautiful location, Buck Hawkins ranch land. I always wanted to get on Buck's ranch, but not like that...I wanted to go coon hunting on it, but he'd have none of that. Now it's a place of rest and tranquility. God bless you, Brother. I loved you so much. I'll see you again....you can count on it. Love You Always...Jess*

Jester Rawls - February 15, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ *Gonna miss you...Uncle Ed. Love Preston*

Preston Rawls - February 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Beth, I'm very sorry for your loss. Ed was one of my mentors when I was an army officer and Department of the Army Civilian. I always received an honest assessment from him and encouragement during various times of both careers. Both Ed and you provided me invaluable assistance when I wanted to relocate to Peachtree City. I think about Ed often and know that all of you and your extended family will miss him very much

James T. Delisi - February 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ My Friend , My Brother. and the Best darn Fisherman i know! May Captain Ed rest in Peace! Miss you CAP!

clarence - February 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM