



Arnold Russell

March 28, 1949 - April 3, 2020

Arnold J. Russell, 71, Maryville, TN, passed away with his wife and daughters at the bedside on April 3, 2020. He was born on February 28th, 1949 in Goin, TN to Curtis and Francie McGeorge. Arnold is survived by his loving wife Clydene Russell daughters and sons-in-law, Jamie Russell-Bell, Megan & Jonathan Bledsoe and Michelle and Ryan Hairell; grandchildren, Miles Russell-Bell, Paisley Hairell, Ryleigh Bledsoe, Noah Bledsoe and a grandchild in heaven; siblings Earl Russell, Linda Johnson, Brenda McPhetridge and Carson (Moss) Russell: many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews. Preceded in death by both parents and siblings Wayne Russell and Wanda Collinsworth.

Arnold served in the Vietnam war, spending eleven months in the jungle. He survived malaria twice and received a purple heart of honor. He has always been a hero to his family. He also served in the Navy for a short term in the 1980s, living aboard the USS Nimitz. He retired from DENSO Manufacturing at age 70 to spend more time with his loving wife who referred to him as "fluff". They spent the last year inseparable, spending the days loving on the grandbabies, taking road trips and loving life.

He loved nature, antiquing, watching westerns, and was an avid deer hunter and fisherman. Arnold was a great storyteller, a perfectionist, highly competitive, a hot pepper lover and incredibly private. His family loved listening to, laughing at and sometimes questioning those "big fish" stories. His tough demeanor well known by his daughters shifted with his grandchildren and he became known as the "marshmallow man", teaching them wrestling moves, how to be tough and lovingly them fiercely. He took advantage of any teaching opportunities for his children and grandchildren sharing his wisdom freely. His biggest gift to his daughters was teaching them independence and an incredibly strong work ethic. He prepared us for life.

Arnold was a man of strong faith and a trusted member of Outreach Church, serving as a trustee and the Sunday School Director. He was highly esteemed and well respected among his church family. He loved his morning prayer on the porch with a cup of coffee and his bible. Arnold was a prayer warrior.

His family will miss his steadfast faith, truth-telling nature and his infectious laugh. A private service will be held for the immediately family only and a public memorial will be

held at a later date. Smith Funeral & Cremation Service, Maryville, 865-983-1000, <http://www.SmithFuneralandCremation.com>.

Comments



“ I always enjoyed talking to Arnold. He spoke frequently about his love of God and his family. Blessed be his home going.

Kathy Cook (Denso nurse)

Kathy Cook - September 11, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ Dear Clydene,

I was very sorry to learn of Arnold's death last week. I always enjoyed seeing him as a patient and helping to provide his medical care over the years. He was such a kind and pleasant person.

The obituary that you and/or your daughters must have written was just beautiful, telling so much about Arnold that I didn't know. That was a wonderful tribute.

Please know that I am thinking of you.

John Pittenger, MD

John Pittenger - April 09, 2020 at 01:55 PM



“ No words to describe this man, I have worked closely with Arnold for 16 years and have heard sooo many stories. I have met his wife a few times and ate her zucchini bread a few times.(yum) he loved his family so much and is more respected by his work family than anyone I know. I love you arnold.

Lisa Williams - April 06, 2020 at 08:31 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arnold Russell.



April 06, 2020 at 06:07 PM



“ Stacy Evans lit a candle in memory of Arnold Russell



Stacy evans - April 06, 2020 at 02:06 PM



“ Marsha Rains, Tanya Pitts and Deborah Joyner purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Arnold Russell.



