



Ned Newkirk

January 31, 1942 - September 14, 2018

Ned Wendell Newkirk, 76, died Friday, September 14, 2018, in Riverside, California. He passed from complications of a medical procedure. Ned had lived at his home in Moreno Valley, California for the past forty years.

The youngest son of Claude Newkirk and Lillie-Mae Platz Newkirk, Ned was born January 31, 1942 in Shelbyville, Missouri. He was one of seven children and grew up in a farming community. Recollections of Ned's childhood always brought him much pleasure.

On November 26, 1966, Ned married Dawn Roemer at the Macon Baptist Church in Macon, Missouri. During the first few years of marriage Ned and his wife finished their education at Northeast Missouri State College and entered the teaching profession. After receiving his master's degree in education, Ned and his wife moved to Moreno Valley, California where he was employed by the Riverside Unified School District for thirty years. During this time he made many lifelong friends at Chemawa Middle School where he taught Industrial Arts. Additionally, he was a driver's education instructor for the district. In 2002 Ned retired from his teaching duties to pursue his many passions such as gardening, cooking, and spending time with friends and relatives. Membership in the Maywood Gun Club also afforded Ned many enjoyable activities.

An extremely loving and caring man, Ned was devoted to his family. He nurtured his two children in an exemplary manner. He adored his four year old grandson who spent many hours sharing time with Grandpa.

Multi-talented, this U.S. Army veteran with a winsome personality embellished his daughter's ballet shoes, served as assistant Scout Master for his son's Boy Scout troop, taught hunter safety classes to area residents, created oil paintings which he delighted in gifting to loved ones, and designed a lovely rose garden complete with irrigation system, a gift for his wife. Blessed with a spirit of helpfulness, he consistently offered assistance to others in their time of need, lending emotional support to those going through difficulties in their lives and once giving days of his sick leave to a fellow teacher going through

extended cancer treatments. Driving to another state, he remodeled a kitchen for his sister-in-law, Faith Wong, and many times Ned provided loving care for his sick mother-in-law. Jolliness was his signature trait. His quick wit and humorous jokes kept others in good spirits. His strong sense of responsibility and trustworthiness were attributes greatly appreciated by all who knew him.

Ned and Dawn celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in November 2016. During his final years, he courageously battled three forms of cancer with dignity and a fervent commitment to live. His wonderful sense of humor and wit remained intact to the very end. Visits from family and friends were the healing tonic he most loved. His passing leaves a tremendous void in those who loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers; J.C. Newkirk, Bob Newkirk, Byrl Newkirk, Lyle Newkirk; and infant sister, Elaine Newkirk.

Surviving are his wife Dawn, his son Timothy Lance Newkirk (MaryLouise), his daughter, Tiffany Dawn Cheney (Jonathan), one grandchild, Daniel Richmond Newkirk, one sister, Janet Eaton (Stanley) of Macon, Missouri and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Ned's life will be held Saturday, October 6, 2018, at 11:00 am at the Grove Community Church in Riverside California. A visitation will be held October 9, 2018 at 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Arlington Mortuary in Riverside, California followed by interment at the Riverside National Cemetery at 2:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Stand Up To Cancer which can be brought to the service and dropped in the donation box.

Cemetery

Events

Riverside National Cemetery

22495 Van Buren Blvd.

Riverside, CA, 92518

OCT

9

Funeral Service

09:00AM

Arlington Mortuary

9645 Magnolia Ave, Riverside, CA, US, 92503

OCT

9

Graveside Service

02:00PM

Riverside National Cemetery

22495 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside, CA, US, 92518