



David Lewis Waldron

January 20, 1959 - December 28, 2021

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Born in Long Beach California to Ralph Edward Waldron Sr. and Barbara Jean Holley of Virginia

Family is of the Baptist faith. David was born into a military family. Like most military families, David's family moved often in his formative years. Although a challenging childhood, David made friends quickly and easily. He was funny, caring, smart and quick witted. David could make you laugh with his spot-on impersonations of popular celebrities like sports announcer Howard Cosell and Paul Hogan's character "Crocodile Dundee".

From an early age, David excelled in sports, particularly baseball. David attended Kecoughtan High School in Hampton Virginia and was a standout baseball player in the mid-1970's. He was an accomplished guitarist and songwriter, never failing to captivate those who listened to him play a Jim Croce or Glen Campbell song. After the premature deaths of his parents, David took on the role as protector to his two younger brothers. David gave up his dream of becoming a professional baseball player, and instead enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as an aviation structural specialist and a flying crew chief on a CH-53 "Super Stallion" helicopter. David was a highly decorated combat Marine, earning a Combat Action Medal in the 1991 Gulf War in Iraq. David retired from the Marine Corps after 20 years of service in 1999 and made Pensacola Florida his home.

As a civilian, David continued his aviation career as a structural specialist on transport category aircraft. Working on everything from Boeing 767's to Airbus A320's. David would tell you that his greatest accomplishment was his four-decade marriage to his lovely wife Ann, their two beautiful daughters Barbara Jones (Lucas Jones) and Jessica Burton (SFC Jonathan Burton US Army), and their four grandchildren Lily, Abigail, Urijah, and Liam.

David was a dedicated family man. During his life, David enjoyed rebuilding antique cars, he was a self-taught carpenter, electrician, welder and metal former. He was a licensed private airplane pilot and held a Federal Aviation Administration Aircraft Mechanics Certificate with an Airframe and Powerplant rating. David was our rock and protector. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother. Faith Chapel Funeral Home North, 1000 South Highway 29, Cantonment, is entrusted with arrangements. You may express condolences online at www.fcfhs.com.

Cemetery

Events

Barrancas National Cemetery

1 Cemetery Road

Pensacola, FL, 32508

20

Visitation

09:00AM - 10:00AM

Faith Chapel Funeral Home and Crematory (South)

100 Beverly Pkwy, Pensacola, FL, US, 32505

JAN

20

Funeral Service

10:00AM

Faith Chapel Funeral Home and Crematory (South)

100 Beverly Pkwy, Pensacola, FL, US, 32505

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Faith Chapel Funeral Home and Crematory - January 04 at 06:02 PM



“ Jerome Pender lit a candle in memory of David Lewis Waldron



Jerome Pender - April 15 at 09:57 AM



“ Dave taught me 3 chords on guitar when I was a kid, he was so good at playing the guitar. I remember when he helped me fix my car in 2002 maybe. I'll miss seeing and talking with my cousin Dave. You were a great man.--Bobby Weaver

Bobby Weaver - March 15 at 05:50 PM



“ Unfortunately I was not able to be there with the family today, but I did get to watch the service. The girls did an amazing job memorializing their father, My Uncle David. Listening to them speak, made me want to be a better person and better father. What a great man he was. There isn't much more that I can say about him that hasn't already been said. so I will share a memory or two.

A customer of mine hosted a fishing weekend for several people and I was fortunate enough to be invited. It was near David and Ann, so I told them we would be in town for a few days. Although we hadn't spoken much over the years or seen each other in forever, They took the time to come spend an evening with Wendy and I. We went to dinner and then just grabbed a few beers and went back to the hotel. I don't remember if i asked or he offered, but when he showed up, he had his guitar. We sat in the hotel and he played and we sang to the best of our ability for hours. I asked for a few of my favorites of his (The Uneasy Rider & Time in a bottle). those were the two I remembered most from my childhood. My love for the song "Time in the Bottle" came from listening to him play it. It brought me back to 9 year old me, sitting in the kitchen of an old run down house in Hillsboro Tennessee... Listening to Dave, Billy, Mike, my parents and grandparents singing and playing guitar while I rocked out playin the spoons!!

Like most people I could go on forever talking about him. Like the time that he came home on leave and needed to do PT. So, he went and ran for awhile and then asked me to help him find some cinder blocks and a 2 x 4 so he could work out. I just watched in amazement. as he made his improvised gym and then worked out.

Dave was a great man, probably one of the best Fathers & husbands ever, a career United States Marine & my uncle... and he will be missed!

John Mills - January 20 at 12:05 PM



“ I'm Jessica's mother-in-law and we saw Dave a few times a year, usually at our shared grandson's birthdays. There was never a time that he wasn't smiling and greeting everyone like you were his friend. His love for Jessica, Barbara and his grandchildren was written all over his face. I can honestly say I've never met a happier guy than Dave. My heart goes out to his family and friends for their loss of such a wonderful man.

Lori Hood - January 18 at 08:59 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Michael Waldron - January 15 at 08:22 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Michael Waldron - January 11 at 10:49 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jared Wait - January 09 at 10:30 AM



“ RIP Dave!! You Were A Great Friend!! We Had Some Good Times Overseas And At New River!! Till We Meet Again!!

Terry Gruber

Terry Gruber - January 11 at 05:15 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the family. I pray for comfort and healing for all.



Linda Rubino - January 08 at 09:05 PM



“ Thank you, Linda.
Michael and I love you and the ZTribe.

michelle Waldron - January 12 at 08:11 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Lewis Waldron.



