



Dennis Ralph Holden

May 7, 1951 - January 19, 2021

Dennis Ralph Holden, age 69, of Newland, North Carolina passed away on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston Salem, NC.

He was born on May 7, 1951 in Mitchell County, North Carolina, the son of the late Paul Rhonder Holden and the late Ruth Braswell Holden.

Ralph graduated from Avery County High School in 1969. He enlisted in the Army in October, 1969 and served in Germany, and Vietnam. During his service in Vietnam, he was an E-5 for the 392nd Transportation Co. After his military service, King Ralph (to all who knew him), was a jack of all trades. Ralph worked for Bob Gragg's Oil Company. He then worked in the nursery and landscape industry, he delivered flowers for Vaughan's Nursery, and made friends everywhere he went! Ralph was a truck driver for Mike Aldridge Trucking, Inc. from the mid 80's to the early 90's. He brought back pictures, postcards, souvenirs and stories from across the nation he so loved. He later worked for the DOC as a corrections officer where he retired. He was often seen in Newland with his faithful companion Belle, the chocolate lab, riding shotgun, having a big breakfast or lunch at the old Shady Lawn.

King Ralph was a true patriot and active member of the local VFW. He served as the Commander for several terms as well as the Quartermaster. For many years, Ralph spent much time and dedication preparing the menus and meals for every Veterans Day, Memorial Day and Independence Day celebration where Veterans and their families could fellowship together over a meal. He could be found in that kitchen in his overalls, working on a great meal and even better story. If you wanted a good story and a smile, you could get one in King Ralph's chow line! Entertaining was second nature to him, and he drew a crowd wherever he went with his smile that would light up a room and that contagious laugh. He will always be the head chef and the hometown hero, and he was the life of the party. He leaves big shoes but would not have wanted a fuss over him. He loved giving to others and was selfless in every way. He was a true treasure and if you didn't know him, you were missing a great man that loved his family and friends like no other. Bicycle, tricycle, automobile King Ralph, we will see you again!

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Patrick Holden.

Ralph leaves behind to cherish his memory his: Daughter, Brandy Holden of Newland,

NC, Brother, Wayne (Molly) Holden of Newland, NC, Brother, Gary Holden of Newland, NC, Granddaughter, Carolina Ross of Newland, NC, Granddaughter, Morgan Holden of Wilkesboro, NC. Ralph was a special uncle to Gretchen Blackburn (Danny), Jeremy Holden (Melissa), Carolina Hartman (Taylor), Teresa Storie (Allen), and several great nephews and nieces, all that loved him dearly.

Services for Dennis Ralph Holden will be held on Sunday, January 24, 2021 beginning at 3:00 pm from the First Baptist Church Newland with Dr. Bill Jones officiating. The family will receive friends beginning at 1:00 pm on Sunday at First Baptist Church of Newland. Interment with military honors will follow at the Church of Jesus Christ Cemetery.

Due to the current COVID-19 regulations, our staff is committed to taking care of our guests and families that we serve. Please understand we will be following the State's COVID guidelines. All guests attending the visitation and service must bring and wear a mask.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: VFW Pat Ray Post 4286, Newland NC to support our local veterans.

Words of Comfort and Memories may be shared with the Holden family by visiting our website www.rsfh.net

The care of Ralph and his family has been entrusted to Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home of Newland.

(828) 733-2121

Events

JAN

24

Visitation

01:00PM - 03:00PM

First Baptist Church Newland

160 Cranberry Street, Newland, NC, US, 28657

JAN

24

Funeral Service

03:00PM

First Baptist Church Newland

160 Cranberry Street, Newland, NC, US, 28657

Comments



“ Terry Trice lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Terry Trice - March 19 at 12:44 PM



“ Michael Johnson lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Michael Johnson - January 29 at 10:13 AM



“ Sheila Vance lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Sheila Vance - January 25 at 01:29 PM



“ Sorry to hear. Praying for all the family.
In Sympathy,
Dave & Freida Hobson

Freida Hobson - January 24 at 04:41 AM



“ Ralph was a fine men



Betty and Jay Knaack - January 23 at 07:12 PM



“ Brandy and family you are in our thoughts and prayers.
Barry and Kay Grubb



Barry and Kay Grubb - January 23 at 06:49 PM



“ Linda Whittington lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Linda Whittington - January 23 at 05:14 PM



“ Trina Cook sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Trina Cook - January 23 at 02:23 PM



“ Julie Cook lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Julie Cook - January 23 at 01:52 PM



“ Linda & David Cuthbertson lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Linda & David Cuthbertson - January 23 at 01:15 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis Ralph Holden.



