



Bret Anthony Yancey

November 6, 1963 - July 10, 2024

Bret Anthony Yancey, aged 60, a once-time resident of Guymon, OK passed away July 10, 2024 in Dacula, Georgia. Bret was born November 6, 1963, to Jim and Marcia Yancey while Jim was stationed at the U.S. Naval Air Station in Kingsville, Texas. No doubt, Bret was inspired to make the U.S. Navy a part of his life because of his father's service to the nation. Bret retired from the Navy after 20 years as a Petty Officer First Class.

When Bret was small, his family returned to the Guymon area eventually residing in the Straight community north of Guymon where his mother, Marcia taught school. Bret later attended the Guymon schools from where he graduated in 1982. Bret attended Panhandle State University for a short time before enlisting. During most of his U.S. Naval service and continuing into civilian life until his death, Bret was involved with the gathering and distribution of highly sensitive, strategic information and communications vital to military operations in the Persian Gulf and other regions. At the time of his death, Bret was an engineer with DataPath, Inc., a civilian defense contractor which provides these services to the U.S. Navy, and to which Bret had been employed for over thirty years.

Bret is survived by his wife Merla, their son Bret, and her two daughters Leah Mae and Eunice, and granddaughter Aleah. He is also survived by his brother Clay and wife Denese of Guymon, OK; his nephews Colton Yancey (Mary) and Payton Yancey; and his niece Haley Yancey all of Liberal, Kansas. He is also survived by his aunts Dixie Ehrlich (Nelson) of Stillwater Oklahoma, and

Lou Ella Hodges (Kenneth) of Gilmer, Texas and several cousins and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father and mother, grandparents C.E. And Delpha Dain, George and Maude Yancey, and granddaughter Sofia. During his Naval service, Bret lived in Spain, Saudia Arabia, Hawaii, Italy, Afghanistan, Qatar, and Kuwait. Bret loved to hunt and fish, spending time and traveling with his family. He was a talented singer and guitar player and spent many hours singing with his family. Bret was a very generous and loving person and unselfishly shared his love and abundant talents with his family, friends, and church family. His early departure from life has left a gigantic hole in the lives of his family and friends.

Funeral services will be held Monday, July 22, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the First Pentecostal Church of Buford with Pastor Jordan Copeland officiating.

Internment with Military Honors will be on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia. The family will receive friends at the church from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., prior to the funeral service.

Cemetery Details

Georgia National Cemetery

1080 Scott Hudgins Dr
Canton, GA 30114

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 22. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

First Pentecostal Church of Buford

Funeral Service

JUL 22. 1:00 PM.

First Pentecostal Church of Buford

Interment

JUL 23. 2:00 PM (ET)

Georgia National Cemetery
1080 Scott Hudgins Dr
Canton, GA 30114

Tribute Wall



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Bret Anthony Yancey.



July 16, 2024 at 09:46 AM



“ Merla, our deepest condolences to you and your family. Bret was not only my coworker but a good friend. He will be missed immensely. We're praying for you during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Dave and Nellie Torres

Dave and Nellie Torres - July 16, 2024 at 09:28 AM

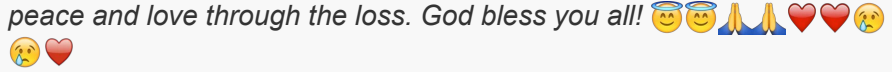


Merla, my neighbor, my friend, my caregiver ... I am heartsick for you and your family's loss. As his disabled neighbor, Bret was there for me; fixing things, putting things together. He was our safety net. I was not aware of his long list of military achievements and service to our country. but it does not surprise me. He had a brilliant mind, and contributed his talents to the preservation and protection of our country. A gifted musician, as well, it was always fun to see your family singing Christmas carols, while Bret played guitar. Another memory I have is Bret moving my piano all by himself. Like Babe, the blue ox, in Paul Bunyan tales of American folklore, he was as strong as an ox! In the last conversation I had with him, by text, I welcomed him home, after his return from the Philippines, and I mentioned how much I missed Merla. He then said, "I miss Merla and the boy terribly." Enough said. He loved his family and country. You were loved by many, Bret.

Fran Wilson Chase - July 17, 2024 at 09:52 AM

PV

I'm so sorry for your loss, Bret loved the Navy and family , I was with him for 14 years but when we parted there was a loss in his soul he was trying to find. I hope and pray he found peace and know that he was loved by me and my kids , I hope and pray that your family find peace and love through the loss. God bless you all!



Patty Vescio - August 12, 2024 at 11:26 PM