



Lestie Dale Rice

October 6, 1938 - January 8, 2021

Lestie Dale Rice, known as Dale to family and friends, passed away Friday, January 8, 2021. He was a brother, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

Dale had a strong type-A personality, lived in a world of black and white, and loved to serve his country. He was a journalist, a policeman, an Army Soldier, owned his own security business, devoted 27-years to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and spent his spare time working on cars, building his own house, and finding a project to do.

Dale was an intellectual, a news junkie and a prankster. He could talk to the downtrodden and walk with the Washingtonian crowd on the Hill. He had a soft heart he didn't always share when people were looking. He was known to befriend and help strangers, those less fortunate and always a veteran. He attended Marshall University in West Virginia graduating with a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Sociology, a minor in Psychology, and a Masters of Arts in Counseling and Rehab, and was a member of the: ALPHA KAPPA DELTA National Sociology Honor Society, PSI CHI National Society for Psychology.

He was deeply loved and will always be remember by family, friends and neighbors.

Dale is survived by his loving wife of 20 years, Carolyn; his children, Erika Cardenas (Al), Stephanie Musso, Jerico Slavin (Terri), Matthew Slavin, and Holly Catapano (Jonathun); brother, Jerry Rice (Paula); 15 grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, January 16, 2021 at Found and Sons Funeral Chapel, 10719 Courthouse Road, Fredericksburg. Per COVID-19 mandates, masks are required to be worn in the funeral home.

We salute the man who never forgot the wars and crimes committed against America and humanity.

In lieu of flowers, Dale's family requests that expressions of sympathy take the form of

donations to Disabled American Veterans at <https://WWW.DAV.ORG>.

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Found and Sons Funeral Chapels - Cremation Service - January 13 at 11:48 AM



“ Carolyn, I was so sorry that Dale passed away. I hadn't talked to him for a long time and I decided today and I found out that both of his phone were disconnected. So my son checked it out for as to why there was a phone problem and he found Dale's obituary. Dale and I had been friends for many years and I am sorry I did not talk to him for he passed. Dale was in always in good health so I was shocked to hear about his demise. I am curious what took him! Carolyn I cannot forget how happy he was to have you in his life. Take care, Galen Olmstead

Galen Olmstead - July 25 at 07:59 PM



“ Stephanie Leigh Aka "Spud" lit a candle in memory of Lestie Dale Rice



Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:56 AM



“ Here's your favorite color,Daddy. Should be hunter green,though. I love you always.

Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:57 AM



“ Please accept my deepest condolences for your loss. I have many memories of Dale stories...especially the tricks that he and Ron Miller would play on my daughter Nicki. He was quite the prankster. Wishing you all peace and comfort.

Hugs and prayers,

Jinann

Jinann Larson - January 16 at 04:26 PM



“ Thank you Jinann. Its so good to hear from you.. This has proved to be the most difficult thing I've ever gone through.. it still doesn't feel real. He was larger than life. Still expect to see him on his porch burnin one . He loved you and Nicki. I remember those days. We should stay in touch. Love n hugs,
Stephanie

Stephanie Leigh aka"Spud" - January 19 at 08:36 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lestie Dale Rice.



January 16 at 01:20 PM



“ My goodness, I could write a sitcom on Dale and my exploits, but it was already made. Car 54, where are you. He and I were partners on the Huntington PD. Needless to say even as I have aged to 81 I will never forget the experiences we shared. There were serious times but mostly it was funny. I know I should have been my own person back then but he managed to get me in more trouble than anyone I knew. We have went our separate ways and both started new lives but occasionally, either Internet, phone, or once in awhile when passing through I would stop and say hi to Dale and Carolyn. He always left the light on. He was one of a kind, most loved him and a few not so much but when I received that note the other day that Dale had passed it broke my heart. I just was not ready for it. So take care badge 136. I will see you again one of these days. Yogi

Jim Ellis - January 15 at 07:50 PM



“ Yogi this is Erika Dale's oldest. Thanks for your wonderful words. I think we have met you a couple times. Took us all by surprise. I was telling him short time ago he can't pass. He says what? you want me to outlive you? I said yes. Love you too much to let you go. He said sorry honey don't know if I can do that... Miss him like crazy. I remember you and Brenda is it? Take care

Erika - January 15 at 08:51 PM



“ Erika , Stephanie and Carolyn, I don't have words to say to comfort you. God be with you all, in your time of need. Girls Aunt Ni loves you to pieces. Carolyn I'm am so sorry.

Anita Isaacs - January 16 at 01:52 PM



“ Thank you Yogi and Aunt Ni. There's so much comfort in all the love everyone has for Daddy. He truly was one of a kind. Yogi he spoke of you all the time. Lifelong buds. Aunt Ni,he was always fond of you. Our family is one of a kind. We all stay together,no matter what. Love you so much!!

Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:32 AM



“ Gene and Jerri Covey purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Lestie Dale Rice.



