

Don Keith Byars

Age 75, a resident of Lincoln went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 27th 2025, in Fayetteville at Willard Walker Hospice Home.



Don was born in Huntingdon, Tennessee on August 20th 1949, the son of Sue Heisler and Ed Pershall of Lincoln, Arkansas.

Don grew up and attended school in Evansville and Lincoln, Arkansas.

Don was married to his wife, Loretta Byars for 55 years, the two were married in Vigo County Indiana in 1969. Don served his country in the United States Air Force for 20 years, serving in the Vietnam war and receiving numerous medals, awards and ribbons.

Don spent his retirement chasing grandchildren, tinkering on his classic Chevrolet truck and traveling the United States. Don also spent his retirement years avidly working as a long haul and local truck driver.

Don was preceded in death by his wife, Loretta, his mother Sue, his father Ed, and his brother Walter Dennis Byars Jr.

He is survived by his sister Dena Dodd, daughter Terri Rae Boyd, husband Tyrell. Granddaughters Starla Lockman , husband Dom , Krista Dersam, husband Cory, 7 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Don was a friend to all and will be remembered as a wonderful husband, brother, dad, papa and friend.

Celebrating *THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF*



Don Keith
Byars

August 20, 1949
January 27, 2025

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the family, we wish to express their gratitude for your many acts of kindness, and for your attendance at the funeral service.

Luginbuel Funeral Home
Prairie Grove, Arkansas

online guest book, visit www.luginbuel.com

CELEBRATING THE LIFE & MEMORY OF
Don Keith Byars

DATE, TIME & PLACE OF SERVICE

Monday, February 3, 2025 -11:30 A.M.
National Cemetery
Fayetteville, Arkansas

OFFICIATING

Chaplain Merrick

MUSIC

“Don’t Let The Old Man In”

MILITARY HONORS

United States Air Force Honor Guard

FINAL RESTING PLACE

National Cemetery
Fayetteville, Arkansas

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE THE FAMILY INVITES YOU
TO JOIN THEM FOR FELLOWSHIP AT THE BYARS’
FAMILY HOME AT 2:00 P.M.



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
MASTER SARGENT E-7

Don's extensive experience as an Administration Technician showcases his dedication to managing personnel and supporting administrative functions within the Air Force. His rise to the position of Administration Superintendent indicates strong leadership abilities and a commitment to mentorship and training of junior Airmen.

The medals and decorations on his DD-214 reflect not only his skill and commitment to duty but also the respect he earned throughout his service. The Meritorious Service Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster demonstrates exemplary service and accomplishment, while the two Oak Leaf Clusters on the Air Force Accommodation Medal suggest multiple instances of noteworthy performance.

His Joint Service Accommodation Medal signifies commendable participation in joint military operations, underlining versatility and cooperation with other branches of the military. The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, again accompanied by an Oak Leaf Cluster, indicates a role in units recognized for exceptional performance.

The consistent recognition with the Air Force Good Conduct Medal, evidenced by five Oak Leaf Clusters, highlights his adherence to military standards and an exemplary disciplinary record throughout his service. The National Defense Service Medal signals his service during a time of national crisis, while the Overseas Ribbon and Longevity Service Ribbon points to sustained commitment and service in different operational environments.

Additionally, his completion of the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Military Education with an Oak Leaf Cluster reflects his dedication to career development and leadership training. Being a Small Arms Expert also emphasizes his proficiency with weapons, a vital skill for any Airman, especially in various operational settings.

Lastly, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal denote his participation in significant historical military efforts, marking him as a veteran with experience in complex combat scenarios. Together, these details paint a picture of a highly dedicated, decorated, and capable Airman who made significant contributions during his 20 years of honorable service.

"When tomorrow starts without me,
And I'm not there to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears for me;
I wish so much you wouldn't cry
The way you did today,
While thinking of the many things
We didn't get to say.
I know how much you love me,
As much as I love you,
Each time that you think of me,
I know you will miss me too.
When tomorrow starts without me,
Please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name,
And took me by the hand.
The angel said my place was ready
In heaven far above,
And that I would have to leave behind
All those I dearly love.
But when I walked through Heaven's Gates,
I felt so much at home,
When God looked down and smiled at me,
From His golden throne.
He said, 'This is eternity,
And all I've promised you,
Today your life on earth is done,
But here it starts anew.'
I promise no tomorrow,
For today will always last,
And since each day's the exact same way,
There is no longing for the past.
So when tomorrow starts without me,
Do not think we're apart,
For every time you think of me,
Remember I'm right here in your heart."