



James Edward "Eddie" Grissom

April 20, 1944 - September 19, 2016

SALISBURY—James Edward (“Eddie”) Grissom, 72, of Salisbury passed away on Monday, September 19, 2016, at his home after an extended illness. He was born on April 20, 1944 in Salisbury, to the late James A. and Mary Trexler Grissom.

Eddie graduated from North Rowan High School in 1962 and from Lenoir-Rhyne College with a degree in business administration in 1966. He was Captain of the 1965 Lenoir-Rhyne football team. He proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps, serving in Vietnam with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines (A/1/9), from 1966 to 1970. He was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat “V” for outstanding performance of managerial duties, heroism under fire, expertise of technical knowledge, and exemplary leadership. Eddie was also awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received in action against the enemy. He was honorably discharged in 1970.

Eddie’s favorite pastimes were taking his grandchildren on rides through the woods on the OT (“orange thing”—an all-terrain vehicle), teasing everyone and sharing jokes with the grandchildren, making up funny messages for the answering machine, collecting antiques and Southern Railway memorabilia until Judy said "no more," having long discussions in the "man cave" with his friends, and just enjoying life. He competed in numerous marathons and cycling races throughout his life. He was employed as a medical practice

financial consultant for much of his career. The last two and a half years of illness were difficult but also a special time for Eddie to enjoy visits from fellow Marines, college football friends, colleagues, clients, and his many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James A. and Mary Trexler Grissom, and his son Brian Scott Rierson.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Scott Grissom; son, Daryl Edward Grissom and wife Erin of Herndon, VA; daughter, Autumn Rierson Michael and husband Jeff of Davidson, NC; daughter Heidi Grissom Bell and husband Matt, of Cary, NC; his sister, Mary Ann Grissom Hoover of Cary, NC; numerous nieces and nephews, and seven grandchildren: Pandora Grissom, Isaac and Micah Bell, and Boone, Della Scott, Mary Kirk, and Sarah Frances Michael.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Rowan Hospice staff, especially Angie Harrison and Drs. Chet Amin and Tom Ginn, and a special thank you to extended family member, Denny Triche.

Visitation and Service: Visitation will be held from 6 -8 pm on Friday, September 23, 2016 at Summersett Funeral Home, 1315 W. Innes Street, Salisbury, NC 28144. Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 11 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, NC 28144. Interment with military honors by the Rowan County Veterans Honor Guard will take place at Rowan Memorial Park, 4125 Franklin Comm. Center Road, Salisbury, NC 28144.

Memorials: Memorials may be made to the Scott Rierson Scholarship Fund at St. John's Lutheran Church, 200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, North Carolina, 28144.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Grissom family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **23**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-2111
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

JE

“ I didn't know Eddie but I knew Judy when she was principal at East Forsyth in Kernersville. She was a fine lady so he had to be a gentleman. I saw a post on Facebook that Judy had made and I just wanted to say hello and hope you are well. Joe Bill Ellender

joe Bill Ellender - September 23, 2024 at 09:03 PM

DE

“ Judy and family:
I too was a member of the Bears to the Bone football teams at Lenoir Rhyne with Grissom & Graham as our captains. I was a junior and Eddie gave us great senior leadership. I got to visit with Eddie last winter with Ben Bundy and Bo Forehand and we reminisced and were in the end, saying our so longs. Eddie save me a place on your Heavenly team. A Legend in my memories of football at LR and your service for your country. RIP, "Good and Faithful Servant."

David Elder
BttB

David Elder - September 28, 2016 at 08:43 AM

DA

“ Eddie was a good man & friend. Growing up in Spencer, our families only lived a few blocks apart. His sister Mary Ann was a life guard at a tiny pool on 3rd St. behind the Methodist church area. It was always good talking to Eddie/Judy at our NRHS class reunions. May you RIP. My thoughts for your son Daryl and also prayers for the family and friends to receive peace from the Holy Spirit.
Donna Barnes/Arey



Donna Arey - September 23, 2016 at 04:17 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.



September 23, 2016 at 09:40 AM

TG

“ The Law Girls purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.



The Law Girls - September 23, 2016 at 09:38 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.*



September 23, 2016 at 09:06 AM



“ *Judy, please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers at this time. We are out of town and regret that we will not be able to attend the service, but I pray that you may feel God's strong arms supporting and sustaining you in the days ahead.*
Eric and Kathy Norris

kathy norris - September 23, 2016 at 08:54 AM

CB

“ I was fortunate to meet Eddie in 1999 when our family moved to Hickory from California. Eddie helped guide us through purchasing a medical practice and growing it throughout the years. I'm not sure if I gained more from his financial/accounting consulting or from his parenting tips. I thoroughly enjoyed his monthly visits to the office and catching up with all the antics of the Grissom family.

Eddie never stopped reaching out to others in need. Wonderful memories written on this Tribute Wall are a testament to how many people he touched. I imagine there are twice as many touched than are sharing their stories here.

My thanks to Judy for opening up your home to my husband and I over the last few years when we stopped for a visit. We thoroughly enjoyed Eddie showing us all the treasures of the "compound."

Cyndee Barber

Cyndee Barber - September 23, 2016 at 08:51 AM

CO

“ Carmen Prevetie Ogburn lit a candle in memory of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom



Carmen Prevetie Ogburn - September 22, 2016 at 06:43 PM

SM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. Judy, I pray that strength and hope surround you during this sad and difficult time. My brother William Green thought alot of Eddie and always enjoyed talking with him and sharing old memories and family history of Spencer. Eddie was a great guy. May he RIP!



*Love and sympathy to the whole family,
Sallie and Carl Miller*

Sallie Green Miller - September 22, 2016 at 04:19 PM

FB

“ I played football at LR a year after Eddie finished. I served as an officer in the 82nd ABN and the 101st ABN in Viet Nam and like Eddie, was awarded the Bronze Star.. I greatly enjoyed getting to know Eddie and am proud that I got to know this great Patriot and Bear!

Fred Brown, '69. Col., (ret0

Fred Brown - September 22, 2016 at 10:37 AM

AB

“ Allan Barger purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.



Allan Barger - September 22, 2016 at 08:22 AM

RG

“ It was my privilege to get to know Eddie as a customer over the last 20 years. We always enjoyed talking about outdoor adventures and time in the military. It was a pleasure when he dropped by, or called on the phone to check about a particular piece of merchandise or just for a visit. Please accept my sincere condolences. He and family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Richard Griggs
Carolina Mountain Sports
Statesville, NC

Richard S Griggs - September 22, 2016 at 08:08 AM



“ Eddie was a friend of mine from long ago. We met as teammates at Lenoir Rhyne and stayed in touch since then. He was best man in my wedding after we both returned from Viet Nam. It is hard to lose friends like Eddie and I will always remember him and what a wonderful friend he was to me. RIP Eddie will never forget you. Semper Fi.

Craig Fish - September 21, 2016 at 07:59 PM

JS

“ Dear Judy and family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you as you travel through this time of grief. I only hope the memories of good times help with the pain and loneliness.

Fondly,
Judy Shinn (Knollwood Elementary-retired)

Judith Shinn - September 21, 2016 at 05:48 PM

BB

“ Judy,
I will always remember when Eddie took me to the Childress racing operation. It was obvious how much he loved sharing his enthusiasm for race cars with someone who knew nothing about it. I still think about it and check the newspaper to see how "his" team is doing. You are in our prayers.
Brad Bucher

brad bucher - September 21, 2016 at 05:37 PM

AH

“ Judy and family,
So sorry for your loss. I know the emptiness it creates having loss both my Daddy and dear husband Robert. I pray for comfort and peace as you face the difficult days ahead. What blessed assurance we have in knowing we will be reunited with our loved ones!! Lean heavily on the Lord. He has big shoulders!!
Love and payers,
Ann T. Heard

Ann T. Heard - September 21, 2016 at 04:12 PM

JG

“ Joe & Denise Griffin purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.



