



## SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue

January 15, 1933 - November 14, 2017

SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue, was born on January 15, 1933 in New Albany, Indiana to Alvis and Pauline Rue. He is preceded in death by his parents and seven siblings: Alvis, John, Pat, Edna, Lucille, Rose, and Pauline.

Joe leaves his wife, Shirley, whom he was married to for almost 64 years and four daughters: Linda Myers (Logan), Debra Stockstill (Stacey), Cathy Sundell (Roy) all of Waynesville, and Donna Boatright (Neal) of Brunswick, Georgia; four siblings: Don Rue, Dot Fordyce, Charlene Rose, and Janet Creech, all of Indiana; ten grandchildren: Billy Stealy (Amanda) of Waynesville, Amanda Cantrell (Travis) of Niangua, Robert Wilkinson (Jamey) of Crocker, Ashely Moss (Dustin) of Crocker, Wesley Nickels (Naomi) of Burke, Virginia, Paul Sundell (Kaitlyn) of Waynesville, Brad and Sarah Sundell of Waynesville, Amber and Dalton Boatright (Mary) of Brunswick, Georgia; nine great grandchildren: Austin, Aribella, Jace, Hunter, Lindsay, Isaac, Lacey, Cody, and Sophie.

With a calling to serve his country, Joe enlisted in the U.S. Army as soon as he was of age. After completing his basic training, he was immediately sent to Korea. During this tour, he was awarded the Purple Heart for his service and sacrifice on the front line.

Upon his return home, he was stationed in California, where he met the love

of his life, Shirley McBride. After just six weeks of courtship, he proposed and she happily accepted. Eager to start their new journey together they drove to Las Vegas, Nevada and exchanged their vows in the Little White Chapel on December 21, 1953. Now married, Joe and Shirley resided in California until orders were received to move to Germany. Honored to serve his country, Joe completed tours in Korea, Iceland, and Vietnam before he would retire in 1971 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, a station that would become home. Upon retirement from the U.S. Army, Joseph Rue had completed 20 years of service to country for which he was proud. This honor and pride in service to country was instilled into his grandson, Wesley Nickels, who has served in numerous tours through the Air Force since 2002.

After his retirement from the U.S. Army, Joe became a Walmart greeter which he thoroughly enjoyed. He loved greeting people of all ages and took great pride in being the welcoming face of visits. Outside of his work at Walmart, Joe enjoyed aviation, fishing, traveling, and spending time with his family. When he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at the age of 70, he eventually had to retire from Walmart but loved going back to visit all of his co-workers.

In 2015, Joe became a resident of the VA home in St. James, Missouri where he remained until God called him home. He was loved by all who knew him and he loved them in return. Joe will be greatly missed but will always remain within our hearts.

Services were held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, November 17, 2017 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with Pastor Danny Graves officiating. The songs "Precious Memories" by Alan Jackson, "I'll Meet You in the Morning" by Albert E. Brumley, Jr. and "Lord, I'm Coming Home" by the Gaither Vocal Band were played. Serving as escorts were Billy Stealy, Robert Wilkinson, Wesley Nickels, Paul Sundell, Dalton Boatright and Dustin Moss. 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 SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Rue 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

NOV **16**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

NOV **17**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

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NOV 17. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - November 27, 2017 at 04:27 PM



“ *SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Mr. Rue was one of the kindest men we have ever met. He always had a kind word for my husband and I. Always wanted to know what we were up to. He will be sadly missed. Your family are in our thoughts and prayers. David & Sheree Reppert Flynn.*



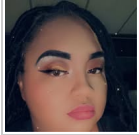
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**Sheree Reppert Flynn** - November 19, 2017 at 01:30 AM



“ *Daniel & Lorie Cerda lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**Daniel & Lorie Cerda** - November 17, 2017 at 06:11 PM



“ *he had a smile that lit up the room the sweetest man that i ever meet he was my RUE BEAR It Was a honor to take care of you*



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**MizElizabeth Williams** - November 17, 2017 at 11:58 AM

SD

“ *Sandy Drossel lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**Sandy Drossel** - November 17, 2017 at 07:50 AM

DA

“ *Delma Adkins lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**delma adkins** - November 16, 2017 at 10:53 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss, Debbie. I know it's a difficult time.*

*--Marianne Ward*



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**Marianne Ward** - November 16, 2017 at 07:27 PM

SW

“ *Sandy Watson lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**Sandy Watson** - November 16, 2017 at 07:00 PM

GP

“ *I'm very sorry for your loss. You may not know me but I'm Pat's  
(Joe's sister who passed away) daughter Ginny. I got to talk with  
Joe when he came to Indiana to visit and attend the Rue reunions.  
Loved sitting and talking with him and hearing his stories. Give my  
mom a hug for me Uncle Joe!*  
*Ginny Prell*

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**Ginny Prell** - November 16, 2017 at 07:00 PM

ET

“ *Effie Trentham lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**Effie Trentham** - November 16, 2017 at 06:40 PM

MH

“ *Michelle Harrell lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*

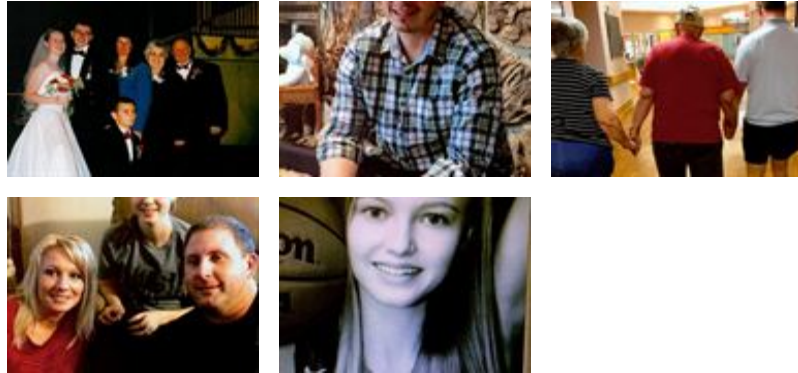


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**Michelle Harrell** - November 16, 2017 at 06:21 PM



“ 6 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - November 16, 2017 at 05:04 PM

LC

“ *Linda Cole-Schonbok lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



**Linda Cole-Schonbok** - November 16, 2017 at 01:42 PM

LR

“ *Linda Renno lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



**Linda Renno** - November 16, 2017 at 11:57 AM



“ 59 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - November 16, 2017 at 11:05 AM



“ *Judy Waters lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



**Judy Waters** - November 16, 2017 at 10:57 AM



“ *Gertrud Hale lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



**Gertrud Hale** - November 16, 2017 at 09:50 AM

JG

“ *It was an honor to care for Joe and his wonderful family. MY PUDDINTANE is flying in the arms of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. Comfort to all of you.. Joanie green*

Joanie green - November 16, 2017 at 09:27 AM

BL

“ *Ben Lord lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



Ben Lord - November 16, 2017 at 08:14 AM

CH

“ *Deb & Stacey - Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family. May you find peace in this period of uncertainty and mourning.*



Christine & Dennis Hutchinson - November 16, 2017 at 06:47 AM

BL

“ *Our condolences to the entire family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*



Berry, Shana and Harrison Long - November 16, 2017 at 12:17 AM

SZ

“ Shannon Zarccone lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue



Shannon Zarccone - November 15, 2017 at 10:16 PM



“ Sandy Hoover lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue



Sandy Hoover - November 15, 2017 at 10:13 PM

CG

“ Sending love and condolences. Thinking of all who loved him and praying for comfort. So sorry for your loss. With love and sympathy, Cindy Grizzell

Cindy Grizzell - November 15, 2017 at 09:24 PM

LD

“ Lucy Davis lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue



Lucy Davis - November 15, 2017 at 09:17 PM

AD

“ *Amee Dumas lit a candle in memory of SFC  
(Ret) Joseph "Joe" Thomas Rue*



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**Amee Dumas** - November 15, 2017 at 10:21 AM