Marsha Rains, Tanya Pitts and Deborah Joyner - April 06, 2020 at 12:24 PM



“ Prayers for your family during this difficult time



Mindy Morgan - April 05, 2020 at 07:56 PM



“ Karen Russell lit a candle in memory of Arnold Russell



Karen Russell - April 05, 2020 at 06:51 PM



“ So sorry for your loss Hobart and sue Bailey

Hobart and Sue Bailey - April 05, 2020 at 03:42 PM



“ Always enjoyed seeing him for the week in July. Had lots of great talks and laughs watching our kids grow up. He will be sadly missed. Prayers to all

Treva Williams - April 05, 2020 at 03:11 PM



“ I'm thankful for knowing him over the years. Thankful also for the memory I have of the two of you so happy together. The picture I took and shared with you of the two of you at Grandview together captured that memory for me. We will miss him. I pray for your strength and your peace in knowing it doesn't end here. The best is yet to come.

Joe Byrd

Joe Byrd - April 05, 2020 at 02:30 PM



“ So sorry for your loss! Arnold will be missed! We are praying for God to give you the comfort only He can give. We love you all!! Mark and Amy Beaty

Amy Beaty - April 05, 2020 at 11:51 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss!! Arnold was a great man and we will miss our Christian brother but also know we will see him again. Praying always!!

Ron & Steph Hamby - April 05, 2020 at 10:51 AM



“ Sending our love, and hugs. So sorry for your loss. Arnold was a good man of God, and a blessing. I know you will miss him. Love you all, Wendell and Connie Downey.

connie downey - April 05, 2020 at 10:45 AM



“ Sending love to you and your family, Jamie. Wishing for you peace and comfort.

Megan Wilkins - April 05, 2020 at 10:16 AM



“ So sorry for your loss, we loved Arnold, enjoyed him in church and Sunday school! Know that you all are n our thoughts and prayers! Love you all Anne and Ronald

Anne Martak - April 05, 2020 at 10:13 AM



“ Clydene my heart breaks for you and all your family. I love you

MeMe Payne (Marilla) Cable - April 05, 2020 at 08:14 AM



“ Clydene and girls,

We were so sorry to hear of Arnold's passing. We have so many wonderful memories of time spent together with you all and Sue. Arnold will be greatly missed. We thank you for all your families efforts to accommodate us when Onley was the pastor at Laws Chapel. Our family will always have a special place in our hearts for you all. You are in our prayers . May God comfort you in the way that only He can. We love you.

Onley and Sandra Williams and family - April 05, 2020 at 07:34 AM



“ Ann Blair lit a candle in memory of Arnold Russell



Ann Blair - April 04, 2020 at 10:29 PM



“ Clydene,

I am so sorry to hear of Arnold's passing. I bet he saw Paul when he walked through heavens gate. Keep your faith and trust in the lord he will bring you through. My prayers are with you and the girls. Call me anytime you would like to talk.

Ann Blair

Ann Blair - April 04, 2020 at 10:28 PM



“ Clydene and family,

We are so sorry to hear of Arnold's passing. He was always smiling and offering encouragement every time we saw him. He was faithful to his church and to the Lord. He will be truly missed. We love you all very much and will keep you in our prayers. May He give you comfort and peace. Dewey, Robin and Isaac Brown

Robin Brown - April 04, 2020 at 06:12 PM



“ Clydene, Megan, and Michelle,

We were so sorry to hear about the death of A.J. He truly loved his girls and his grandchildren. We will always cherish our memories of him at Oakmont. You all are in our thoughts and prsyers. A.J. Is truly at peace because he is walking the streets of gold and singing with the angels. No more pain!

Hope to see you all soon! Linda, Kerri, Russell, and Nolsn

Linda Drye - April 04, 2020 at 03:36 PM



“ We love the Russell family very much, and we will continue to pray for you all everyday. We will miss Arnold's smile, and Grant will miss the fist bumps he gave every time he saw him. - Taylor, Kayla, Grant, and Asher

The Walkers - April 04, 2020 at 03:32 PM



“ Linda Dye lit a candle in memory of Arnold Russell



Linda Dye - April 04, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ Clydene & family, We are so sorry for your loss, but Heaven has gained another angel. Arnold will be sadly missed. Your family will continue to be in our prayers. Love, Mike & Sherry Walker



Mike & Sherry Walker - April 04, 2020 at 03:24 PM