



Winford M. Connatser

May 30, 1941 - July 2, 2024

Winford Connatser passed away peacefully on July 2nd, 2024 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital with his wife and daughters by his side. He was a resident of Sarasota, Florida, most recently of Sarasota Center for Nursing & Rehab.

Winford was born May 30th, 1941 and raised in Sevierville, TN where he attended the University of Tennessee and worked as a surveyor. As a Christian, he was of the Baptist faith. He was a Viet Nam Vet who proudly served in the United States Navy. He was stationed in San Diego, CA and was a flight deck aviation tech on the USS Hancock and the USS Bonhomme Richard Aircraft carriers.

He married his wife Linda with whom he had been married for 59 years. November 26 would have been their 60th year anniversary. They moved to Sarasota in 1967 where he began his career with GTE/Verizon soon after, as an Equipment Installer before retiring in 1995. He then began his Handyman business, working at Computer Associates and then independently before officially retiring, and yet continued to help others with projects and home repairs.

Winford spent his life helping others, giving his time, knowledge and resources to help those in need. He loved the outdoors, hiking in the Smokies, and whittling. He had a vast array of hobbies and woodworking projects he

was always creating and had a love of gardening. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed cheering on his Tennessee Volunteers! There wasn't much he couldn't do, as he was happiest learning new things and keeping busy working on projects and ideas. He loved helping his grandchildren discover the great outdoors, looking for good walking sticks, hiking and making things. Tennessee was home to him, and always spoke so fondly of his time growing up there and many memories of his wonderful childhood.

He is survived by his wife Linda, daughters Kim Van Meter of Sarasota/Joe of Illinois, and Karen Borah of Gainesville. Grandchildren Jeremy Van Meter of Illinois, Adam Van Meter/Michelle of Sarasota, Heather Borah/Darius of Tennessee, Megan Kirkley/Kevin of Ocala and Devin Borah/Trish of Tennessee, 9 great-grandchildren, and his sister Evelyn Sandlin of Tennessee.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Trula Connatser, his sister Eleanor McCarter of Tennessee and his great-grandson Xavier Van Meter of Missouri.

Toale Brothers Funeral Home is officiating. Visitation will be at Toale Brothers Funeral Home, Colonial Chapel, 40 N Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236, on Sunday July 7th from 12-2 pm.

Burial service will be at Sarasota National Cemetery, 9810 State Road 72, Sarasota, FL 34241, on Monday July 8th at 9.30 Am.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 7. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel

40 N. Orange Avenue

Sarasota, FL 34236

(941) 955-4171

info@toalebrothers.com

<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

Burial

JUL 8. 9:30 AM (ET)

Sarasota National Cemetery

9810 State Rd 72

Sarasota, FL 34241

(941) 922-7200

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Always so nice to us I can remember when he and Linda was dating

Jeannie and Ed Smith - July 06, 2024 at 01:34 AM

KM

“ Kimyen and David Martini purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Winford M. Connatser.



Kimyen and David Martini - July 04, 2024 at 08:42 PM

KI

“ I was blessed to have met him when I was around nine years old. He was a good storyteller, had a good sense of humor that was infectious, a talented craftsman, intelligent and loving. Thank you for sharing moments of your life with me, Winford. I will miss hearing your stories. I will miss you.



Kimyen - July 04, 2024 at 09:34 AM

CF

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Winford's passing. We were cousins. A favorite memory was when I was a child and got to see all the airplane and other models in his room. My heart breaks for you all. Love, Cheryl

Cheryl Connatser French - July 03, 2024 at 04:53 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Winford M. Connatser.*



July 03, 2024 at 03:44 PM



“ *Michelle Van Meter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Winford M. Connatser.*

Michelle Van Meter - July 03, 2024 at 03:44 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Uncle Winford's passing. We are holding you close in our prayers for his precious family. Love you all. Tim and Cathy Rimel and Family*

Tim and Cathy Rimel - July 03, 2024 at 02:25 PM



“ *Borah & Kirkley Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Winford M. Connatser.*



Borah & Kirkley Family - July 03, 2024 at 02:25 PM

BF

“ Borah & Kirkley Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Winford M. Connatser.

Borah & Kirkley Family - July 03, 2024 at 02:25 PM

MK

“ We miss you Papaw. You left us with many sweet memories that we will cherish forever — from our walks, our bike rides, teaching me all kinds of mathematics, and pushing us on the swing so high we could pick the leaves off of the tree, and so much more. You were truly the best Papaw we could have ever asked for and I will always carry your sweet memory with me. ❤️



Megan M. Kirkley - July 03, 2024 at 02:17 PM

RG

My cousin Winford was more like a brother..so,so many good memories of good times with visits and family gatherings..talks of times past and of generations..the few times of visiting him and his family in Florida was so wonderful,entertaining..the many good meals that wife Linda prepared and picnics at the beach..seeing this and that and watching him make something and the interesting stories of experiences he had and had,had..could go on and on..but,he's really home in HEAVEN with so many of loved ones that went before him..our loss but HEAVEN gain..see you again Winford in that glorious city.

Ruth Green - July 08, 2024 at 11:12 AM