



## William Franklin Milburn

April 25, 1948 - March 10, 2024

William "Bill" Franklin Milburn age 75, of Kingston, TN was called home to the Lord on Sunday, March 10, 2024. Bill served as a Deacon of the Presbyterian Church of Nashville for 20 years, and as an Elder for 4 years before moving back to his roots in Roane County. Bill owned and operated Southeast Contractors, Inc. for 40 years. The company is now under the ownership of his son, Will, who operates out of the Franklin, TN office. Bill had a deep love for all animals, especially horses and rode horse trails all over the United States. Bill was a United States Army Veteran and served in the Vietnam War as the team leader for a Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol Team.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Margie Milburn, and sister, Cynthia.

Survived by his wife Deni Milburn; son, Will Milburn (wife Heather); daughter, Amy Nelson (husband Ken); brother, Randy Milburn (wife Kim); sister, Mary Stewart; grandchildren, Lilly, William and Madison; stepson, Kaine Austin (wife Fernanda); stepdaughter, Ashley Parsons; step-grandchildren, Kennon, Emery, Collins, Elle, Nola and Sophia.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Folds of Honor or Tunnel to Towers organizations.

A Celebration of Life will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 16, 2024, at Kyker Funeral Home of Kingston with Reverend Dwight Bass officiating. Full Military Honors by the Roane County Military Memorial Honor Guard and the Tennessee Army National Guard. Reception will follow from 1:00 p.m. until

3:00 p.m. at Victoria the Gathering Place, 316 Ruritan Road, Harriman, TN.  
Kyker Funeral Home of Kingston is serving the Milburn Family.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes  
OUR KINGSTON CHAPEL  
PO Box 69, 350 W Race St  
Kingston, TN 37763  
(865) 376-6531  
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Reception

MAR **16**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

The Victoria Gathering Place  
316 Ruritan Road  
Harrimant, TN 37748

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kyker Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Franklin Milburn*



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**Kyker Funeral Home** - March 15, 2024 at 10:36 AM

LL

“ *He did a horrible job on our home and cheated us out of thousands of dollars. He owes us 798,000.00 per the judge.*

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**lloyd** - March 29, 2025 at 08:11 PM

DJ

“ *I am not sure that I knew Bill as I was with the Recon Unit 60 or 70 days before I was shot in the arm on Oct 4 1970 (August -mid Oct 1970). But I can say that in that Recon unit we were brothers and trusted our lives to each other. Like Bill, I too am 75 and a 1966 HS graduate (South Texas). It's hard to see brothers go and cope with the absence left on families & friends. We are all so sorry for Bills' loss.*

*Our condolences,  
Delfino & Nora Garza*

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**Delfino Garza, Jr.** - March 19, 2024 at 11:57 AM

HH

“ Deni: It is sad for me to learn of Bill's passing. Bill was part of the graduating class of 1966 at the old, now destroyed by fire, Harriman High School. I was in that graduating class. I know a lot of us guys were drafted and answered our call to serve in the military. I was in Pleuki, Ankhe, and Phu Bai, South Vietnam in 1970. I was a combat engineer. I and others from that class served with HONOR as well. I have only attended the class reunion of 2000. So, I haven't done a good job of keeping up with fellow classmates. I learned last year that you lived across the street from my sister, A. G., and had planned to make a trip and visit this spring and catch up with Bill. I am sad that that visit will not happen. I will keep you and your family in my prayers. Sincerely, Howard Hendrickson

Howard W. Hendrickson - March 17, 2024 at 04:46 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Franklin Milburn.



March 15, 2024 at 10:23 PM

BF

“ Bob, Carol Carver and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Franklin Milburn.

Bob, Carol Carver and family - March 15, 2024 at 10:23 PM

TC

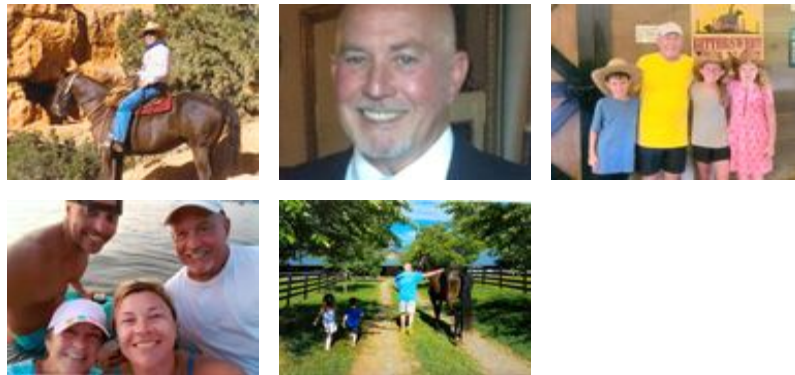
“ *Brubby and I grew up together playing army in the place we called the Jungle, playing football in the Silvie’s side yard, and all manner of things that young boys do. Those were great times and will always be remembered. Brubby was a special friend!*  
*Tuffy Clinton*



