



## Roger Albert Franklin Wood

March 15, 1943 - November 30, 2023

Roger Albert Franklin Wood, 80, of Altavista died Thursday, November 30, 2023. He was the husband of Linda A. Rodriguez for 13 years.

He was born March 15, 1943 in Augusta County, a son of the late Albert Louis Wood and Hazel Irene Fisher Wood. He was a member of St. Victoria's Catholic Church and the American Legion. Roger was a bass singer most recently with Solid Rock3, a Texas State Trooper and Abilene town police officer, former owner of Walton's Mountain Country Store, and owned a security company. He was a proud member of the Echota Cherokee Tribe of Alabama.

Roger was a USAF Vietnam veteran serving as a Kaman HH-43 Helicopter pilot for Air Search and Rescue in 1964, 1965, and 1966 and received various medals including two Silver Stars. He did motorcycle rides to all 50 states, plus the Trail of Tears and Rolling Thunder to DC for several years.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son Zane Wood and his wife, Cristie of Stuarts Draft, Edward Nelson-Rodriguez (whom he loved as his own son) and his wife, Holly Nelson of Lynch Station; two brothers, Vernon Wood and his wife, Barbara of Amherst; Thomas Carroll Wood of Baton Rouge, LA ; two sisters, Joyce Lawson and her husband, Jesse of Ruckersville, and Wanda Carpenter and her husband, Craig of Charlottesville; three

grandchildren, Leah Wood, Liv Nelson-Rodriguez and Payton Nelson; and one great-grandchild, Aeroleena Nelson. He is survived by many other nieces and nephews who he loved dearly.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Timothy Dwight Wood.

The family wishes to give a special thanks to Rev. Jim Gallagher and Deacon John Carey as well as Rev. Jim Critchley for their support.

A Celebration of Life service and mass will be conducted at St. Victoria Catholic Church by Father James Gallagher and Deacon John Carey on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 4:00 pm with a reception to follow in the church hall. The American Legion Post will do the flag honors.

The family suggests that memorials be considered for St. Victoria Catholic Church, P.O. Box 640, Hurt, VA 24563 or American Legion Altavista Memorial Post 36, P.O. Box 153, Altavista, VA 24517.

Finch & Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Reception

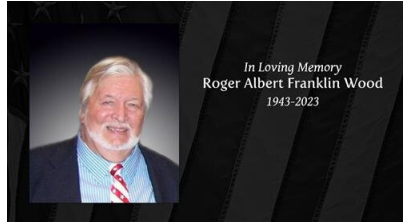
MAR 16. 4:00 PM.

church hall

# Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Roger Albert Franklin Wood*



**Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service** - March 05, 2024 at 03:56 PM

FS

*Loved my brother !!  
Freddy Stuckey*

**Freddy Stuckey** - March 07, 2024 at 05:35 AM

TW

*My deepest condolences, Aunt Linda , i can see how happy you & Roger are in the video . I am praying for you and all the family 🙏  
Tina Watson*

**Tina Watson** - March 07, 2024 at 09:03 AM

JM

*Loved Roger, he is surely missed!*

**Julie Monroe** - March 07, 2024 at 01:52 PM

BS

*A man of many talents and a friend to so many.  
An icon on many levels. A friend I'll never forget.  
A TRUE WALTON FAN!*

**Beverly Stamper** - March 08, 2024 at 07:12 AM

CS

*I didnt know Roger personally, but from post he loved his family and country, now he is a angel watching over you*

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**Connie showers** - March 09, 2024 at 02:10 PM

JM

*A boy never met Rodger in person he was a great Walton friend and I loved him dearly. He had a lot of courage with all the pain that he has suffered from the war and from many many things that he had to deal with. My deepest sympathy to his family and dear friends. We will miss him dearly! 💔🌹*

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**Judy Melillo** - March 09, 2024 at 02:49 PM

JM

*Sorry for my mistake I meant to say although I and it came out a boy never.*

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**Judy Melillo** - March 09, 2024 at 02:51 PM

