



## Larry Warren Groome

July 2, 1953 - March 31, 2026

Larry, 72, of Summerfield, FL, passed away on March 31, 2026. He was born on July 2, 1953 in Petersburg, VA.

He spent his entire childhood living in Matoaca, VA with his parents (Herman B. Groome and Gladys M. Groome) and his late brother Bernie Groome. He graduated from Matoaca High School in 1971 and proudly attended Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in 1975, graduating with a Bachelor's in Economics, followed by a Master's in Business Administration from Boston University. For 26 years, Larry served in the U.S. Army Field Artillery Corp rising to rank of Lieutenant Colonel. During the second phase of his active duty military career, he served in the Army Contracting Command. After he retired from the military, he worked as a Procurement Analyst for the Missile Defense Agency in Huntsville, AL before fully retiring in 2018.

He built a life anchored in honesty, kindness, and in a love for America. His mom Gladys used to lovingly tell a story about how when he was about 11 years old on a Boy Scouts trip, he came home and walked in the door with his suit jacket balled up under his arm. When she saw this, she reacted how any mom would: scolding him for wrinkling up his jacket. He unwrapped his jacket and revealed a beautiful blue glass vase. It was a gift for her and he bought it with his own money. He was always thinking of others throughout his life.

He is survived by his wife of 21 years Frances Groome. He has a daughter, Kristina Rigopoulos (son-in-law Mark Rigopoulos), a grandson Warren Rigopoulos (who is named after his 'Groomepa') and granddaughter, Addison

Rigopoulos. He also is survived by Kristina's mother, Deborah Tang (spouse Charlie Tang), niece Gina Groome (spouse Mathew Alexander), his sister-in-law Wanda Groome, his nephew Jax Wells, and his niece Juliana Rose Alexander.

He is loved by his sisters-in-law Diane Bryant (spouse Wendell Bryant) and Mary Lou Schram (spouse Doug Schram), his stepson Edward Turnmeyer (spouse Erin Turnmeyer), and their children Zoe and Jack Turnmeyer. He also leaves behind his dog Bella, who will miss their golf cart rides.

He was preceded in death by his mom (above), his dad (above), his brother Ralph Bernard "Bernie" Groome, and his three uncles: Wilfred Mann, Warren Mann, and Ralph Mann "Junie" Groome.

He leaves behind a beautiful legacy his family will carry forward: always keep your word, always arrive early (his famous quote: "if you're early you're on time...if you're on time, you're late"), be patriotic, enjoy Maryland blue crabs whenever possible, save your money, and appreciate the little things in life.

Services will be held on April 14, 2026 at 11:30 AM at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida.

# Cemetery Details

## Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Avenue  
Bushnell, FL 33513

# Previous Events

## Burial Service

APR 14. 11:30 AM (ET)

Florida National Cemetery  
6502 SW 102nd Avenue  
Bushnell, FL 33513

# Tribute Wall

DH

“ Larry and I were literally running buddies from 78-81. Our longest run was from Arsbeck to Teveren Germany, around 25 miles. We maintained our friendship all these years.he was a good friend and is missed already.

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**donald Hinton** - April 21 at 03:59 PM

VA

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Larry and his family. We were blessed to have Larry in the VMI Class of 1975. God bless you, BR. Vic Arthur

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**Vic Arthur** - April 16 at 08:11 AM

TM

“ Larry and I attended VMI together. We had several enjoyable conversations a few years ago. My prayers are with the family. --Tad MacGowan VMI '75

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**Tad MacGowan** - April 15 at 03:28 PM

RG

Rest in peace dear Larry . My condolences to his family .

