



Wilfred Eugene Rutledge

September 19, 1936 - July 13, 2022

The family of Wilfred Eugene "Gene" Rutledge are saddened to announce his passing on July 13, 2022.

Gene passed at home with his wife Vivian by his side. Gene was born September 19, 1936, in Texola, Oklahoma to Wilfred and Irene Rutledge.

Gene retired from the California Highway patrol as Auto Theft Investigator December 7, 1992. A career that was a childhood dream come true. Of the many titles he held through the years his utmost favorite was "Papa".

Gene is survived by his wife of 59 years Vivian, daughters Melinda (Kevin) O'Connor and Marilyn Carter (Robert Neff). Grandson Nicholas Neill (Samantha Morales), granddaughter Hannah (Tyler) Jewell. Great granddaughters Brooklyn Gene Neill, Paisley and Avery Jewell and Great grandson Jameson Dean Neill as well as many nieces and nephews. Gene was preceded in death by his daughter Denise, son in law Tom Bunting, parents Wilfred and Irene Rutledge, brother Homer, and sisters Barbara and Sharon and numerous other relatives.

Services will be held August 13, 2022, at 11:00am at Gateway Church 1100 S Sowell Street, Visalia, California 93277. A reception will immediately follow at the church.

Special thanks to Dr. Sunio, Dr. Cislowski, American Care Hospice for excellent care, and the Visalia office of the California Highway Patrol for your compassion and assistance. Thank you, Nicholas Neill, for the care you have provided Papa over the years. Our family will forever be grateful to you for countless hours of time spent without a doubt adding years to his life.

Donations can be made in Gene's name to the California Highway Patrol 11-99 Foundation 3188 Airway Avenue Suite C Costa Mesa California 92626.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Memorial

AUG **13**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Gateway Church of Visalia
1100 S Sowell St
Visalia, CA 93277

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Wilfred Eugene Rutledge*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - August 06, 2022 at 12:54 PM

DF

“ *David Gong and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Wilfred Eugene Rutledge.*



David Gong and Family - August 12, 2022 at 03:26 PM

MA

“ *Marilyn lit a candle in memory of Wilfred Eugene Rutledge*



Marilyn - July 26, 2022 at 10:06 PM

MA

“Dad you were the very best! I never had to want for anything as a child. You worked 3 jobs taking care of us three girls. We had the latest clothes, bikes, toys, girly shampoos like Gee Your Smells Terrific and dittos in every color. I'm grateful you taught me work ethic it has rewarded me times over. I know it was your time to go your body was failing you but I will forever miss you. I pray you are in eternal peace with your family you missed so much. I love you dad until we meet again.

Marilyn - July 26, 2022 at 10:04 PM