

Rich Galloway

🕒 04.12.19

Rich Galloway, age 53, of Elk Park, North Carolina, went home to be with the Lord unexpectedly on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at his residence. Rich was born at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico. He is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents; and his mother-in-law, Susie M. Cain.

Rich was a United States Air Force veteran, having served in Operation Desert Storm. While on active duty he was a security policeman and a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape instructor. He always had a good sense of humor, was a good listener and was known as a survivalist — always carrying a knife and preparing for the next apocalyptic disaster. He played football for Marion Catholic High School in Pennsylvania and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). While in the service he earned the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

Rich enjoyed eating M&Ms, blowing things up, fly fishing, hunting and shooting. He was an avid knife collector and enjoyed volunteering at the One Acre Café, watching football and westerns and The Weather Channel. He also loved his family and his pets.

Those left to continue his legacy and cherish his memories include his Wife of two and a half years: Patricia O'Connor Galloway; his devoted and loving “four-legged children”: Mayflower and Sarge, of the home; and his special, dear Friend: Grant Caanan Stitt of Piney Flats, Tenn.

A service to remember and honor the life of Rich Galloway was conducted at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at Tetrick Funeral Home, Elizabethton, Tenn., with Pastor Pete Tackett, officiating. The family received friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the chapel, prior to the service on Tuesday.

The graveside service was conducted at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at Mountain Home National Cemetery. Military honors were accorded by the VFW of Newland, NC. Honorary pallbearers will be Col. Sam Ray, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), Col. Two Bear Ashe, U.S. Army (Ret), Lt. Col. Michael Halus, U.S. Army (Ret.), and Buck Sgt. Randy Syck, U.S. Air Force. Those wishing to attend the graveside service were asked to meet at the cemetery at 2:20 p.m. on Tuesday.

The family requests memorials in lieu of flowers. Please make donations to DAV Chapter 87, P.O. Box 698, Newland, NC 28657, or One Acre Café, P.O. Box 3411, Johnson City, Tenn., 37002.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the Mountain Home VA staff and providers for their care, love and support of Rich and his family.

Online condolences may be shared with the family by clicking to www.tetrickfuneralhome.com.

Tetrick Funeral Home of Elizabethton, Tenn., is serving the Galloway family.