



SFC (Ret) Donald Pate

January 12, 1939 - May 24, 2010

Donald Pate departed this life at 6:37 a.m., Monday, May 24, 2010, at Cox South Hospital, Springfield, Missouri, at the age of 71 years, 4 months and 12 days.

Donald and his identical twin brother, Ronald, were born on January 12, 1939, in East Carondelet, Illinois. The boys were two of thirteen children born to the union of the late Daniel Howard and Zady Ann (Kelly) Pate.

On March 21, 1959 in St. Louis, Missouri, Donald was united in marriage with Betty Jane Coleman, and to this union, four children were born: Donald James, Catherine Lynn, Robert Wade and Lawrence James. They were also blessed with ten grandchildren: Michelle, Andrynne, Joshua, Brittany, Robert Jr., Jeanne, Dakota, Sandra, Joseph and Heather.

Donald served his country proudly in the U.S. Army for nearly thirty years. He was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars. For his faithful and honorable service, he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal (5th award), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Driver Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with one silver service star, Vietnam Service Medal with one bronze service star, VC of Gallantry Unit Citation with palm, Expert Qualification Badge M16, Sharpshooter Qualification Badge M14, the Meritorious Service Medal, along with several other awards and

commendations. Sergeant First Class Pate retired from active duty service in 1980, at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Donald and Betty enjoyed their home and neighborhood in the Plato/Roby area. They were members of Roby Baptist Church, and Donald was active in the Plato VFW and American Legion. He was also a member of the DAV Chapter 49, Crocker.

Donald enjoyed raising and riding horses, bowling, helping with Special Olympics, and playing on the farm. He especially loved spending time and playing with his grandchildren.

Donald will be sadly missed by four children: Donald James Pate, Plato, Catherine Lynn Potts (Larry), Duke, Robert Wade Pate (Cheryl), Cocoa, Florida and Lawrence James Pate (Angela), Cabool; 10 grandchildren; Michelle, Andrynne, Joshua, Brittany, Robert Jr., Jeanne, Dakota, Sandra, Joseph and Heather; one sister: Anna Merrill of the state of Wisconsin, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, and wife, Donald was preceded in death by eleven siblings and two grandchildren: Daniel James and Crystal Lynn.

Funeral services with military honors were held at 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, June 1, 2010 in the Roby Baptist Church with Bro. Brock Davis officiating. Several family members recalled their wonderful memories of Donald. Donald's granddaughter wrote and recorded a song for her grandfather titled "It Hurts Missin' You", which was played at the service. The songs "The Old Rugged Cross", "I'll Fly Away" and "Amazing Grace" were also played. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood.

Graveside services were held at 1:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 2, 2010 in the

Lakewood Park Cemetery. Serving as escorts were Robert Pate, Lawrence Pate, Joshua Pate, Robert Pate, Jr., Joseph Pate and Brittany Pate. Serving as honorary escorts were Michelle Potts, Adrynne Pate, Jeanne Pate, Heather Pate, Sandra Pate and Dakota Pate. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Donald Pate and may be left at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Service

JUN 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

Roby Baptist Church
12750 Hwy 17
Roby, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of SFC (Ret) Donald Pate*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - May 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *SFC (Ret) Donald Pate*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *I just found out I'm So sorry, Don will be missed.....##imported-begin##John Elliott##imported-end##*

June 05, 2010 at 08:48 PM



“ *We are sorry to hear of your dads passing away. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.##imported-begin##Jerry & Carolyn Lee##imported-end##*

June 01, 2010 at 04:50 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to you. You had a wonderful father.##imported-begin##Pamela Cox##imported-end##*

June 01, 2010 at 03:37 PM



“ Time sure flies by. I remember when you kids were young and your mom had the ceramic shop. I spent lots of hours there. I'm sure she had a big smile on her face when she saw your dad. I recently lost my mom, and dad probably asked her what took so long? It's hard for the ones left behind. Even though this is all in God's plan, it doesn't make your loss any less. Just cherish the time you had and in time , you will have a lot of things to remember and laugh about. You are all in our prayers
Jim and Carol Woods###imported-begin##Carol Woods###imported-end##

June 01, 2010 at 12:21 PM



“ Donnie, Robert, Cathy and Larry you are all in my thoughts and prayers.###imported-begin##Arlene Nordmann###imported-end##

June 01, 2010 at 08:32 AM



“ My prayers are with you as you walk through this grieving process.###imported-begin##Micheal Dickens###imported-end##

May 31, 2010 at 04:56 PM



“ we love you dad you be greatly missed i always thought of you like my own father you have been there and done more for me i will cherish everything you tought me may you rest in peace.may you watch over everyone the memories we had togther will be greatly cherished and never forgotten.###imported-begin##larry potts###imported-end##

May 31, 2010 at 04:09 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies go to all the family.

You all are in our thoughts and prayers.

May God guide and lead you in this time of need. We pray that God wraps His arms around you and the family and lets you know that you are not going through this alone.

We are all grieving with you because of such a wonderful man.

God needed another angel and thought he would make the perfect angel for his picking.##imported-begin##Mr & Mrs Murray Rosendahl##imported-end##

May 30, 2010 at 12:29 AM



“ *The short time we lived with you and your family my children and myself learned a lot.*

My condolences to your family.##imported-begin##Stephanie Bruder and Family##imported-end##

May 28, 2010 at 11:35 AM



“ *We are sorry for your loss, Don was a great man. We love you all like you were our own flesh and blood. If you need anything just let us know we will do what we can##imported-begin##Jon C. Nelson##imported-end##*

May 28, 2010 at 09:17 AM



“ With sad hearts we the sisters-in-laws of Robert Pate send our love and open arms to you and your family
Love Cindi,Sandy.Peggy.Barba##imported-begin##Peggy
Kieth##imported-end##

May 27, 2010 at 10:57 PM



“ Sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Ira and Joyce Meadows##imported-end##

May 27, 2010 at 10:47 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to the entire family. We have fond memories of the many years we knew Don , especially at Special Olympics and Tri-county Club.##imported-begin##Arthur and Caroline Burnor and Dee-Dee##imported-end##

May 27, 2010 at 08:46 PM



“ Our prayers are with all of the Pate family. Sorry to hear of Don's passing. We had our time to love him too.##imported-begin##Betty Roberts Pate and the Roberts family##imported-end##

May 27, 2010 at 03:25 PM



“ I'am so sorry for your loss, (Don)was a great man, i enjoyed what time i gottent o spend with him,, andthe family,, i cherish it always,,##imported-begin##Kevin Sharp##imported-end##

May 27, 2010 at 12:49 PM



“ So sorry to hear of the death of Don. You are all in our prayers.##imported-begin##Doug and Marcy Pate##imported-end##

May 25, 2010 at 08:57 PM



“ I WAS SO SAD TO HEAR OF MR PATE'S PASSING. MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY. MAY GOD WRAP HIS ARMS AROUND HIM AS HE LEAVES HIS EARTHLY LIFE FOR GOD'S GARDEN##imported-begin##KATHY wILLIAMS##imported-end##

May 25, 2010 at 08:14 PM