



## Cohen Byrd DePriest Jr.

March 6, 1931 - January 18, 2023

Cohen Byrd DePriest Jr., age 91 of Clarksville passed peacefully on January 18th at Tennova Healthcare of natural causes.

Byrd was born March 6, 1931, in Denver, TN the son of the late Cohen Byrd Sr. and Ruby Gladys Bogard DePriest. He was preceded in death by his wife, Phillis M. DePriest, one son, David DePriest and one brother, Wayne DePriest. Also preceded by his first wife, Carmen Flores.

He served in the U.S. Air Force and retired after 21 years at the rank of Tech Sergeant. During his time of service, he served a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam and was awarded a Bronze Star for meritorious service. He also worked for GTE (Verizon) and retired after 17 years with the company.

Byrd was a member of the Sango United Methodist Church and Masonic Lodge #89 He was also a very dedicated Mason, serving as Puissant Sovereign of the St. Sebastian Conclave in Florida during 2017. He enjoyed watching sports to include golf, professional and college football, especially the University of Tennessee Vols.

Survivors include three sons, Thomas G. (Anita) DePriest, Richard L. DePriest and Robert L. (Donna) DePriest. Also, two daughters, Deborah Romanoski and Shona Cook; one sister Faye Dunn; 12 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

Byrd will be deeply missed by his family and friends, who were blessed to be in his life and receive his love and devotion to them.

Family and Friends are encouraged to meet at Purcell Funeral Home Chapel

in Bushnell, Florida on February 17,2023 at 12:30 noon and join procession to Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL where he will rest in peace with his wife of 33 years.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Sango United Methodist Church, or to the charity of your choice in memory of Mr. Cohen Byrd DePriest Arrangements are entrusted to Purcell Chapel-Beyers Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Avenue  
Bushnell, FL 33513

# Previous Events

## Family and Friends

FEB 17. 12:30 PM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory - Purcell Chapel  
114 W Noble Ave  
Bushnell, FL 33513  
(352) 793-4531