



Mr. James Benjamin "Buddy" Ruff, Sr.

January 27, 1936 - April 30, 2024

In the early morning hours of April 30, 2024, the sun became brighter in Heaven, but our hearts will forever be broken with the loss of our Patriarch of the Ruff Family, James Benjamin Ruff Sr. "Buddy", age 88 years old.

Buddy passed peacefully at his beautiful home in Nickville, GA, the place he called "Heaven On Earth." His devoted wife of 67 years, Nancie Ruff, was forever by his side. Anything he was dealing with, she was enduring it with him. Their bond together is the true epitome of a pure everlasting love. Along with their children and grandchildren, she was able to keep him at home during his sickness, as he wished.

He was born on a cold day in the Glade community of Oglethorpe County, GA on January 27, 1936. It was so cold that they had to line quilts around the fireplace to circle him and keep him warm. His parents were James Clyde Ruff and Francis Mildred Ruff. Buddy has two sisters, Doris Landau of

Conyers, GA and Valerie Thompson of Elberton, GA.

Buddy graduated from Oglethorpe County High School - Class of 1954. He was baptized at Millstone Baptist Church and is still a member there. He served in the Navy during the Korean Conflict and was stationed on the USS Hancock Carrier. He retired from RiverEdge Granite in Elberton where he worked alongside his boys as "QC" and "referee" in his words! He loved every minute of it.

He was an avid outdoorsman and loved fishing at his pond, alongside the beaver that he had a love hate relationship with and a nonstop battle that still exists! His favorite sound was the chirp of bob-white quail. It gave him a smile, every time.

While in the Navy, he kept the post office busy with letters to the love of his life of 67 years, Nancie Lester Ruff. They created a unique family, and they were his whole world. Those closest to him understood his charismatic and one-of-a-kind personality. If you knew him, you loved him, and you would know if he loved you or not.

Survivors include his beautiful wife, Nancie Lester Ruff; their children, Cindy Fulghum (David), Bentley Ruff (Christina), Robin Hendrix (Roger), Greg Ruff (Shannon), Brad Ruff, and Kyle Ruff (Tami); grandchildren, Craig Fulghum (Christi), Kane Fulghum (Kara), Hunter Ruff (Kindra),

Savannah Hendrix (Brandon), Ashton Jones (Blake), Anna Ruff, Olivia Bell (Andrew), Ansley Hill (Max), Zach Hendrix, Hayden Ruff (Gabby), Holten Ruff, Thatcher Hendrix, Brayley Ruff, Gantt Ruff, McKenna Ruff, Meredith Hendrix, Kylie Ruff and Kade Ruff; and great grandchildren, Logan Fulghum, Kanyon Coulter, Charli Fulghum, Benji Ruff, Brooks Ruff, Bella Ridge Fulghum, Finley Hill, Baylor Ruff, Blakelee Ruff, Conley Bell, and Locklan Jones.

A private family burial was held at the Ruff Home Place. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Ruff Homeplace Cemetery

Nickville Road
Dewy Rose, GA 30634

Tribute Wall

MB

“ what a wonderful legacy Buddy has left in all the children, grandchildren and g-grands, I know he'll be greatly missed. Prayers for comfort for Nancie and family.
David & Margie Burt

Margie Burt - May 06, 2024 at 07:56 AM

GD

“ Nanci, I am so sorry. Buddy was someone you would never forget. Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family 🙏❤️🙏

Gail Holloman Dickerson - May 04, 2024 at 07:06 PM

CS

“ So sorry for the loss of you guys father . He was a true Gem ; and will be greatly missed . Prayers for Tal's entire family .
Chris dtorey

chris storey - May 04, 2024 at 11:27 AM

CS

I am sorry but auto correct stuck . Prayers for y'all's entire family .
Chris Storey

chris storey - May 04, 2024 at 11:28 AM

GM

So sorry to hear about Buddy. Praying for all of the family during this time.

Gerald and Peggy Mercer - May 04, 2024 at 02:49 PM

DB

“ So sorry to hear this. My sincere condolences to Nancie and family.
Doug Bond

Doug Bond - May 04, 2024 at 09:43 AM

SM

So sorry Nancy for your loss. Prayers to all family members. Susan G. Mincey

Susan G. Mincey - May 07, 2024 at 07:05 AM