

### **EUGENE (GENE) MCKENDREE**



Eugene (Gene) McKendree, passed away peacefully at home August 8, 2022. He was born December 30, 1935 in Yulee to the late H. S. (Herb) and Bernice Howard McKendree. He joined the U.S. Army in 1956, serving in the Army/Army Reserves for 8 years in



Infantry, Armor 672nd Tank Battalion and Military Police.

He married the love of his life, Joyce, on June 21, 1958 and they lived in Yulee. They moved to the northside of Jacksonville in 1960, where he worked for Orkin Exterminators. He then started a partnership business, Action Exterminators. After moving back to Yulee in 1977, he split the partnership (on great terms) and began his own business, McKendree Pest Control, which he owned until he sold it to his daughter and son-n-law (Teri & Phil) in 2000.

He served in the Nassau County Sheriff's Reserve from 1976 - 1998, and then worked full time in "civil" from 1998 - 2000. He enjoyed fast cars, racing go carts and stock cars, as well as beach buggies. He watched westerns all day, every day! His overall passion however was hunting! He'd be one of the first ones ready to head out to hunt every morning! With his red Ford truck, dropping a tailgate, opening up a box full of dogs and getting a hot buck chase going was what he lived for. He had a saying, "I love the smell of gunpowder in the morning!" For hours on end he would tell you memories made with his hunting club family and what they meant to him. He loved his family and friends and was a man of his word, honest and dependable. He loved his Lord and is now reunited with the love of his life (who he called "my lady") once again in heaven!

His is preceded in death by his parents H. S. (Herb) and Bernice Howard McKendree; and his wife Joyce Lippard McKendree.

He is survived by his daughter Teri (Phil) Davis; granddaughters Sabrina (Jody) Thrift and Cheyenne (Corey) Carroll; great-grandchildren Tucker and Tara Thrift and Hayden and Carter Carroll.

The family received friends Friday, August 12 prior to the funeral service at First Coast Christian Center of Jacksonville, with Pastor Perry Fruscella officiating. Interment followed at Hughes Cemetery in Yulee.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Community Hospice.