JB

*We will certainly miss you my friend. Rejoice with the Angels, til we meet again! God Bless You!*

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**James Brian** - March 09, 2024 at 09:35 PM

KK

“ I'm so sorry to learn of my dear & sweet Walton & fb friend passing. This is my third attempt to write this, as I'm having a very difficult time trying to see to write this. I'm so ashamed & quilt filled that I just didn't take the time to go on fb to catch up on things. I was feeling sorry for myself since June 2023 when my husband hurt himself badly and I had to then take over his job of gardening two acres all by myself with weeding, picking, and canning plus other things around the home. I thought I had it so bad that I'd get to bed in the early morning hours & cry. I'm a sewer and couldn't even do that. I had bought fabric to make Roger a memorial project for service members and now I can't even do that. Please find it in your hearts to forgive me. Someday.



*I just loved Roger, having some really good talks with him prior to June 2023. He lived such an exciting life, I thought & I often told him so. He was a Hero to so many, including me. He would tell me of his life in Viet Nam rescuing wounded & deceased Soldiers via a helicopter he flew. He had been shot down a couple times and still had shrapnel in him. He suffered greatly from PTSD and Agent Orange affecting his body also. But, yet he offered prayers and always something so sweet to say to others for comfort.*

*He sang in a group with his beautiful deep bass voice. He grew up in Virginia with Earl Hamner Jr., the creator of the Walton's TV show and his family. He was friends with Jimmy Fortune, who started out singing with the Statler Brothers before going out on his own. They all were from the same area growing up & you can't ask for a better group of people.*

*It just always seemed to me that Roger did it all in life & an exciting life he had. He was a Sheriff & a Police Officer at different times in his life. Roger would take one of his granddaughters with him to different events and he had taught her to stand for the flag and she knew the Pledge of Allegiance as a little girl. He called her his Medicine Girl & I believe she was for him.*

*My husband & I finally had the honor of meeting Roger and his lovely wife, Linda, in Oct. 2022 on our way home from visiting my grandson at Fort Bragg. We are so Thankful we did too.*

*I'm praying for comfort for Linda and the rest of Rogers family & friends.*

*Even though I know Roger is out of pain now, I'm going to miss you Roger, my sweet friend! RIP Sir.*

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**Kathie Kenney** - March 12, 2024 at 05:21 AM

MF

“*ROGER I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE GOOD TIMES AND OUR CRYING TIMES ALSO. YOU WERE MY TALKING BUDDY AND I WAS YOUR TALKING GAL. THE YEARS GO BACK SO FAR THAT IT IS JUST NOT RIGHT THAT I CAN'T TELL YOU ALL ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON WITH BENNIE AND JIMMY AND REST OF OUR TEAM. HEY I AM STILL LOOKING SO LEAVE THE LIGHT ON FOR ME..UNTIL..*

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**Mary Lou Wooten Fitzgerald** - March 12, 2024 at 01:00 AM

PJ

“*I am sorry for your loss. I dearly loved Roger my wonderful friend and family. He was a true hero. Had a beautiful singing voice. I will miss hearing about Earl Hammer, his dear friend. He was pure joy to know. Roger you touched many in your life. Love Patty.*



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**Patricia Johnson** - February 13, 2024 at 10:16 AM

KK

“ I first met roger when he stayed at the indigo inn for a harley davidson rally in myrtle beach, sc. I am an airforce retiree and when we talked it seemed like we brothers. Rest in peace brother Roger !!!!!

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**karl kennedy** - December 07, 2023 at 07:33 PM

FS

Roger Wood some how found me on FB, when I was very depressed after having a stroke and could not work anymore!! He gave me hope and things to care about. What a great man he was to me !!

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**Freddy Stuckey** - December 14, 2023 at 05:49 AM



“ Linda and family, I never, ever hear the song "I'll Fly Away" without thinking of Roger. Almost every time I played at Avoca over the years, Roger was there. He, I, and anyone else so inclined would gather around the piano and sing together. We ALWAYS included "I'll Fly Away", and I treasure the sound of his deep, luscious bass voice! He was always so very complimentary of my efforts on the piano, and had a kind word for everyone, even if he wasn't feeling so great. I hope that all of you will find solace in precious memories, and comfort from the knowledge that you are in the hearts and prayers of many as you go through this sad time.

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**Carol Moorefield** - December 07, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ Mouthwatering Meat and Cheese Gift Tower was purchased for the family of Roger Albert Franklin Wood.



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December 06, 2023 at 06:28 PM

DJ

“ Linda, Thank you for the phone call about Roger's fall and resulting trip to the hospital. Sorry it didn't have better outcome. Got to know Roger when he was singing with the Solid Rock group. They came to my church several times. We really enjoyed them and their music. Also enjoyed his membership and participation in American Legion Post 36. A fond memory of my visit to your home when I came and brought Roger's membership card. We had an pleasant reunion. Saw in the obit. that there will be a service later. Please keep in touch with me and let me know. 434/2324-7635, cell 434/942-8683. Love you Linda, take care. Dean deanjennings@rsnet.org

Dean Jennings - December 05, 2023 at 07:09 PM

BD

“ Brian Davis lit a candle in memory of Roger Wood



Brian Davis - December 05, 2023 at 04:15 PM

RB

“ I am so saddened to hear this news I unexpectedly seen just now. My father, Fiddler Bonny Beverley passed away a week earlier and the same funeral home handled the services. Dad was just talking about the band he had played with on a limited basis with his old bluegrass buddy Steve Wilson and I had reached out to Roger a few months ago and he shared some videos and stories via Facebook with me. I am saddened to hear this and send my deepest sympathies to the entire family. Ross Beverley, Florida



Ross Beverley - December 05, 2023 at 02:04 PM

MT

“ *Michael Towler lit a candle in memory of Roger Wood*



Michael Towler - December 04, 2023 at 05:10 PM

RB

“ *A friend we met on fb but a God loving man. We are so terribly sorry to hear of his passing. May Roger rest in peace and have no more suffering in the arms of our Lord. May his family know that they will be remembered in prayer and find peace in knowing he is safe at him. God bless u all*

Robert and Frances Brickman - December 04, 2023 at 11:41 AM

LS

“ *Roger was such a nice person he wold come to Truslows restaurant where i was the cook he was so kind*

Linda Smith - December 04, 2023 at 11:14 AM

SB

“ *"We have an old tradition I believe to be service wide, it's one that salutes our brothers who have passed to the other side. A single rose by a turn down glass resides at the table's end, a tiny bit of nostalgia and a tribute to absent friends. Each in his turn will look that way and each with his cup a brim, each will remember a fellow servicemen/woman, as there's Frank, Tommy or ROGER. There are those names that escape us and those we can't recall, long history dims identity, but we drink to them one and all. When my earthly life is over and to the table's end I pass, future veterans will remember and turn down an empty glass."*

Steve M. Bozeman - December 04, 2023 at 10:15 AM

DR

“ So Sorry to hear about Roger's passing. He was such a wonderful person-Friend. He was inspiring, & lifted all our spirits up. What an amazing Friend he was. He always thought of others. He sure will be Missed. And he'll be thought about often. He'll never be forgotten. He was Loved by all his Family & Friends. Thinking of you Kind Roger. You'll be missed. Always & Forever..... <3 <3 <3 & 🙏  
🙏 PS ( You were a wonderful Friend to me, & so many. Know.... God will take very good care of you, kind Friend. With my sincere sympathy & condolences.)

Diane R - December 04, 2023 at 03:13 AM

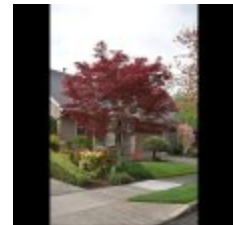
JH

I'm so sorry to hear about Roger passing. Lots of memories with my Dad and Roger being friends. He was a good neighbor and friend. Prayers for you and the 🙏 the family.

Juanita Hudson - December 04, 2023 at 01:05 PM



“ Red Leaf Japanese Maple was purchased for the family of Roger Albert Franklin Wood.



December 03, 2023 at 07:37 PM

DM

“ Dorothy Mitchell sent a virtual gift in memory of Roger Albert Franklin Wood



dorothy mitchell - December 03, 2023 at 07:46 AM

DM

*so sorry for your loss. I always loved to hear the group he sang with. Prayers for the family*

**dorothy mitchell** - December 04, 2023 at 07:21 AM

DM

“ *Dorothy Mitchell sent a virtual gift in memory of Roger Albert Franklin Wood*



**dorothy mitchell** - December 03, 2023 at 07:44 AM

MM

“ *Linda, I am so sorry for your loss. Sending you hugs and prayers.*



**Mary Moses-Hicks** - December 02, 2023 at 09:31 PM

CS

“ *I just learned today about the passing of my dear school friend and I am overcome with sadness. I will miss his music that he shared and loved with all of his Facebook friends, plus his caring and humble ways. He loved people and hopefully, he wrote down all of his adventures in life, so that his family can share those memories for years to come. I will always cherish memories of our years growing up together and his mischievous smile will always stand out in my memory. May God give his peace and comfort to Linda and his family during this time!*

**Carole Cooke Saunders** - December 02, 2023 at 08:46 PM

CW

“ *Christie Wood lit a candle in memory of Roger Albert Franklin Wood*



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**Christie Wood** - December 02, 2023 at 05:12 PM

JC

“ *Roger, his music, love of God and beautiful personality will be sorely missed. May God comfort you and give you peace knowing he is now healed and whole in the arms of God.*

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**June Carpenter** - December 02, 2023 at 08:09 AM

BS

“ *Roger Wood was a prayer warrior to so many people. He touched the lives of countless friends and neighbors. He ministered to those who needed it and always lifted those who were in need of prayer.*

*Roger Wood had a music ministry that was enjoyed by countless Facebook friends.*

*One of the highlights of my life was just saying with solid rock three. It was an honor and a privilege to stand with those three men and share the gospel through song.*

*Oh how I will miss you, Roger Wood, as well as all of the other Facebook friends that you would talk to and share your songs with ,your memories and your family.RIP my friend*

*Beverly Stamper*

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**Beverly Stamper** - December 01, 2023 at 11:31 PM

NI

“ I am saddened to be told news from dear friend. I just talk bro riger oct.he told me he was dying. I was going to Waltons mountain was going stop by.he said he was out with famiy eattng.i said I see you another trip bro if lords will.ir wasn't lord will us see each other.bro roger I been friends 12 years.he help save me from a dangers situation.he always prayed for me and others. I am so sorry to family. Bro Roger's watching over us..rest in peace.you will Def be missed beyond measure.sending love to family.(our forever Walton family.couldnt be a finer person inside out.

Nita cochran insley - December 01, 2023 at 10:59 PM

LM

“ I am so sorry for his passing, but know he now has a new body, one that is healed. I have known Roger since elementary school. What a gentle and kind person he was. Sending prayers and comfort to his family.

Linda Napier Mawyer

Linda Napier Mawyer - December 01, 2023 at 07:54 PM

GG

“ Gwen Goggin lit a candle in memory of Roger Wood



Gwen Goggin - December 01, 2023 at 06:34 PM

JD

“ JoAnne Ray Dalton lit a candle in memory of Roger Wood



JoAnne & Ray Dalton - December 01, 2023 at 05:48 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Roger Albert Franklin Wood.



December 01, 2023 at 05:34 PM

DD

“ Debbie dudley lit a candle in memory of Roger Wood



Debbie dudley - December 01, 2023 at 05:31 PM