Tuffy Clinton - March 15, 2024 at 04:20 PM



“ *34 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Kyker Funeral Home - March 15, 2024 at 10:32 AM

MH

*It was such a great pleasure to see Bill again and meet his wife Deni at our first Army Recon reunion at Roy Stephens house. We were just a bunch of young men who had to grow up too fast in the jungles of Vietnam. I was 19 years old when I joined Bill's Recon Unit. We shared many stories and were able to reconnect after so many years. He was a great leader for our team and a great man and father. Our deepest condolences to Deni and the family. He will always be a brother to me!*  
*Love, Mike and Linda Hunt.*

Michael S Hunt - March 16, 2024 at 12:22 PM

SR

“ Sean and Gina Roach purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of William Franklin Milburn.



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**Sean and Gina Roach** - March 14, 2024 at 02:24 PM

SR

“ Sean and Gina Roach planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Franklin Milburn.

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**Sean and Gina Roach** - March 14, 2024 at 02:24 PM

DR

“ I first met Bill in February of 1970, 54 years ago. I had just got "in country", Vietnam. I was flown by helicopter to a landing zone on top of LZ Center in the Central Highlands. I had been attached to a Long-Range Reconnaissance Unit with a handful of other men. We were all between 20 to 22 years old with the exception of one, Willie Simpson, who had fought in the first major battle in Vietnam, the Battle of La Dang.

Bill quickly became our leader. He was a small guy but to us Bill was 6'6" and weighed 245. You didn't give Bill any lip for he was tough as nails, determined, and tenacious.

All of us in our small group were sergeants, but wore no rank. We were a bunch of young ragtag soldiers with no socks, no underwear, no dog tags, but each carried a heavy pack and an M16 fully loaded and plenty of ammo.

Being in reconnaissance we had to look and smell like the jungle. We did this for over a year with only a few days off on LZ Center to prepare for our next mission. I was fortunate enough to serve alongside Bill as his RTO. When we lost our medic without hesitation Bill threw the medical bag to me and designated me the new medic until a replacement could be had. He was that kind of a take charge guy. If there was a problem he fixed it. If there was a need he filled it. I can truly say Bill was a good leader. There was no one better than Bill!

For a brief time, in a country 12,000 miles from home, we ate together, slept together, fought together, and bled together. We were more than friends, we were brothers, a band of brothers, whose love and friendship would endure for over half a century.

Each time our little group would get together to rehash and reminisce at Bill's house, we were always greeted with open arms by Deni. Deni was so gracious and made us all feel welcome. She put up with our never-ending war stories and was the perfect hostess. We love you Deni. It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our friend and our brother, Bill, you will never be forgotten.

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Dewayne Runions - March 13, 2024 at 04:03 PM

DJ

“ *Dana & Jessica purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of William Franklin Milburn.*



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**Dana & Jessica** - March 13, 2024 at 03:35 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Franklin Milburn.*



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March 13, 2024 at 02:24 PM

MB

“ *Deni and family we are so sorry about Bill's passing! He was a wonderful man and I loved his personality. Love you! Mary Jane and Wendell*

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**Mary Bunch** - March 13, 2024 at 09:19 AM

BE

“ *I have fond memories of knowing Bill while he lived in Franklin. It's always nice seeing a "hometown" after you move away. Sending sympathy to the family.*

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**Brenda Elam** - March 13, 2024 at 08:57 AM

T(

“ Trish Marshall (Winkowski) purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of William Franklin Milburn.



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**Trish Marshall (Winkowski)** - March 12, 2024 at 02:35 PM

T(

“ Trish Marshall (Winkowski) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Franklin Milburn.

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**Trish Marshall (Winkowski)** - March 12, 2024 at 02:35 PM

NF

“ Nick Smythe and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William Franklin Milburn.



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**Nick Smythe and family** - March 12, 2024 at 09:07 AM

TF

“ The OG's of Franklin purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of William Franklin Milburn.



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**The OG's of Franklin** - March 11, 2024 at 09:41 PM

TF

“ *The OG's of Franklin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Franklin Milburn.*

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**The OG's of Franklin** - March 11, 2024 at 09:41 PM