



Hershel Lee "Ralph" Hartline

March 6, 1950 - March 6, 2023

Hershel Lee "Ralph" Hartline, 73, of Chattanooga, passed away Monday, March 6, 2023. He had lived in the Chattanooga area for most of his life and was of the Baptist faith. He served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam war and was employed with Brown Brothers Construction Company for many years as a Truck Driver. He was a loving and devoted brother, father, grandfather and friend that will be truly missed by all who knew him. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Glenda Ann Bonine Hartline; second wife, Mary Francis Dodson Hartline and brother, Jeff Hartline.

Survivors include his sons, Hershel Lee Hartline, Jr., Timothy Lebron Burkhart, Larry Hartline, Nathan Lee Hartline, Timothy Smith and Dan Smith; brother, Billy Hartline; sister, Liz Poulos; 3 grandchildren, Glenda Hartline, Billy Ray Hartline and Zander Hartline; and numerous extended family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 12 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2023 in the Fort Oglethorpe Chapel. Burial will follow in the Chattanooga National Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until the time of service on Wednesday at the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.wilsonfuneralhome.com. Arrangements by W.L. Wilson & Sons Funeral Home Fort Oglethorpe, GA.

Cemetery Details

Chattanooga National Cemetery

Holtzclaw Ave.
Chattanooga, TN

Tribute Wall

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“ In 1969 I was in the Army Engineers School at Fort Leonard Wood Missouri with a Hershel Hartline. I don't know why but today I thought about him and a time when we were on guard together. It was near the end of our training and they had us out in the woods at night pretending to be on patrol. At some point we stopped and set up a perimeter. Hershel and I were paired up at one spot probably because Hartline followed Harrington alphabetically. One of us was supposed to stay awake while the other slept and the instructors would try and sneak up on you. We talked for awhile about home and family then Hershel took the first watch while I was to sleep. Sleeping out in the woods was never my idea of fun so I was not asleep but Hershel was soon nodding off. I kept my eyes and ears open and one hand on my rifle. After awhile I heard someone sneaking around and then all of a sudden this instructor stood up and started yelling at Hershel for being asleep on guard. In an equally loud voice I yelled back. He is not the one on guard. As the guy turned toward me he saw my rifle pointed right at his chest as I said and you are a dead man. That was the end of that game. The boy I remembered was fair complected with light brown or maybe blonde hair. He was shorter than me. In those days I was 6'1". I remember him saying he was from Tennessee or Kentucky maybe. Engineer training was only eight or nine weeks and after that I never saw him again. I don't recognize the old man in the photo but among his Facebook friends I saw another Hershel that resembled the boy I knew 54 years ago. He was a good kid and I hope he had a good life.

Edward Harrington

Edward Harrington - May 16, 2023 at 08:27 PM