Gene and Jerri Covey - January 15 at 04:58 PM



“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Our sincerest condolences Carolyn to you and your family. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

love,
Pam & Bob Donohoe

Pam Donohoe - January 15 at 03:33 PM



“ Dale and I used to speak regularly many years back. Starting during 2004, when I was first trying to gain footing after the Marine Corps. We talked a lot about my dreams of being a fed, and then sadly we lost touch after I returned from Iraq as a DoD contractor at the end of 2006. My grandmother Sandy Fletcher sent me the obituary, knowing I would want to know. What she didn't know is that Dale was just on my heart and mind last week.

I am really sorry I didn't get to say goodbye. I hope I may see him again when it comes time for me to join Jesus in eternity. Sorry too, very sorry, for the years lost when we fell out of touch.

He was such a kind man, and so much a part of helping to keep me from completely falling to pieces those years back. I loved him, and always will.

Sincerely,

Kent D. Fletcher
grandson of Michael Stephen Fletcher, I
son of Michael Stephen Fletcher, II

Kent D Fletcher - January 14 at 12:18 PM



“ I forgot to share, I am a 100% disabled vet, lifetime DAV member and chapter service officer for DAV Beaufort, SC. One more salute between Dale and me as he passes on from our time here. I'm missing him a lot in this moment.

Kent Daryl Fletcher - January 14 at 07:48 PM



“ Thanks for the caring words for dad's passing. Very difficult for all of us. This is Erika, Dale's oldest

Erika - January 15 at 08:56 PM



“ Kent,thank you. One things for sure,Daddy always thought of you. He never forgot you. We will misshim until our time comes,then we can hug him again. And salute him. And you. Thank you for your service. I'm sure Daddy saw a lot of himself in you. He always found common ground. Wishing you the best and hoping for comfort for you.

Stephanie Leigh aka"Spud" - January 19 at 08:43 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lestie Dale Rice.



January 14 at 08:50 AM



“ I love you Daddy. I'll always remember all the wonderful things you've done and all the good times and laughs we've had. You loved to play jokes and "get some yardage outta that". The 6 Ps are embedded in my head. " proper planning prevents piss poor performance" and " math is an exact science". These are terms i heard a lot,lol. I always think about the times we had ,one on one,without anyone else. They're very special to me. Helping you build that house and eating bologna and mustard sandwiches. That house became our home. Like the one on Penny Lane. You had so many skills and helped everyone with their projects. Our drives,listening to music. Fly Like an Eagle and Pink Floyd really got you jammin. You were the strongest,most intelligent, most caring man I've ever known and I'm so proud to call you my father. You will forever be in the hearts of everyone you knew , especially mine. I'll always think of you. I'll see you again one day. I hope you'll be at the gate waiting for me with Stewart's hot dogs. We'll race again and see who can eat the most. I love you so much ,Daddy. Forever.

Stephanie Leigh aka"Spud" - January 14 at 07:16 AM



“ There are so many funny stories about Dale, (aka BRO). Those stories will remain with me forever. As a friend, when I was off on long assignments across the world, I knew that BRO would always be there for my family, and, he always was. I will miss our email swaps and I will always be thinking of him. RIP my dear friend.

Michael C. Keen --Rachel, Sean, Lindsey, and Carrie

Michael - January 13 at 09:20 PM



“ Thank you, Mike. You were his dearest friend and "Bro". So many good times and so many great memories with your family. I still can't believe it. Still feel like I could go to his house and he'll be out on the porch waiting for me, burnin one. Life truly will be empty without him. We love yall. Yall are family. Always will be.

Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:47 AM



“ Aka T legged, Tie legged ,bo legged stephie,lol

Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:47 AM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lestie Dale Rice.



January 13 at 08:24 PM



“ I'm going to miss you very much Daddy I love you. Every time I have a burger I'm going to think of you cuz those were your favorite. I'm going to miss all of your jokes and all the fun times we had together my whole life and your smile. Love you and I know you're going to always be watching over all of us. You're probably up there with mamaw talking about all the sweets that you ate over the years. Mamaw just loved her sweets. Hugs and kisses forever Dad. We all will miss you.

Erika - January 13 at 05:27 PM



“ We grew up in the same neighbor and he was always a prankster. My brother Mitch was I talking yesterday the last time we was him and has usual he was his usual self. He will be missed by his friends in Huntington, WV
Mattie Harshbarger Craig

Mattie Harshbarger Craig - January 13 at 11:07 AM



“ Thank you,Mattie. He kept us on our toes,lol. He will be missed so much.

Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:49 AM



“ Dale would come back to visit his brother and we all had a friend who would come in from New York and we would get together and have breakfast and talk over the good times we had growing up.Dale we love you and we will miss you and your stories.

Leo Bias - January 12 at 09:07 PM



“ Thank you,Leo. Good times to remember.

Stephanie Leigh aka "Spud" - January 19 at 08:50 AM