



Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett

November 10, 1951 - January 10, 2022

Russell "Skinny" Padgett was born November 10, 1951 in Rutherford, NC and was called to Heaven on January 10, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents Clyde Max Padgett and Gladys Jean Bailey Padgett. A loving and devoted father, husband and pawpaw, he loved nothing more than spending time with his family: camping, fishing and participating in sports. Russell was not only a teacher in his profession, but also in life. He taught his children the importance of family, country and Christ. Always the encourager, he was proud of his children and grandchildren. He loved to read, especially books on history and patriotism. During his time, he was loved and respected by many. His devotion to his family, friends, country, and fellow veterans is beyond compare. He is survived by his loving family: wife Donna of 40 years, children: Donnie Collier (Deanna), Angel Padgett Hamric (Earl), James Collier, Gary Padgett (Jami) and Misty Loyd Contreras and was the best pawpaw to 23 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

For Russell, perhaps the most important service he performed was in support of the Patriot Guard Riders of Alabama. He completed hundreds of missions and served as a mentor, Ride Captain and Birmingham District Ride Captain. He made it a personal mission to make sure that every fallen veteran received the honors they were due and respect for the families.

Served in the US Army Military Police Corp in DaNang South Vietnam with the 504th MP Bn. Some of the dreams and memories plagued him throughout his

life, as did Agent Orange.

Russell spent 25 years as a paramedic working on ambulances in Fairfield, Forestdale, Pleasant Grove, Homewood, Hoover, and Bessemer and teaching classes for various ambulance companies and as a Captain for Sylvan Springs Fire and Rescue. He loved patient care, especially for the elderly. He prided himself in his ability to keep patients alive enroute to the hospital.

Besides paramedic, he worked in his dad's store, Busy Bee Grocery and as Lead Medic, then head of security at Walter Coke.

He served as Commander of VFW Post 1762, various positions in American Legion Post 137 in Fairfield and PR Officer then Sargent of Arms for the Combat Vets Motorcycle Association 28-5. He was also a life member of the Disabled Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America and the VFW, devoting much of this time to helping veterans.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to: Combat Vets Association, Disabled Veterans of America or the Patriot Guard Riders of Alabama, in his honor.

Cemetery Details

Alabama National Cemetery

3133 Alabama 119
Montevallo, AL 35115

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

McCalla Memorial Funeral Home
4780 Letson Farms Parkway
Mc Calla, AL 35111
(205) 477-4888
info@mccallamemorialfuneralhome.com

A Celebration of Life

JAN 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

McCalla Memorial Funeral Home
4780 Letson Farms Parkway
Mc Calla, AL 35111
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Tribute Wall

JB

“ Russ and I served together in Viet Nam. We were best of friends. He will be missed until I can join him in our last watch. Miss you brother.

Joe Branham - January 23 at 05:25 PM

JF

“ It was an Honor to have served with him.

*JOHN F. FOX
Veterans of Foreign Wars
National Deputy Chief of Staff
Home Phone: (631) 261-5879
Email: LoneOak34@hotmail.com*

John F Fox - September 07, 2022 at 10:58 PM

MD

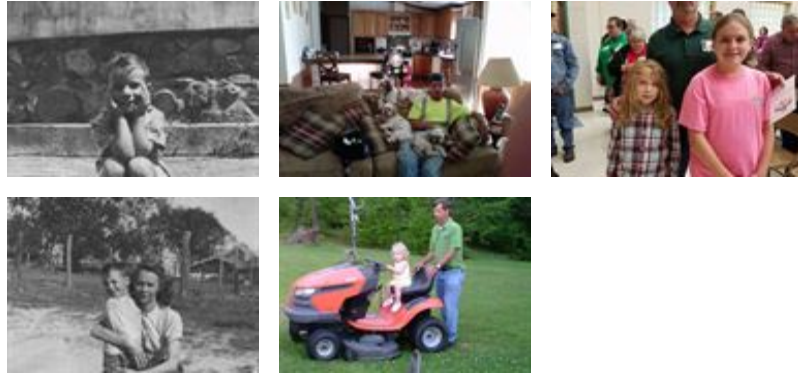
“ Millie Diliberto lit a candle in memory of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett



Millie Diliberto - January 13, 2022 at 10:46 PM



“ 35 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



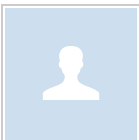
McCalla Memorial Funeral Home - Traditions - January 13, 2022 at 11:58 AM



“ *Frances Lucas lit a candle in memory of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett*



Frances Lucas - January 13, 2022 at 08:27 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett.*



January 13, 2022 at 03:48 AM

EB

“ Russell was always available to help in any way he could for the veterans of our country. He will be missed by all that knew him. Thanks "Skinny" may God bless you and your family.

Ed Burdett - January 12, 2022 at 05:45 PM

PN

“ All of us with the Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery are profoundly saddened by the loss of our friend Skinny. He was our go-to person for having riders for ALNC ceremonies, interments, and other events, while never seeking recognition for the help he provided. We were proud to honor him last March as part of our National Vietnam Veterans Day Tribute. While we are all feeling an immense sense of loss for our friend Skinny, we extend our deepest condolences to Donna and family as they grieve the loss of their loved one. We pray for God's comfort to all who loved him.

*Pam Nichols, Chairman
Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery*

Pam Nichols - January 12, 2022 at 05:30 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett.



January 12, 2022 at 05:27 PM

PE

“ Pam Ellis lit a candle in memory of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett



Pam Ellis - January 12, 2022 at 11:36 AM

ER

“ Eric, Linda & Erica Roloff lit a candle in memory of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett



Eric, Linda & Erica Roloff - January 11, 2022 at 09:12 PM

TB

“ Tammy Bearden lit a candle in memory of Russell "Skinny" Dean Padgett



Tammy Bearden - January 11, 2022 at 06:18 PM