



SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko

September 1, 1948 - May 5, 2015

SFC (Ret) Arthur L. Rutko, one of 16 children born to the union of the late Costy and Prudence (Sharp) Rutko, was born September 1, 1948 in Ashland, Pennsylvania.

Arthur entered the United States Army and spent 23 years in service to his country. He received several awards and commendations for his service; some of which included: National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal -9; Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry 2/Palm(Unit), Army Commendation Medal-2, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal -6, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon-3, Overseas Service Ribbon-3, Expert Qualification Badge M-16 Rifle, Air Force Achievement Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal. He had attained the rank of Sergeant First Class.

After retiring from the military, Arthur spent 23 years driving an 18wheeler with over 3 million miles of safe driving.

Arthur was united in marriage to Emma "Enkie" Murray on September 1, 1983 in Crocker, Missouri. They shared over 31 years of marriage together and many wonderful memories.

Arthur enjoyed being outdoors while hunting, fishing, working in the yard or playing with the dogs. He also enjoyed watching old western movies and television shows. Most importantly, he loved spending time with his family and friends.

Arthur was a member of the American Legion Post 331 of St. Robert and the Francis J. Lynch VFW Post 3168 of Laquey.

Arthur passed away Tuesday, May 5, 2015 in the General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri having attained the age of 66 years. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him.

Arthur leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Enkie Rutko of the home; children: Melissa, Wayne, Patty and Lynn Ann; granddaughter: Terra, along with great niece: Devon and her three children; two grandsons: Matthew and Zachery; five sisters; five brothers; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

In addition to his parents, Arthur was preceded in death by four brothers: Walter, Costy, Dennis and Bo; and one sister: Linda.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, May 15, 2015 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville with Pastor Danny Graves officiating. The songs "One Day at a Time" by Cristy Lane and "Go Rest High on that Mountain" by Vince Gill were played. Serving as escorts were the United States Army.

Burial with military honors followed in the Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery of Waynesville, Missouri. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Art Rutko and may be left at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery

Highway 17 South
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 15. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Service

MAY 15. 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - May 19, 2015 at 09:39 AM



“ *SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *64 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - May 14, 2015 at 04:54 PM

MM

“ Michael & Crystal Mosier sent a virtual gift in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko



michael & crystal mosier - May 10, 2015 at 02:52 PM



“ Share a memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko or send condolences to the family.



Barbi Surmiller- Hoskins - May 09, 2015 at 09:38 PM

BF

“ Billy-Stephanie Fenton lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko



Billy-Stephanie Fenton - May 08, 2015 at 04:32 PM

CB

“ Connie Bonk-Martino lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko



Connie Bonk-Martino - May 08, 2015 at 06:13 AM

CB

Thank you Uncle Art for all the times you would bring me to Pennsylvania to see grandma, And for your presence when my mother Linda Rutko-Bonk died. I much appreciated you being there. One of my favorite memories when I was quite little walking the railroad tracks with you and putting pennies on it so the train would flatten them . And of course for my desk you gave me, donated by a guy you worked with who did not know he donated it to me.. And I will forever remember my mother calling you her Burt Reynolds, as she thought you were handsome just like he is.. And you are.. Until I see you again... I love you..

Connie Bonk-Martino - May 08, 2015 at 06:20 AM

MB

“ *Melissa Bolich sent a virtual gift in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*



Melissa Bolich - May 07, 2015 at 08:00 PM

CB

“ *i remember my brother as moms favorite son, there was more but mom always stood up for art. he could do no wrong to mom. his two daughters were the love of his life. it was always a special moment when they saw their dad.*

connie blich - May 07, 2015 at 04:15 PM

AH

“ *ANNETTE HANCE lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*



ANNETTE HANCE - May 07, 2015 at 03:17 PM

LP

“ *Les And Mary Pero sent a virtual gift in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*



Les and Mary Pero - May 07, 2015 at 01:04 PM

SB

“ *My uncle art always put a smile on anyone's face! I may have not seen him in a while but he was a great man ❤️ I love you say hello to everyone for us .. We will miss you everyday but we will never forget .. RIP❤️❤️*

sasha brenner - May 07, 2015 at 11:40 AM

MW

“ *Marion Wolfe sent a virtual gift in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*



Marion Wolfe - May 07, 2015 at 09:25 AM

MW

“ *Marion Wolfe lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko*



Marion Wolfe - May 07, 2015 at 09:24 AM

Jarad
Rutko

“ He was a great uncle and whenever I saw him no matter what mood I was in he found a way to cheer me up n make me smile.

Jarad Rutko - May 07, 2015 at 09:19 AM

WB

“ Wendy (Sharp) Bixler lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Arthur Leslie Rutko



Wendy (Sharp) Bixler - May 07, 2015 at 09:01 AM

MW

“ I love my brother and he knew it that is what life is. Being one of 15 is very hard for us all but Art was there for us. I love you and when my journey is finished here I will see you again. I Love You. As mom would say poor Art, say hello to all that have pass over to their new journey.

Marion Wolfe - May 07, 2015 at 08:37 AM

LH

“ The funniest memory of my father is the day he took my sister Patty and I fishing up to the river and told us to go play because we were scaring the fish so we walked over from him and was playing in poison ivy and all three of us ended up in the ER that day. I don't think he took up fishing again luv you Dad
Lynn Ann

Lynn Ann Harris - May 06, 2015 at 04:50 PM

CB

Lynnanne that's hilarious.. Your dad was so great..

Connie Bonk-Martino - May 07, 2015 at 02:21 PM

CB

Uncle Arthur, Thank you for all the times you drove me from Jersey to Pennsylvania for the weekend to see grandma when I was a kid, Thanks for that desk you gave me, from the guy who did not know he was giving it away. And thank you for helping me thru my own mothers funeral, your presence meant more to me than I can ever express.. I love you, your niece Connie

Connie Bonk-Martino - May 07, 2015 at 02:24 PM

WE

Lynn Ann, Thinking of you and your sister.

Wendy - May 08, 2015 at 12:28 AM

MR

Art I appreciated the fact that you visited us twice in Kentucky and my boys still remember. You and your brother Tommy sat around talking and laughing. I hate that your life was taken at such a young age but hopefully you are in a better place. Your brother Tommy is taking it hard but he holds his emotions. That is the way he is and no one can change that. May you rest in peace Art and God Bless you. Your sister-in-law Mattie Jo Rutko

Mattie Rutko - May 08, 2015 at 10:06 PM

MS

“ IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF HIS SERVICE
TO OUR COUNTRY
MARLIN STEVENS



MARLIN STEVENS - May 06, 2015 at 04:28 PM

NA

Sorry for your loss Enke. If you need anything call me anytime. Nancy

Nancy - May 07, 2015 at 02:29 PM