



## R.O. Varnum

August 15, 2016

### Obituary of R.O. Varnum

R.O. Varnum, Jr, Roy, 84, of Leesburg went to meet his Savior on Monday, August 15, 2016. Born in Oxford, Florida he moved to Leesburg in 1972 after retiring from the Army from Fort Knox, KY after 26 active years. Roy was married for 58 years to his loving wife, Audrey Varnum, now deceased. He was in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. While in the Army Roy received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and retired as a First Sergeant. He traveled the world with his wife and children. Roy also retired from the City of Leesburg Public Works Dept after 25 years. He loved working at Venetian Gardens beautifying the landscape. He loved to fish, garden, work on small engines, and restoring his 1965 Chevy truck that his parents bought off of the showroom floor. He also was a Mason since 1957.

Roy is survived by his children, Jimmy (Jackie) Johnson of Lady Lake; Rita Varnum, Carla Varnum Turner and Jason Varnum all of Leesburg; three grandchildren, Brandon (Lindsey) Johnson, Audrey Turner and A.J. Turner of Leesburg; three great grandchildren, Jayden Bullard, Jaelynn Turner and Lexi Varnum all of Leesburg and one brother, Kenneth (Liz) Varnum of Bushnell,. Roy was preceded in death by his parents, Don and Ruby Steffen, also sister Lucille Smith and Aubrey Varnum.

A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, August 21, 2016 at 2:00pm at Beyers Funeral Home, Leesburg. For those who wish, memorials may be made to Cornerstone Hospice, 2445 Lane Park Rd, Tavares, FL 32778.

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ I served in F Troop, 17th Cavalry when "Top" Varnum was our First Sergeant. He was the epitome of what a soldier should be and was well respected by all. Top cared deeply about his men and was visibly shaken when casualties rolled in, especially when our Executive Officer, Lt Douglas Mabee was KIA in April 1970. The life of a First Sergeant is a lonely one, as he pretty much stayed by himself. He was fair and loyal to the Army. I saw him the day he left when he received his orders for Ft. Knox. He said to me, "Daniels, I know you will get Fort Knox when you leave the 'Nam. I didn't, but would have loved the opportunity to thank him for his service with us in F Troop. I was sorry to run across his passing which occurred a couple years back, but family members should take pride in knowing that Top was a special career soldier who had the utmost respect from all and who displayed great empathy and consideration for us 19 and 20 year old kids who had to fight a war that was so unpopular with the masses back home. I still remember him well and those memories will continue to be with me.

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**Dennis Daniels** - October 28, 2018 at 12:01 AM

DM

“ Roy was a co-worker of my husband, John. He loved working with him. He was a hard worker , dependable and loyal . He was a good friend to many. May good memories give you all comfort at this time. May God Bless. John (V) and Denise Meier

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**Denise and Johnn Meier** - September 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Sorry for your loss he will be truly missed

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**Randal JACKSON** - August 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ R.O. was a mentor to me and I feel truly Blessed to have known him. We have had great times and still reminisce our time at Public Works. He gave me a total stranger from Chicago an opportunity with the City I guess it was his military experience that was able work with people. He and his wife were wonderful people. I will pray for his family for peace of mind and spirit. God Bless You all Varnum Family and Friends

Sammie Fillmore - August 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ I miss you Papa! :(

Audrey Turner - August 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Condolences to the family of Roy Varnum. We are so very sorry for your loss. Sending prayers and love to the family of a hard working man in Leesburg. Thank you for your service in the military!! RIP, Roy.. Jay & Renee (Prince) Charron Leesburg born Fort Pierce, Florida, residents

Renee Prince Charron - August 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ I miss you Papa! :(###GESTURE###

Audrey Turner - August 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ R.O. Varnum

August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. I didn't know him very long but fell in love with him at first meeting him. Your family is in my thoughts. Love and hugs*

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**April** - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *R.O. Varnum*

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**April** - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *###GESTURE###*

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**April** - August 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM