



Elmer Francis Tatum

July 12, 1932 - March 11, 2023

Elmer Francis Tatum, 90 years of age, went to his heavenly home March 11, 2023 at Richlands Hospital.

Born July 12, 1932 in Steelsburg, VA. He was the son of the late Fred M. Tatum and Lola Emily Tatum. He was a member of the Pentecostal Faith Temple in Whitewood, Va. He was a USAF veteran having served 1951 to 1973, 22 years for his country. He was in 22 countries and 50 states. After retiring he drove a gravel truck, worked for Valley Air Conditioning in Roanoke, VA. He worked at Jewell Smokeless Coal Co., doing maintenance, such as heating, air conditioning, and electrician. When he retired from Jewell Smokeless he worked for Tatum Heating and Cooling. He enjoyed helping his son with Polar Bear Ice Co. He liked riding his motorcycle, snow skiing, mowing grass, gardening and traveling. But most of all he loved spending time with his family, and he never ran from work. He also liked to go to Richlands and eat out with his friends, the Romeo Boys, which stands for Retired Old Men Eating Out. He will be greatly missed and his memory will live on and treasured by all who were privileged to know him. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and uncle.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Clinton Fredrick Tatum, Carl Tatum, Earl Tatum, Clarence Tatum; nephew, Roger Tatum; daughter-in-law, Angie Rose Tatum; and son-in-law, Larry Mitchell.

Those left to cherish his memory include his beloved wife whom he shared 65½ years of marriage with, Juanita Maxwell Tatum of Whitewood, VA; daughter, Debbie Mitchell of Cedar Bluff, VA; son, Freddie Tatum of Pilgrims Knob, VA; 2 granddaughters, Emili Grace Tatum of Pilgrims Knob, VA; Holli Shana Hicks and husband, Cory of Folkston, GA; 1 great grandson, William Jace Hicks; 1 great granddaughter, Tatum Rose Hicks.

The family would like to say a special thank you to the staff of Richlands Hospital, ICU for their care and devotion to Elmer.

Funeral services for Elmer Francis Tatum will be conducted Friday, March 17, 2023 at 2:00 pm at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Chapel in Richlands, Virginia with the Rev. Troy Lester and Rev. Clyde Wimmer officiating. Interment will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens at Claypool Hill, Virginia. Pallbearers will be Charlie Maxwell, Jimmy Tatum, Robert Tatum, Roger Vandyke, Terry Maxwell, Tommy Compton, Billy Moore, Richard Vandyke, Adam Looney, Wayne Tatum, Randy Maxwell, and Robbie Maxwell. Honorary pallbearers will be Jack Bundy, Eugene Maxwell, Keith Maxwell, James Maxwell, Joe Maxwell, Lowell Cole, Ronnie Drumheller, RC Cole, and Darrell Maxwell. The Tatum family will receive friends from 6-9 pm on Thursday evening at the funeral home. The Richlands Masonic Lodge #318 AF & AM will conduct a masonic service on Thursday night at 7:00 pm. The Casey-Shortt VFW Post #9640 will conduct military rites. Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia is in charge of services and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Greenhills Memory Gardens

11800 Gov G.C. Peery Hwy
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Masonic Service

MAR 16. 7:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Hurst-Scott Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Elmer Francis Tatum



Hurst-Scott Funeral Home - March 21, 2023 at 11:40 AM

DK

“ Always liked mr Tatum he was a great person and I always enjoyed talking with him from time to time when I would see him around may god bless the family through this time of loss



donald kelly - March 16, 2023 at 07:48 PM



“ Elmer was my hero Best days ever visit on vacation in Florida ! I was very unhappy little boy he took me Freddy Debbie my sister Christine fishing 🎣 Ive got a picture & a Beautiful memory ! Elmer 🏆💔💔💔😞

Isaac Maxwell - March 15, 2023 at 11:13 PM

DM

“ To Elmer's loved ones, I am so sorry about his passing. Elmer was one of the kindest, sweetest and most genuine people I ever met. It was a great pleasure to have known him. Rest in peace dear Elmer.

Deborah Maxwell - March 15, 2023 at 08:10 AM

DK

“ *Juanita, Debbie, Freddie & Family Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you all*



Debbie & Freddie Keen - March 14, 2023 at 04:20 PM

SC

“ *Juanita, Debbie, Freddie, Holli, Emili Grace, Cory and kids, Our hearts are saddened for you. Elmer was was a sweet, kind gentleman. We have wonderful memories of our years together as a family. Love and Prayers, Sandra, Ron, Sean and family. 1307 Pulitzer Lane Durham, NC 27703*

Sandra Cole - March 14, 2023 at 10:34 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Elmer Francis Tatum.*



March 14, 2023 at 10:17 AM

CH

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Sending our love and prayers for all.*

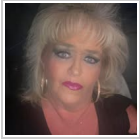
clark & Judy Horn - March 14, 2023 at 10:14 AM

KL

“ So sorry for your loss !



karen (cole) Lester - March 14, 2023 at 08:42 AM



“ Thinking of you Freddie in the loss of your father.



Rebecca Monk - March 14, 2023 at 02:52 AM

CA

“ Our condolences from my family to yours, I remember meeting him at a Tatum family reunion at the corn maze events room about 5 years ago. Peace be with you all.

Christy Ferrell Asbury - March 14, 2023 at 01:54 AM

SW

“ Juanita and family, I am praying for you all at this time of loss. I always thought Elmer was such a good man, always helping others. You were blessed to have so many years with him. Keeping you all in my prayers, Shirley Whitt, Dayton, Ohio

Shirley Whitt - March 13, 2023 at 08:13 PM

KQ

“ *LOVING MEMORIES COUSINS...ELMER AND JUANITA FROM THE COLE REUNION....PRAYERS EXTENDED TO ALL THE FAMILY....HE WAS A GREAT PERSON....*



KELLI, PAT AND RUSSELL QUICK - March 13, 2023 at 07:35 PM

JM

“ *Freddie- So sorry to hear about your dad passing away. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

John Mutter - March 13, 2023 at 06:11 PM