



Eldridge Elias "Sonny" Laurence Jr

August 6, 1947 - January 19, 2025

Eldridge Elias "Sonny" Laurence Jr. age 77, went to see his Heavenly Father, Sunday, January 19, 2025, in Sweetwater, Tennessee. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church, 112 Key Kile Rd. Sweetwater, TN. from 4-6 pm.

Sonny was born August 6, 1947, in Washington, Pennsylvania and married his loving wife of 58 years, Margaret "Peggy" Laurence, on December 26, 1966. He was preceded in death by his mother, Jessie Maude "Gault" Laurence, and father, Eldridge Laurence Sr., sisters, Joy Spragg Horsley, Fay Annette Bunner, and brother, Kenneth Laurence. He leaves behind his loving wife, Margaret "Peggy" Laurence and two sons Richard Allen Laurence and Robert Aaron Laurence, and his sister, Helen Jane Clutter. Grandchildren: Julia, Samantha, Sarah, Sam, Matt, and Micheal, and many nieces and nephews.

Sonny proudly served in the United States Marine Corp from 1966-1970 as a Sergeant for HMX-1 Presidential Helicopter Squadron serving under Presidents Johnson and Nixon. After serving he used the skills he learned to become a body shop manager in Alexandria, VA and continued to work in the trade for 36 years. He was a Boy Scout leader, active with his church, an avid football and NASCAR fan raising his sons to love both and to love God.

Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater, in charge of arrangements. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

In lieu of flowers please donate to the Wounded Warriors Project in his name:

https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=11585&ovr_acv_id=16821&campaignSource=ONLINE&source=BS25001AAANBXAA&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiAqL28BhCrARIsACYJvkfwB9qAh4P8a7JDSnD2-JSHGVbljm9uDSrUISoeCwV5yIVDMNhyDBAaAkmeEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN **25**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Fairview Bpatist Tabernacle Church
112 Key Kile Rd
Sweetwater, TN 37874

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Jane Gullickson purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Eldridge Elias "Sonny" Laurence Jr.



Jane Gullickson - January 23, 2025 at 03:04 PM

JG

“ Jane Gullickson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eldridge Elias "Sonny" Laurence Jr.

Jane Gullickson - January 23, 2025 at 03:04 PM

JC

“ *Sonny always had a smile on his face. I'm sure Rob and Rich have seen different versions of Sonny over the years :), but to me - he was always happy. Even when I totalled my Chevy Blazer, he looked up at me and smiled asking "What'd you do?". To this day, the scene in Tommy Boy where the car door gets ripped off at the gas station reminds me of that trip to the body shop and Sonny asking me the question I just didn't want to answer, but did anyway. He knew what I did before he asked. An important moment that helped me realize I didn't want to go through that again! Every Christmas, my brother and I would see Sonny hanging lights - the house lit up the whole cul-de-sac! Santa Claus at the cub scout pack meeting? Pretty sure that was Sonny (if not, don't ruin my magic!). My heart goes out to the family, especially Peggy, Rich, and Rob whom I have known the majority of my life. I know Rob and Rich will carry on Sonny's legacy as strong fathers, grandfather's, and maybe beyond that! For you youngsters (Julia, Sam, Sarah, and Michael) you had a wonderful grandfather and and I know (like me) you feel very fortunate to have had him in your lives. God Bless all of you, sending many thoughts and prayers for peaceful healing!*
Jason

Jason Crawley - January 21, 2025 at 07:30 PM

KM

“ *Sonny and Peggy were an important part of Athens church of Christ. After their health kept them from attending in house services..they were faithful to be worshipping online every Sunday. Praying for Peggy and the family.*

kaye McCullough - January 21, 2025 at 06:38 PM