January 08 at 08:45 PM



“ Ann I am so sorry for your loss. We met Dan a couple of years ago, such a good man and wonderful husband. God bless...



donna sherrill - January 08 at 07:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Michael Waldron - January 08 at 02:31 PM



“ He was my favorite uncle even tho we didn't talk or see each other like I would've liked too. My heart aches for him and his family. He was always a good man and always smiling and happy to see me and my cousins. I love you uncle Dave. Rest easy



Kaylan Sherrill - January 06 at 10:17 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



michael waldron - January 04 at 09:01 PM



“ I feel I was a lucky person to have so many special, cool cousins. We grew up in a wonderful time in the 60's and 70's. I have so many beautiful memories. Totally unaware of the of the troubles you all were truly having. I love you David and whenever I remember you the first image I will have is your beautiful smile and playing your guitar.

Teresa Holley Ipson - January 04 at 11:20 AM



“ Mike please accept my deepest condolences for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I'm just a call away if you need to talk.
Steve Summey

Steve - January 04 at 10:49 AM



“ I didn't know David, however if he was anything like his brother Mike he must have been one hell of a guy. Mike you and your family are in our prayers. May God be with you during this time of sadness. I am always available should you wish to talk. Curt and Lee Ann

Curt & Lee Ann Mize - January 03 at 04:28 PM



“ Mike, please accept my deepest condolences for the loss of your brother. May the care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you and your family through the days ahead. Semper Fi!

Mike Pallatto (FAA) - January 03 at 03:30 PM



“ Mike Pallatto (FAA) purchased the "Sending You an Angel" Statue to Express Sympathy for Funeral Or Memorial for the family of David Lewis Waldron.



Mike Pallatto (FAA) - January 03 at 03:26 PM



“ I was given 4 brothers in answer to a wish I'd had forever. David was the one I connected to first. He was always wearing a smile. It was an honest smile lighting his eyes and his easy laugh was always evident. Later after he joined the Marines his body language showed his pride in his choice and it was all he could talk about. But then he met Ann and his world changed forever. We didn't keep in touch because life keeps us distracted. My fault totally. He was so proud of his girls ! I wish Ralph would have lived to meet them.

My favorite memory is Dave playing his guitar and playing my favorite song Time in A Bottle. Still my favorite and so much more meaningful now.

Praying for all of his family daily.

Sincerely

Roxanne

Roxanne Mills - January 02 at 10:36 AM



“ Rose Romanesque Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Lewis Waldron.



December 31, 2021 at 10:07 PM



“ David's kindness and generosity shined in his life. When I think of David, I remember all the fun and lots of smiles. I can see him now driving his beloved truck with the window down. Music blaring and as happy and carefree more than anyone I know. I live you cousin with all my heart. Always in my heart. Karin

Karin - December 31, 2021 at 09:25 PM



“ January 21, 1982 I flew with you on a CH-53 out of Tustin Marine Corps Air Station California. Landing on mountains and between trees, I was scared to death, but for you it was just another day at the office. Farewell Big Brother-Rest in Peace-Semper Fidelis



Michael Waldron - December 31, 2021 at 08:32 PM



“ I met Dave sometime in 1994 aboard the USS SAIPAN as a young Marine. I am the brother of Michelle Waldron, brother in law of Michael Waldron. I was told by Michael that his brother "dave" was also a Marine and was also deployed in the Caribbean. The USS SAIPAN was a helo carrier and very large with many Marines and sailors embarked on it. One day I was waiting in line at the ship's store behind a Staff Sergeant. We began to have a conversation which was more small talk due to him being a senior Marine and i being a lowly Lance Corporal. I noticed his name tape on his chest said "waldron". I asked him "staff sergeant, do you have a brother named Michael and is he married to a woman named Michelle? With a look of confusion, he replied "yeah, why?" I extended by hand to his and said it's nice to meet to you, you are my brother in law. They have a saying in the Marine Corps, "every formation is a family reunion". Throughout the years I've spoken to Michael about Dave. He has always spoken very highly of Dave and has told me many times that Dave was a true Marine and the toughest guy. As Marines usually are stereotyped this way, but what I also found out about him was Michael's description of his big brother as being the most loyal person he has known. He was unwavering of his loyalty to the Corps and to his family. I am deeply saddened to hear this tragic loss for the Waldron family. I am deeply saddened for my sister and brother in law, Michael and Michelle Waldron, whom I Love dearly. May our heavenly Father embrace Dave and the Waldron family. May God shower the Waldron family with love and mercy.

Michael and Elaine Pierce
Benton Louisiana

Marines Final Inspection

The Marine stood and faced God Which must always come to pass

He hoped his shoes were shining Just as brightly as his brass.

"Step forward Marine, How shall I deal with you?

Have you always turned the other cheek? To My Church have you been true?"

The Marine squared his shoulders and said, "No, Lord, I guess I ain't

Because those of us who carry guns Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays And at times my talk was tough,

And sometimes I've been violent, Because the world is awfully rough.

But, I never took a penny That wasn't mine to keep...

Though I worked a lot of overtime When the bills got just too steep.

And I never passed a cry for help, Though at times I shook with fear,

And sometimes, God forgive me, I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place Among the people here,

They never wanted me around Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord, It needn't be so grand,

I never expected or had too much, But if you don't, I'll understand."

There was a silence all around the throne Where the saints had often trod

As the Marine waited quietly, For the judgment of his God.

"Step forward Marine, You've borne your burdens well,

Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets, You've done your time in Hell."

Author: Sgt Joshua Helterbran

Michael Pierce - December 31, 2021 at 12:46 PM