



CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.

June 19, 1941 - June 9, 2017

Command Sergeant Major (Retired) James Edward Wafe Sr, died peacefully in his Saint Robert, Missouri home on June 9, 2017. A veteran of the Vietnam War, he also was the Battalion Command Sergeant Major for the 58th Transportation Battalion on Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

James Edward Wafe Sr. was born on June 19, 1941, in St. Charles, Missouri to Mabel (Chalkley) and Albert Edward Wafe. At the age of 17, he joined the United States Army and continued his service for 32 years, retiring as a Battalion Command Sergeant Major at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. For his faithful services, James earned several awards and commendations; some of which includes: National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal-2, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Meritorious Service Medal -2, Army Commendation Medal-3, Army Good Conduct Medal-10, Legion of Merit, NCO Professional Development Ribbon. While serving in the Army he obtained his GED and later took courses through Central Texas College on small engine and outboard motor repair. After retiring from the Army, James began working as a civilian on Fort Leonard Wood. He worked for FMWR (Family Morale, Welfare, Recreation) Outdoor Center and then to DOL (Department of Logistic) repairing lawnmowers. Later he started his own business Jim's Small Engine Repair.

James Edward Wafe Sr. was a devoted and loving husband to his wife of 58

years, Bok Ye (Angel) Wafe. He was loved by his three children: Donna, Juanita, and James Jr; and the most wonderful grandfather to his four granddaughters: Samantha, Nicole, Jessica and Cassandra. There was nothing he would not do for his family. In his spare time he loved to fish, hunt, skeet/trap shooting, bowl, and boating along with working on outboard/inboard motors and spending time with his grandkids.

He is survived by his wife, Bok Ye (Angel) Wafe; daughters, Donna Benning, Juanita Wafe-Stone (George); his son, James (Dee); his four grandchildren, Samantha, Nicole, Jessica, and Cassandra; sister, Frances Zottarella, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert Wafe and Mable Thudiman, sister Juanita Leahy and brothers Junior, Glenn, and Dwayne.

Services were held at 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, 2017 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with Chaplain James Steelman officiating. The songs "I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston and "America" by Neil Diamond was played. Serving as escorts were the United States Army.

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

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of CSM (Ret) Wafe and may be left at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 14. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

JUN 14. 12:00 PM (CT)

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



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*

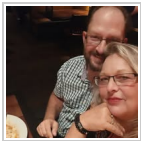


Memorial Chapels and Crematory - June 19, 2017 at 11:03 AM



“ *CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Ruth Keen lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*



Ruth Keen - June 28, 2017 at 06:22 PM



“ *Sad to hear of your passing Mr Wafe. You were a fine and dear man. We will miss you!
Jon, Cindy, Melissa*

melissa - June 14, 2017 at 07:57 AM



“ 53 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - June 13, 2017 at 04:36 PM

BW

“ *Biddy Wafe, Zottarella lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*



Biddy Wafe, Zottarella - June 13, 2017 at 09:13 AM

BW

I love you little brother. I hope to be with you in your peaceful place some day.

Biddy Wafe, Zottarella - June 13, 2017 at 09:17 AM

JR

I was stationed in Mannheim from 1979 to 1983. When I arrived to 181st Trans Battalion I was assigned to the 590th. I know from my experience there I didn't want to be anywhere else. He made a soldier out of me. I shined my brass many times for in-ranks inspection. It was acceptable because he always give me the day off. I will never forget that! I wanted to be like him. I only wished I could have reunited with him when I come back to the states. I know I would have made a career of it with Top as my leader . I would follow him anywhere. Thank you for your service and an honor to serve the US Army with you. I have tried numerous times to find where he went to when he came back to the states His success speaks for itself. I'm sorry it is late but memories last forever. Thank you for keeping his memory posted.

Jeffrey A. Roberts - June 23, 2020 at 01:18 PM

JD

“ *Best Non Commissioned Officer I ever served with. 590th Transportation Company, Turley Barracks Mannheim Germany. I was there 81 to 84.*

John Van Duser - June 12, 2017 at 07:57 PM

 Ricky Poe

“ *Rest in peace CSM Wafe, my prayers go out to your family in this time of sorrow and loss, may they find peace and comfort in knowing you are with our Lord and Savior and at peace.*




Ricky Poe - June 12, 2017 at 09:21 AM

RF

“ *Ron & Becky Bray & Family lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*



Ron & Becky Bray & Family - June 12, 2017 at 08:07 AM


Shanon
Borek

“ *Our sincerest sympathies and prayers for you all during this difficult time. The Borek Family*



Shanon Borek - June 12, 2017 at 07:57 AM

GR

“ *Gayle Reed lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*



Gayle reed - June 12, 2017 at 06:36 AM

TS

“ *The Schonboks lit a candle in memory of CSM (Ret) James Edward Wafe Sr.*



The Schonboks - June 12, 2017 at 05:46 AM

HF

“ Angel, Juanita and other family members: My heart has been sadden to hear of Jim's passing. He & Ray were the "bestest" of friends. They spent many hours in the "Man Cave" shop. . . . whether working together or just visiting. Both were 75 years old and jokingly saying that "it took two of them to make one" They would call me on the intercom every couple of hours for me to bring them a cold drink. They were just enjoying life. Both of them loved their families soooo much. He was also very helpful in doing maintenance around the house. He had a wide variety of knowledge & talent. I miss his phone calls & coming and going since Ray passed. I take condolence in knowing that they are together again. Thanks Juanita for the phone call. I plan to see you all on Wednesday.

Helen Fleischer - June 11, 2017 at 07:04 PM