

JOHN CROCKETT GRAY, SR.



John Crockett Gray, Sr., 79, of Hilliard, passed away peacefully February 23, 2022 at his home with his loving family by his side. John was born on January 19, 1943 in Jolo, West Virginia to the late James Edward Gray and Arminta Jane Wolfe Gray. John married the love of his life, Nona Lee Carter April 13, 1964, and they have enjoyed the past 57 years of marriage.

John has been a resident of Hilliard for the past 21 years. He was a faithful member of Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church. If anything, John was a hard-working man. He was always working a side job in addition to his regular job as a painter/glazier with the Duval County School Board, of which he retired in February of 2000. John was also a member of New Horizons and Sunny Side Bluegrass Gospel Singers groups where he loved playing the bass guitar. He was the kind of guy who loved to tell a joke, kid around and pick on everyone; especially “Baby Red.” John also enjoyed attending car shows, working on his old cars and yardwork in his spare time. He was a treasure to his family and friends and will be greatly missed. John is preceded in death by his parents and several siblings.

John is survived by his wife, Nona Lee Gray, whom he lovingly called Baby Red; children Jan (Aldean) Hodges, Johnny (Michelle) Gray, Jr. and Joey (Melissa) Gray; grandchildren Cole Hodges, Trenton Hodges, Justin Gray, Kyle Gray, Tyler Gray, Chelsea Gray, Mindy Gray, Syndney Tollick, Bradley Reynolds, Heather Carter and Hannah Francis; great-grandchildren Kelilah Gray, Jackson Gray, Tucker Gray, Olivia Tollick, Brandon Tollick, Jade Bowie, Liam Carter and Stella Carter; brother David (Charlotte) Gray; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Cole Hodges, Tyler Gray, Justin Gray, Trenton Hodges, Kyle Gray and John Claxton. Honorary pallbearers were: Mark Parker and Drane Parker.

A celebration of John’s life was held Wednesday, March 2 at Hilliard Pentecostal Full Gospel Church, 551821 US 1, with Pastor Ike Mohler officiating. Interment followed at Riverside Memorial Park Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service.

Arrangements under the direction of Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family’s guest book.