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**Renate Gutt** - May 01 at 10:20 PM

DE

“ We met back in high school, became high school sweethearts, then went through VMI and military life together. We supported each other through every deployment and move. Our greatest shared blessing was our daughter Kristina. I'm truly grateful for all the years we shared and the friendship we've kept ever since. Debbie

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**Debbie** - April 13 at 02:02 PM

KR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Krissy - April 12 at 04:31 PM

KR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Krissy - April 12 at 04:27 PM

JV

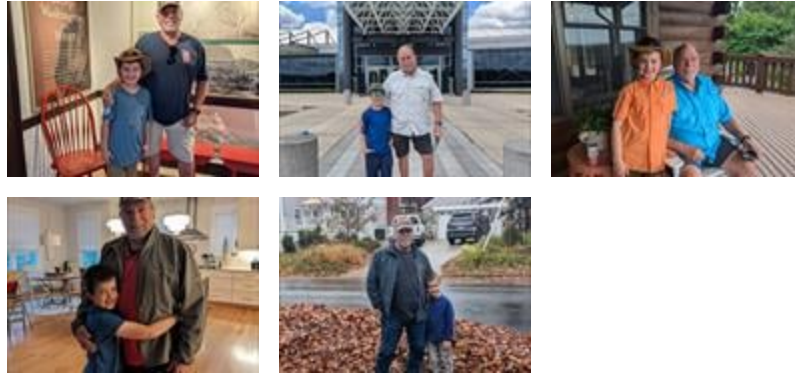
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jo Vogel - April 11 at 09:09 AM

KR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Krissy - April 10 at 11:26 PM

GS

*I remember Larry well as a great BR and fellow Econ major. His keen wit always helped to make the difficult econ professors more tolerable. And I also remember his big grin as he performed some antic on our stoop.*

*Rest in peace BR, Greg Stultz*

Greg Stultz - April 11 at 12:30 PM

DN

“ *We are so sorry to hear of Larry's passing. We have such wonderful memories of him from our time in Geilenkirchen and Fort Sill. We have an especially great memory of how he used his extreme wit to recover our unit's mascot/symbol, the pickle barrel, when it was stolen by a rival unit, and by his prank and ingenuity, he tricked the other unit into returning it. We miss him a lot.*

*Dennis and Angela Nelson*

Dennis and Angela Nelson - April 09 at 07:02 PM

KR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Krissy - April 09 at 02:15 PM

DD

“ I am so sad. Larry & I went through school together graduating from Matoaca High. We were born one day apart & our Moms were in the hospital together. Throughout our Friendship he was the kindest person you ever wanted to meet. My Prayers go out to his Wife & Family. Rest In Peace my Sweet Friend.

Diana Denson - April 09 at 01:03 PM

CH

“ Our condolences go out to the Groome family at Larry's passing. Larry was a groomsman at our wedding, and he was assigned to Fort Sill from Geilenkurchen, Germany, along with the other members of our gourmet dinner group. We have also been Facebook friends. May he rest in peace. Ed and Carrie Hershberger

Carrie Hershberger - April 08 at 07:36 PM

NC

“ Kristy & family. My deepest condolences in the passing of your Dad. It was such a shock! Please know you are in my prayers. I sent you a note in Messenger. Please send your address. Love, Nancy Coleman, Matoaca, VA

Nancy Coleman - April 05 at 08:06 PM

IK

“ I am deeply saddened by the loss of Larry, who I worked with at MDA and CACI. He was a kind, supportive friend who will be greatly missed. My heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. - Indira Kodakalla



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**Indira KODAKALLA** - April 04 at 08:28 PM

JH

“ Jay Hannam planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Warren Groome.

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**Jay Hannam** - April 03 at 10:23 PM

JH

“ Jay Hannam purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Larry Warren Groome.



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**Jay Hannam** - April 03 at 10:23 PM

WH

“ Kathy and Larry Hendry send our prayers to Fran and family. Larry, Paul Bernard, John Sheffield and I were “GroomeMates” for 3 years at VMI. He was a great man and a great friend. He had set up a lunch for several VMI ‘75 guys on Wednesday. I hurt to my core over his loss.

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**William L Hendry** - April 03 at 05:20 PM

WG

*Larry was a wonderful friend as well as my brother in law. After his brother Bernie's passing I knew I could always count on Larry, he was the best. I will miss him so much. Wanda*

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**Wanda Groome** - April 05 at 08:06 PM

TT

“*Ted and Susan Telle send their very, very heartfelt prayers and condolences to Fran and family. Larry was a wonderful man and dedicated soldier for 26 years!  
The US Army truly benefited from his untiring service to our country. He and Bernie were great citizen-soldiers of VMI ! We will miss him. May the Lord open up his loving arms for Larry ! God speed.*

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**Ted and Susan Telle** - April 03 at 04:51 PM