



CSM (Ret) Winston O. "Jeff" Jefferson

November 19, 1933 - March 15, 2019

CSM (Ret) Winston O. "Jeff" Jefferson, one of eleven children born to the union of the late Will and Viola (Henderson) Jefferson, was born November 19, 1933 in Henderson, North Carolina where he grew up and graduated from Henderson Institute.

Shortly after graduation, Jeff attended North Carolina A&T University before being drafted into the United States Army. Jeff served his country faithfully for 32 years until his retirement in 1983. He earned several awards and commendations, some of which include: Army Commendation Medal w/3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Silver Star, National Defense Service Medal w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal-Korea, Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon (2), Good Conduct Medal (9th Award), Meritorious Service Medal w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Bronze Service Stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal w/2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army of Occupation Medal (Germany), and the NCO Professional Development Ribbon (5). He served in Korea and Vietnam and had attained the rank of Command Sergeant Major.

On February 4, 1956, Jeff was united in marriage to the love of his life, Else Ida. They shared over 38 years of marriage together and were blessed with three children: Kennith, Karalee and Monika. Else preceded Jeff in death on October 15, 1994.

After retiring from the military, Jeff continued his education and graduated from Drury University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education. He loved serving his country, but he also loved serving his community as a substitute teacher for the Waynesville R-VI School District as well as being a consistent presence for the VFW, Lions Club and American Legion which he loved.

Jeff was a lifetime member of the Francis J. Lynch VFW Post #3168 of Laquey, MO Fort Leonard Wood Lions Club and American Legion.

His greatest joy was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He loved attending their sporting events and seeing them achieve their goals. He also enjoyed being outdoors fishing and hunting with his wife and children and working in his "BIG" garden.

Even though Jeff was a profoundly proud soldier, he was the most compassionate, humble and peaceful man you would ever meet. His smile was infectious and indicative of the person he was, he never met a stranger. He was loved deeply by his family and friends and will be sadly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Jeff passed away Friday, March 15, 2019, at the James L. West Center, in Fort Worth, TX having attained the age of 85 years.

Jeff leaves to cherish his memory, his three children, Kenneth Jefferson (Tracey) of Lantana, TX, Karalee Jefferson Barbee of Lantana, TX, Monika Jefferson of Harrisburg, OR, three grandchildren, Winston Bryce Jefferson, Avery Leigh Jefferson and Jodi M. Oberon-Jefferson; a number of nieces and nephews; as well as a host of other relatives and friends.

In addition to his wife and parents, Jeff was preceded in death by all his brothers and sisters.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 23, 2019 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with Chaplain (MAJ) Anthony Cech officiating. CSM (Ret) Vincent "Bobo" Jefferson recalled his wonderful memories of Jeff. The songs "Amazing Grace" by Gloria Franchi, "Let Me Live in the Light of His Love" by Charley Pride and "Oh Happy Day" by Mahalia Jackson were played. Serving as escorts were the United States Army. Burial with military honors followed in the Waynesville Memorial Park Cemetery of Waynesville. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Cemetery

**Waynesville Memorial
Park**

Waynesville, MO, 65583

Events

MAR 23 Visitation 12:00PM - 02:00PM

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St.
Robert
202 Historic 66 W., Waynesville, MO, US, 65583

MAR 23 Service 02:00PM

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St.
Robert
202 Historic 66 W., Waynesville, MO, US, 65583

Comments



“ Linda Cole Schonbok sent a virtual gift in memory of CSM (Ret) Winston O. “Jeff” Jefferson



Linda Cole schonbok - March 26 at 07:40 AM



“ Yvonne Reeves-Chong lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) Winston O. “Jeff” Jefferson



Yvonne Reeves-Chong - March 22 at 08:10 PM



“ Some good times were had in the day. You always had that great smile on your face and a contagious laughter. Prayers for your family.

Don and Dottie Hutchison



Dorothy Hutchison - March 22 at 02:03 PM



“ Visiting Aunt Elsie and Uncle Son in Bamberg Germany. He was the Artillery Brigade Command Sergeant Major. On Saturday night he wanted to check on soldiers from the brigade, to make sure none were getting into trouble. So, we went to the most popular clubs in Bamberg frequent by his soldiers. Every club we visited, he was recognized, even though not in uniform. He was treated with the utmost respect, and many even offered to buy him a drink, which of course he respectfully declined. He encouraged his soldiers to have a good time, be safe, stay out of trouble, and make sure that he did not see any of them in front of his desk come Monday morning. He would say, "OK you hounds, you better stay out of trouble!" What a great leader, but what a good person! It was my honor to call him Uncle Son, Nephew Steve

Steve McRavin - March 20 at 03:56 PM



“ Our sincere thoughts and prayers for Jeff's family and friends. The Fort Leonard Wood Lions Club is honored to have had Lion Jeff as a faithful member and Club President during Lionistic Year July 1995-June 1996. His superb leadership and role modeling as an outstanding charismatic military leader was evident in the performance of his activities for our FLW Lions Club, District, and the State of Missouri. Jeff will be dearly missed, but the positive impact he made will remain to be exemplified in each one of us for a lifetime! May he rest eternally in the everlasting arms of our Savior!



FLW Lions Club - March 20 at 01:49 PM



“ Pulaski Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) Winston O. "Jeff" Jefferson



Pulaski Camp Gideons - March 20 at 01:29 PM