



Mr. Roy C. Neeley

September 10, 1931 - October 2, 2014

Big Stone Gap, VA

Roy C. Neeley, 83, passed away on Thursday (October 2, 2014) at Holston Valley Medical Center in Kingsport, TN.

He was born and raised in Big Stone Gap, lived in Crown Point, IN for 45 years, travelled the country in their motorhome for many years and had lived back in Big Stone Gap for the past five years. He was a retired welder with the Ford Motor Co. in Chicago Heights, IL, with 30 years of service. Roy loved to fly and was a commercial pilot, flight instructor, and acrobatic flight instructor. He served in the U. S. Army during peacetime. He was a member of the Ross Baptist Church in Gary, IN.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Larry Neeley and Steven Neeley; grandson, Steven Neeley; his parents, Raymond and Viola (Mullins) Neeley; brothers, Joe Neeley and Jack Neeley; a sister, Glenda Neeley; and a son-in-law, Tom Martin.

Surviving are his wife of 66 years, Effie Owens Neeley; daughter, Glenda Martin; sons, Wayne Neeley and wife, Arlene, and Dennis Neeley and wife, Nancy; grandchildren, Dawn Martin Robison, Tommy Martin and wife, Angela, Heather Lambert and husband, Steve, Jennifer McConnell and husband,

Scott, Wendy Targgart, and Robert Kolicius and wife, Cynde; numerous great grandchildren; brothers, Robert Neeley, John (Carole) Neeley and Charles Neeley; sisters, Judy (Louie) Varella, Janice (Jessie) Norman and Vicky (Rob) Cooke; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday at Holding Funeral Home (17 E. 3rd St., N.) in Big Stone Gap, Va.

The funeral service will be conducted at 1 p.m. in the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Rick Whitten officiating.

Burial will follow at Powell Valley Memorial Gardens.

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

Holding Funeral Home is serving the Neeley family.

Cemetery Details

Powell Valley Memorial Gardens

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

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **6**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Holding Funeral Home, Inc.
17 E. 3rd St., N.
P. O. Drawer H
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
1-276-523-1470
holdingfuneralhome@comcast.net
<http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com>

Service

OCT **6**. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Interment

OCT **6** (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

MS

“ Roy was my flight instructor, from solo to instrument rating I never flew with any other instructor, we both worked for Skymart at the Griffith airport , he was a great man , I loved Roy , Carl Timm who wrote the last tribute actually was the examiner who tested me for the ratings , both Roy and Carl were great pilots

Mike Sullivan - December 13, 2025 at 06:20 AM



“ Mr. Roy C. Neeley

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM

LS

“ Roy Thanks for being the best flight instructor a person could hope to find. Your smile when things got interesting during training will always be remembered, I am sure by all your students. Your ability to impart your knowledge on how to fly an airplane was a gift. All who have learned from you will, when things get interesting in the air will always have Roy sitting next to them. Most of all, you were a kind, honest man who always kept his word and as a friend pointed out yesterday, "Roy never said a bad word about anyone". Roy, I will miss that smile and our phone conversations and visits with you and Effie. The love you two have for each other was wonderful. Karen and I will never forget you. Thanks for the memories
Love
Lenny Schneider
Commercial Pilot

Len Schneider - October 07, 2014 at 07:34 PM

CE

“ I will miss hearing from Roy so very much. Roy and I go back a long way, back to 1970, He worked with me and for me for a long time. When I became an FAA Examiner ,He used to come to me at the Griffith Airport, IN and renew his Flight Instructor Rating, he was an excellent pilot and a great instructor. Every time he came to renew his rating he came with a different kind of aircraft. I learned a lot from Roy. His students loved him and learned a lot about flying and safety. "No pilots ever die, they just fly away"
Again thanks for a long friendship.

Carl V Timm FAA Deg. Examiner - October 06, 2014 at 10:56 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Roy C. Neeley.



October 05, 2014 at 11:17 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Roy C. Neeley.



October 05, 2014 at 01:26 PM