



John David Miller

July 27, 1957 - November 29, 2017

Big Stone Gap, Va

John David Miller, 60, died Wednesday (November 29, 2017) at Wellmont Holston Valley Medical Center due to complications with cancer.

John was a Christian and a member of First Baptist Church of Big Stone Gap, Va.

He was a 1976 graduate of Powell Valley High School. He served in the United States Navy for 6 years. He worked at Powell Valley High School as the head of maintenance for 32 years. He was a foster parent to over 100 children for the past 24 years.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Jeri Ann Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va. and his sister, Stephanie "Cookie" Gates, Big Stone Gap, Va.

Surviving are his wife, Joyce Miller of Big Stone Gap, Va; daughters - Kari Head and husband Shawn Head of Kingsport, TN, Hollie Huff and husband Jacob Huff of Winston Salem, NC, and Emmalee Miller; Sons – Austin, Kodee and Jaydree Miller; father - Marvin Miller; brother - Joseph Miller all of Big Stone Gap, Va; 2 grandchildren- Braylon and Tanner Head of Kingsport, TN, as well as many nieces, nephews and foster children.

Services will held on Sunday, December 3 at First Baptist Church in Big Stone Gap, Va. Visitation hours will be from 4-6 pm, funeral service will immediately follow with Pastors Josh Tompkins and Garrett Sheldon officiating.

Military Graveside Rites will be on Monday, December 4. There will be a funeral procession from the church to Powell Valley Memorial Gardens in Big Stone Gap at 10:30 am.

Graveside Service will begin at 11 am.

Pallbearers include Lee Miller, Steven Butler, Vernon Boggs, Jon Kern, Randall Kern and Bradley Boggs.

Honorary Pallbearers include Dave Barnett, Venson Baker, Kirby Durham, Johnny Mullins, Francis Williams, Jeff "Salt" Stipe and Mark Tignor.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in his memory to the Southwest Virginia Cancer Center 671 US-58 ALT, Norton Va 24273

To view the obituary online and offer condolences, please visit www.holdingfuneralhome.com.

Holding Funeral Home is serving the Miller family.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 3. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
108 Wood Avenue, E.
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Service

DEC 3. 6:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
108 Wood Avenue, E.
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Funeral Procession

DEC 4. 10:30 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church
108 Wood Avenue, E.
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Military Honors

DEC 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Powell Valley Memorial Gardens
5650 Powell Valley Road
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276) 679-0030

Tribute Wall



“ *My husband and I were stationed with JD at Pax River. I am sorry we didn't hear about this sooner. He was a good friend to us. Condolences to his family. I have no doubt he missed. He was a good man.* ”

Laurie Sprague - July 17, 2025 at 01:14 PM



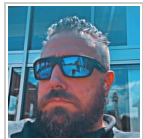
“ *John David Miller* ”

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ *You were the dad I never thought I'd have until one day a very unfair system was finally fair to me. I miss you more than you could know. Thank you for being the beginning of what taught me what love really is between a daddy and daughter. I miss you* ❤️ ”

Nikki - November 28, 2022 at 10:22 PM



“ *A great man who cared deeply for others!!* ”



Danny Dorton - December 13, 2017 at 10:14 AM

JK

*“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you --
--May God grant you peace and comfort----
John has left a lasting legacy in the hearts of
many and that is a life well lived---God Bless.*



Jim and Jamie Kelly - December 04, 2017 at 08:15 AM



“ No one ever looked after so many children, so kindly, for no reason other than he believed such work ought to be done. I cannot recall the number of times an unkind child or bully were stopped in their tracks by a simple, silent look that meant such unkindness would not be tolerated, not under his watch, not in his hallways. After school, waiting, sometimes hours - for practices to begin, as a child who was blind, since he knew I had no other transport to come there and back again until after meets and rehearsals were over, he always looked after me and made sure I was safe and sound. Otherwise I never could have managed to be a part of any extracurricular activities at all. It would have been impossible for my family. But Mr. John made a lot of things possible, for dozens of children. I know I'll never forget him or his kindness.



Erin Nicole - December 03, 2017 at 01:13 PM

DH

*“ Debra Banks Co-worker@Powell Valley High
lit a candle in memory of John David Miller*



Debra Banks co-worker@Powell Valley High - December 02, 2017 at 08:38 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John David Miller.*



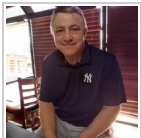
December 02, 2017 at 03:09 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John David Miller.*



December 02, 2017 at 09:18 AM



“ *Joyce, What a shining example of quiet courage and faith that your precious John consistently showed during his most difficult times - and your faithfulness and commitment to him was a living testimony of love, I remain honored to serve you both at the Cancer Center on your trips there- May God give you a strong sense of His Presence to render that special comfort and strength you and your family needs so much to adjust to this most difficult transition-Prayers remain -Ray Spenilla*

Ray Spenilla - December 02, 2017 at 04:14 AM

SJ

“ Praying for you Joyce , and your family during this difficult loss! God be with all of you

Stephanie Jenkins
(Dr. Davis' office)

Stephanie Jenkins - December 02, 2017 at 12:29 AM