January 23 at 11:29 AM



“ Lisa Church lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Lisa Church - January 22 at 11:57 PM



“ So sad to lose this good and kind man.



Tamara Suttle - January 22 at 09:22 PM



“ Ralph was a wonderful person .May u rest in peace high on that mountain with ur parents and son. U will truly be missed.



Anita - January 22 at 06:01 PM



“ Teresa Hicks lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Teresa Hicks - January 22 at 04:01 PM



“ Scottye sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



scottye - January 22 at 02:52 PM



“ 49 files added to the album LifeTributes



Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home - January 22 at 02:46 PM



“ Prayers for the family.



Julia Jaynes - January 22 at 02:29 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Ralph Holden.



January 22 at 11:08 AM



“ Deborah Silver sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Deborah Silver - January 22 at 10:45 AM



“ JR And Judy Tiner lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



JR and Judy Tiner - January 22 at 10:19 AM



“ Biddie N Floyd Braswell sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Biddie N Floyd Braswell - January 22 at 10:01 AM



“ Butch And Teresa Biggs sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Butch and Teresa Biggs - January 22 at 08:46 AM



“ Brian and Fredda Blalock



Brian and Fredda Blalock - January 22 at 08:37 AM



“ Connie Rathbun sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Connie Rathbun - January 22 at 08:33 AM



“ Ralph was a favorite of my school mates, from third grade through high school. Prayers of comfort for the family, I know how much he will be missed.

Connie Rathbun - January 22 at 08:39 AM



“ Dennis Henson lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Dennis Henson - January 22 at 06:55 AM



“ Robbin Trice lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Robbin Trice - January 22 at 01:47 AM



“ Marty Ellis sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



marty ellis - January 21 at 08:25 PM



“ I have such fond memories of Ralph throughout the years. He will surely be missed by so many. I will keep your family in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Barbara Lowe

Barbara Lowe - January 21 at 08:12 PM



“ Mike & Wilma Hartley sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Mike & Wilma Hartley - January 21 at 07:42 PM



“ Such fond memories of a very nice guy. Your family is in our prayers.

Mike & Wilma Hartley - January 21 at 07:48 PM



“ He was a fine men He will be missed by family and friends. Prayers for family



Clotta Smith - January 21 at 06:40 PM



“ Randy And Susie Church lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Randy and Susie Church - January 21 at 06:20 PM



“ Joe, Priscilla, Joseph Trivette sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Joe, Priscilla, Joseph Trivette - January 21 at 06:18 PM



“ Dellmos Vance & Ann Coleman lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Dellmos Vance & Ann Coleman - January 21 at 04:48 PM



“ Joe And Karen Greene lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Joe and Karen Greene - January 21 at 04:25 PM



“ Martha Ann Vance lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Martha Ann Vance - January 21 at 02:54 PM



“ Deborah & Ray Thomas sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Deborah & Ray Thomas - January 21 at 02:31 PM



“ Lisa Stamey lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Lisa Stamey - January 21 at 02:03 PM



“ Carolyn Reed lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Carolyn Reed - January 21 at 01:11 PM



“ Martha sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Martha - January 21 at 12:51 PM



“ Chad & Sherry Lee lit a candle in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Chad & Sherry Lee - January 21 at 12:41 PM



“ If heaven has a kitchen, I'll know where to find you. I love you to pieces Ralphie.



Liney Lou - January 21 at 12:38 PM



“ Elaine Eller sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis Ralph Holden



Elaine Eller - January 21 at 11:58 AM