



Lt. Col. Rudy Harris Sells

DEC 1, 1948 - AUG 14, 2023



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Lt. Col. Rudy Harris Sells

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Lt Col (Ret) Rudy Sells, 74, of Blytheville, AR, entered God's kingdom on August 14th, 2023. He was born on December 1st, 1948, to Frankie and Sylvia Sells in Livingston, TN.

Rudy, the most loving and devoted father and grandfather, is survived by his wife, Jeanette; daughters, Suzanne and Dani; sons-in-law, Sean and Stephen; grandchildren, Mae Claire, Emma, Elle Jae, Keely, and Luke; and his loyal dog, Rocky, who followed him everywhere.

Rudy served as an enlisted sailor on the Navy riverboats patrolling Vietnam, and he is both a Vietnam War and Gulf War veteran. He left for Vietnam as a newlywed and returned to a family, raising two daughters at Jeanette's side. Since then, he has filled the world with unparalleled love, grace, and patience. After returning from his Vietnam War tour, Rudy continued to serve in the Navy reserves, and he used the GI Bill to earn a degree in nursing at Middle Tennessee State University. He then was commissioned as an Air Force Officer, and later selected by the Air Force to attend anesthesia school at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX.

A man of boundless experiences, he easily entertained others with wisdom that comes from truly living a hard scrabble life to the fullest. A man of true integrity, Rudy loved all, trusted many, and offered a listening ear to family and friends. A man of simple taste who mowed the lawn in scrubs, celebrated birthdays with Skilcraft pens, restored classic cars as a hobby, and enjoyed cross country road trips with his grandchildren. Rudy worked hard to provide his family with the best life possible, planting the seeds that would lead to opportunities for his children and grandchildren unlike any he had known.

Visitation will be from 9 am until 10 am on Saturday, August 26 at Spring Hill Funeral Home in Nashville. A Celebration of Life Service will follow at 10 am. Burial w/ military graveside honors will take place in the Historic Spring Hill Cemetery.



Events

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Visitation

- 📅 **Saturday**, August 26, 2023
- 🕒 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM CT
- 📍 **Spring Hill Funeral Home**
5110 Gallatin Pike S, Nashville TN 37216



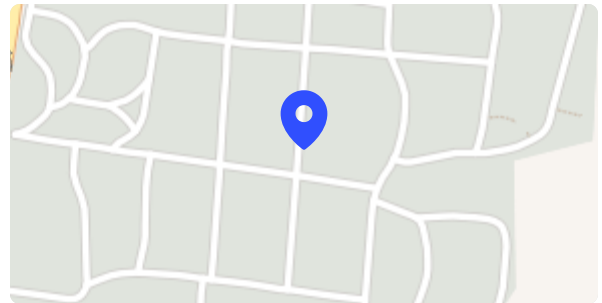
Celebration of Life Memorial Service

- 📅 **Saturday**, August 26, 2023
- 🕒 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
- 📍 **Spring Hill Funeral Home**
5110 Gallatin Pike S, Nashville TN 37216



Cemetery Details

- 📍 **Spring Hill Cemetery**
5110 Gallatin Pike S, Nashville TN 37216
- 📞 **615-866-1419**





Tribute Wall

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Carolyn Tarpey Watson posted:

Everyone loved Rudy. To me, he was never a brother in law, always another one of my brothers. I love you and you will always be alive in my heart. Carolyn

August 25 at 3:52 PM



Vicky Spodeck posted:

Rudy was like a brother to me during high school years. He surprised me with a charm for my bracelet that read, "Brother Rudy". Your beautifully written tribute to him speaks exactly what I (and his classmates) would've expected. Heaven looks sweeter to me every day. Vicky Koger Spodeck

August 25 at 2:31 PM



Suzanne Sells Sabin posted:

During my time in Chicago with my dad, I went to mass at Holy Name Cathedral. After returning from the last mass I attended, Daddy asked about the service. I told him Fr. Greg began his homily with the following quote from Benjamin Franklin, "A long life may not be good enough, but a good life will be long enough." In his last days, Daddy was at peace and reassured us he had led a good life. For me, it would never be long enough. I'm blessed to have been raised by this man. He remains the most authentic person I've ever met. I'm grateful for the many lessons he taught me through extensive actions and few words. Thanks to him I was raised to believe I could rebuild an engine with access to the base hobby shop and a Chilton's manual. At the time, I thought I was embedded in a father-daughter project of this choosing. Later, I came to realize that the lessons I learned under the hood of that '65 Mustang would spill over into every aspect of my life. Thanks, Daddy, for teaching me the value of self-discipline and hard work. Thanks for giving me a sense of vision. Where others saw a \$950 piece of scrap metal, you could see a show car. Thanks for instilling a sense of purpose in me and passing along a great love for big plans and tough projects. May you know how truly adored and deeply appreciated you were to those who knew and loved you best. Until we meet again in the car barn, Suzi.

August 25 at 8:36 AM



Anonymous sent a Days of Sunshine Bouquet to the Sells family.



August 23 at 2:23 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Rudy.



August 23 at 2:23 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Rudy by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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