

### ANTHONY MATHEWS, JR.



Anthony ‘Tony’ Thompson Mathews, Jr., 56, of Ponce DeLeon, Florida, went home to be with his Lord and Savior June 5, 2020. He was born August 7, 1963 in Jacksonville, to Anthony T. Mathews, Sr. and Brenda Sessions Mathews. He grew up as a son of a Navy dad



where they eventually settled down in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, where he graduated from Freeport High School in 1981.

On April 16, 1988, he married his best friend and the love of his life, Sherrie Pittman Mathews. Anyone that knew them or met them could tell that they had a very special bond and a love for each other that very few couples are lucky enough to experience. They had true love.

Tony loved Jesus, spending time with his family, watching NASCAR, football (Roll Tide), and FOX News. Most of all, he loved being on the water and being at Rock Hill with his bride. Tony was a Merchant Mariner who started his long career as a deck hand on charter fishing boats sailing out of Destin. He eventually earned his commercial Captains license. To say he was a self-made man in American tradition doesn’t do justice to his achievements: Master Chief in the USA and W.A.; United States Coast Guard Examiner; First Class Marine Licensed Pilot for USA and W.A.; and Advanced Licensed Oil and Chemical Unlimited Tanker of Cargo.

He is preceded in death by his mother Brenda Bacon.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Sherrie; his children Elizabeth (Jeffrey) Brooks and Schuyler Mathews; three grandsons Axl, Crew and Nash; his father Anthony T. Mathews, Sr.; brothers Patrick (Susannah) Mathews and Mark (Yubeiri) Bacon; father and mother in-law Harry and Joyce Pittman of Callahan; sisters-in-law Susan (Anthony) Farinella, Julie (Brenton) Holley and Amy Perez; several nieces and nephews; three great-nieces and many other loved ones, dear friends and all who sailed with him, his shipmates.

Memorial services for Captain Tony Mathews will be held Saturday, June 20 at 2 p.m. at Callahan First Baptist Church with Dr. Lynn Hyatt officiating.

A celebration of life will be held at Jeffrey and Elizabeth Brooks’ home.