



Billy Ray Ryan

May 4, 2023

Norton, Virginia

Billy Ray Ryan, 81, entered into eternal rest with our Lord and Savior on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at home. He joined the US Army from April 6, 1959, through May 25, 1964. He served in South Korea, Germany, and Paris, France. He often spoke of his time and adventures during his service. He was employed with Clinchfield Coal Co., Wise County Sheriff's Department, and Dotson's Chevrolet in Big Stone Gap. He could do about anything he attempted. We were always saying he was a "Jack of All Trades".

He was commander of the VFW Post 4301 in Norton, VA in 2007 and 2008.

His sport was bowling. His highest game was 299 with 300 being a perfect score. He often traveled to Cincinnati for the Hoinke Classic with many friends. His music was that ole time rock and roll and loved classic cars of the 50's and 60's.

He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He was so loved by all of his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Hazel Ryan of Norton; brothers, George Robert Ryan (Irene) of Big Stone Gap, Charles Ryan of Jefferson City, TN; sisters, Irene Maxwell (Lloyd) of Salem, VA, Joyce Mabe (Bob) of Jefferson City, TN, Jean Ladd (Joe) of West Carrollton, OH, Peggy Ryan of Norton, VA, Juanita Sergeant of Pound, VA and granddaughter Tiffany Taylor of Norton, VA.

He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Deborah Diets Ryan; daughter,

Karen Ryan; and grandson, Jonathan Taylor all of Norton, VA; brother, Jerry Ryan (Cathy) of Big Stone Gap, VA; sisters, Mary Ellen Mullins (Richard) of Pound, VA, Lorene Gollaway (Howard) of Norton, VA; a special nephew who considers Bill as a father, Heath Ryan Funk of Fort Campbell, KY and now serving in Germany, US Army; many nieces, nephews, and other family.

The family will receive friends Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 11 am to 1 pm at the Roy A. Green Funeral Home with services following in the funeral home chapel officiated by Pastor Grayson Cothron. Burial will follow in the Powell Valley Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Patrick Hunnell, Ryan Gollaway, Jim Mullins, Connor Mullins, Ethan Sturgill and David Wayne Ryan. Honorary pallbearers will be Robby Ryan, Ricky Mabe, Chucky Graybeal, J.J. Ryan, Larry Diets and Kevin Ryan. Memorials may be made in Billy's honor to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Cemetery Details

Powell Valley Memorial Gardens

Big Stone Gap, VA

Previous Events

Receive Friends

MAY 11. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Roy A. Green Funeral Home
317 Kilbourne Ave.
Appalachia, VA 24216
(276) 565-1250
info@royagreenfuneralhome.com
<https://www.royagreenfuneralhome.com>

Service

MAY 11. 1:00 PM (ET)

Roy A. Green Funeral Home
317 Kilbourne Ave.
Appalachia, VA 24216
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Tribute Wall



“ Roy A Green Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Billy Ray Ryan



Roy A Green Funeral Home - May 10, 2023 at 12:33 PM

SF

“ Sincerest sympathy to all the family..
Love and Prayers, Tommy & Shirley Morrison
Fisher



Shirley Fisher - May 14, 2023 at 09:14 PM

JH

“ I'll always remember Billy Ray and our first meeting!!!😭😭 That was a good time and great weekend had by Bill, Debbie, Pat and myself. And, the bet Bill made me over my "Romeo and Juliet" ...loved the reaction I got from Mrs Murphy and most, especially Billy Ray! Plus, I know he got a kick out of it and was happy to pay up. He's always been a bright light in my life and I'm so happy to know him!❤️ RIP precious brother... til we meet again some sweet day!🙏

Janice Helbert - May 11, 2023 at 04:57 AM

JH

“ *Janice Helbert lit a candle in memory of Billy Ray Ryan*



Janice Helbert - May 11, 2023 at 04:38 AM

JC

“ *Debbie,
So sorry to hear about Bill's passing.
We had great times and memories bowling together.
All the funny things Bill would do. He was well liked and Loved
by all.
Bill's favorite saying that I still always remember is "When I pass
away I want to come back as a bowling ball so I can get another
shot at the Pins "*

John Clogston

John Clogston - May 11, 2023 at 12:04 AM

SS

“ *Debbie
So very sorry to hear about Bill's passing
You guys were on my mind just the other day, as I was reminiscing
of our bowling trips to Cincinnati and the Hoinke Classic
I'll never forget all of those good times and the jokes Bill was always
telling
May God bless you and give you comfort during this extremely
difficult time*

Shayne (Big Jake) Sturgill

Shayne Sturgill - May 09, 2023 at 03:40 PM

PH

“ Pat Hobbs sent a virtual gift in memory of Billy Ray Ryan



Pat Hobbs - May 09, 2023 at 01:57 PM

PH

“ Pat Hobbs lit a candle in memory of Billy Ray Ryan



Pat Hobbs - May 09, 2023 at 01:55 PM

LL

“ Linda, Rhonda, & Lance purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of Billy Ray Ryan.



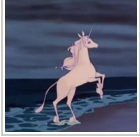
Linda, Rhonda, & Lance - May 09, 2023 at 11:48 AM

LS

“ Love, Sandra purchased the Footprints Tribute Blanket for the family of Billy Ray Ryan.



Love, Sandra - May 09, 2023 at 11:09 AM



“ Sorry to hear of Bill's passing; he'll be missed by many.



Chryst Orn - May 08, 2023 at 11:08 PM



“ Larry Ryan lit a candle in memory of Billy Ray Ryan



Larry Ryan - May 08, 2023 at 10:40 PM



“ Sandra Marshall lit a candle in memory of Billy Ray Ryan



sandra marshall - May 08, 2023 at 09:49 PM



Prayers for my sister Debbie and the rest of Bill's family. Bill was a wonderful brother-in-law and will certainly be missed.

sandra marshall - May 08, 2023 at 09:53 PM



“ Sorry I can't be there. What a wonderful man. I send my love and symphony to my cousin Debby and the family. Love Marilyn.

Marilyn (Clark) Rogers - May 08, 2023 at 07:59 PM

DB

“ *Donnie & Abbie Blair lit a candle in memory of
Billy Ray Ryan*



Donnie & Abbie Blair - May 08, 2023 at 07:38 PM