



Donald "Don" Leroy Martin

April 8, 1939 - January 19, 2025

Donald "Don" Leroy Martin, 85, passed away on January 19, 2025, at the Veterans Hospital in Fayetteville, AR, under the care of the Heros Haven Unit. He was born on April 8, 1939, in Siloam Springs, AR, to Mark Edwin Martin and Lela Maxine (Crile) Neal.

Don joined the Marines in 1958 and proudly served his country until 1972. During his service, he did two tours in Vietnam and received the Silver Star and Purple Heart. After his service, Don worked for Gates Rubber Company until he retired in 2000.

Don was very outgoing and active. He enjoyed working in his garden and taking care of his property. He was also an avid swimmer and managed to swim at least a mile every day at John Brown University until 2023.

Don was a proud Marine and remained active in the VFW, DAV, Purple Heart Organization, and the Popasmoke Organization.

Don is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Larry Joe Kirkpatrick; and granddaughter, Nikki Smith.

He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Frances Gaylene Martin of Watts, OK; daughters, Donna Smith and husband Charlie of Colcord, OK, and Pam Slaughter and husband Scott of North Pole, AK; grandchildren, Christian Smith, Cami Slaughter, Samantha Slaughter, and Lucian Slaughter; great-grandchildren, Ema Smith, Elijah Kehoe, and Anneliese Kehoe; brother, Jim Martin of West Siloam Springs, OK; sister, Shirley Ford of Siloam Springs, AR; and several nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at Wasson Funeral Home on Monday, January 27, 2025, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The funeral service will be held at Wasson Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at the Fayetteville National Cemetery at 1:30 p.m.

Cemetery Details

Fayetteville National Cemetery

700 Government Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 28. 10:00 AM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Burial

JAN 28. 1:30 PM (CT)

Fayetteville National Cemetery
700 Government Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Tribute Wall

DY

“ Gaylene and Donna, We are so sorry for your loss, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family 🙏❤️ Fil and Debby

Debby York - January 24, 2025 at 07:07 PM

MB

“ Marty was a good friend. He was a great Marin taught me so much when I was a young Marine in 162 back at MCAS New River N C. We both served together in 263 Marble Mountain South Vietnam. Real hero, loved him like a brother.

melvin bolton - January 24, 2025 at 10:16 AM

MB

“ Melvin B. purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Basket for the family of Donald "Don" Leroy Martin.



Melvin B. - January 24, 2025 at 10:04 AM

MB

“ Melvin B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald "Don" Leroy Martin.

Melvin B. - January 24, 2025 at 10:04 AM



“ *Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" Leroy Martin.*



January 24, 2025 at 09:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald "Don" Leroy Martin.

January 24, 2025 at 09:05 AM