Joe & Denise Griffin - September 21, 2016 at 01:24 PM

JG

“ Eddie was a fellow Marine Officer that set the leadership standard for all of us. His loyalty and devotion to our Corps was only surpassed by his love for his family. He will be more than missed as his memory is meant to be emulated. I look at his picture and weep but remember that his pain is no more. Rest, my Hero.

Joe Griffin - September 21, 2016 at 12:18 PM

 Tina Manning

“ Dear Judy,

I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that God will guide you with gentle loving arms through your journey of sorrow.

Tina Manning



Tina Manning - September 21, 2016 at 12:15 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.



September 21, 2016 at 12:07 PM

AB

“ Rest in Peace Eddie...you and your family enhanced my family's lives for six decades.
You are my friend and mentor and and I will continue to attempt to live to your example

Allan Barger

Allan Barger - September 21, 2016 at 10:48 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.



September 21, 2016 at 09:36 AM

DJ

“ Eddie was one of a kind ... a very good kind. He was responsible for getting me the job I have held for over 13 years with a great medical practice. If Eddie was your friend, you could have no better ... he was a friend to all the doctors all Piedmont Nephrology. To say he is missed, is not an adequate expression of the emotions we are experiencing. We look forward to the great reunion in Heaven where Eddie is joyfully free of all earthly suffering. God bless and keep you, Judy and your family.

diane johnson - September 21, 2016 at 09:16 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.*



September 21, 2016 at 09:04 AM



“ *Eddie and I met in 1967 in the Marine Corps. He was a fine Marine Corps Officer and a fine person throughout his life. My home is in Oregon and we have taken our wives coast to coast to visit each other. Eddie was always there for anyone who needed help and his wife and family are all wonderful people with fine careers, in part, due to the influence that Eddie had in their lives. I never had a better friend!!! Terry Joeckel*

Terry Joeckel - September 20, 2016 at 11:10 PM

GM

“ Eddie was my mentor on the Lenoir Rhyne Football Team in 1965. He was the Senior Captain of the Bears and I was a red shirt Freshman. We played the same position (Blocking Back in the Single Wing Offense). He was the toughest football player that I ever met. I looked up to him and tried to emulate him for the rest of my days at LR. He was a teammate for life to me. When my Dad died 6 years ago, Eddie called me and insisted on picking my Mother up in his car and driving her all over Spencer to meet with men and women who thought a lot of my Father when Dad coached Basketball at Spencer High School. My Mother was overwhelmed with his kindness and his thoughtfulness. Who else but Eddie Grissom would even think of doing something like that. I ask Eddie "What do I owe you?" He replied, "A grilled pimento cheese sandwich from College Bar-B-Q". Eddie was my hero. A hero of the Vietnam War. Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Then said I. Here am I; send me. Well done Eddie Grissom, my good and faithful servant saith the Lord God. Eddie fought his final battle with grace and dignity. George Miles

George Miles - September 20, 2016 at 07:57 PM

JH

“ Captain of the football team my freshman year at LR. What a leader! Rest in peace my blocking back friend. Jack Huss

Jack Huss - September 20, 2016 at 07:54 PM

JB

“ Julia Rowland Boone lit a candle in memory of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom



Julia Rowland Boone - September 20, 2016 at 07:09 PM

LC

“ *My prayers for Judy and family. Rest in God's peace.*
Larry Cartner

Larry Cartner - September 20, 2016 at 06:05 PM

MM

Eddie was co captain of our football team at LR my freshman year. He lead us to a conference championship with his strong leadership skills and his never quit attitude. He truly helped get my college career off on the right foot. Later his leadership,skills took on a more serious role in defense of our country as a Marine officer. Truly a man's man.
RIP,Eddie
Bear to the Bone
Semper Fi, brave warrior

Mac MacDonald

Mac MacDonald - September 23, 2016 at 12:12 PM

DH

“ *David Dickson and the staff at TSI Healthcare purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of James Edward "Eddie" Grissom.*



David Dickson and the staff at TSI Healthcare - September 20, 2016 at 05:31 PM