



Donald Everett Phillips

November 9, 1935 - December 26, 2024

Donald Everett Phillips, a devoted veteran, passed away on December 26, 2024 at the Frank M. Tejada Veterans Home in Floresville, Texas. Born on November 9, 1935, in Lincoln County, Pioche, Nevada, to Everett Buford Phillips and Harriet Algar Phillips, Donald leaves behind a legacy of service and dedication.

Donald's early life was marked by academic and athletic achievements. He attended Visalia High School and Visalia College in California, where he developed a passion for sports, particularly football and long-distance running. Before serving his country, he worked for the US Forestry Service at Sequoia National Forest.

Donald proudly served in the US Coast Guard for four years, followed by 23 years in the US Army, where he served as a military policeman. He retired from the Army in 1981.

After his military retirement, Donald pursued his passion for woodworking and established Furniture Craftsman, a repair and refinishing shop located just outside the gates of Fort Sam Houston. With the help of his partner, Pat Runge, the business thrived for 30 years.

In his later years, Donald moved to New Braunfels, Texas. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and Pat Runge cared for him for 7.5 years. Donald then received compassionate care at the Frank M. Tejada Veterans Home in Floresville, Texas, for almost a year and a half, where he passed away.

Donald is survived by his partner, Pat Runge, and his two sisters, Joanne

Wilde of Missouri and Sarah Hale of Tennessee. His family and friends will deeply miss him.

Rest in peace, SFC Donald Phillips. Your service, sacrifice, and memory will be honored and cherished.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 12, 2025 from 5pm-8pm at Mission Park North. Graveside Service will be on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 9am at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN **13**. 9:00 AM (CT)

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Tribute Wall

GS

“ *Don was an outstanding friend to George & I. He was a kindhearted soul. He was always ready to help anyone in need. We will miss his smile & kind words. He will be deeply missed.*

George & Janice Stehling - January 19, 2025 at 06:33 PM

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“ *I've known Don for at least 42 years.He was a friend to me always.I have so many good memories with him.He was there for me whatever it was no matter what.I was so lucky to have Don in my life.*

Chris Runge - January 12, 2025 at 06:34 PM