



Leslie Raiford

February 25, 1921 - March 10, 2010

LESLIE CARLETON RAIFORD, age 89 of Manassas, Virginia died Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at his residence.

Mr. Raiford was born February 25, 1921 in Alexandria, Virginia, son of the late Linwood and Mary Cooper Raiford. He was a World War II veteran serving in the 101st Airborne.

He was also preceded in death by his wife, Katherine Raiford.

Survivors include two children, Diane Lewis and husband Bob of Manassas, Virginia and Debi Longhelt and husband Mark of Manassas, Virginia; one sister, Lucille "Bittsie" Raiford of Manassas, Virginia; six grandchildren, Mark Jr., Michael, Christy, David, Joel and Mary Kay and two great grandchildren, Mackenzie and Addison.

The family will receive friends from 3:30-4:30 P.M. Saturday, March 13, 2010 at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas where services will be held 4:30 P.M. with Pastor David Baird officiating. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 2:00P.M.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Kinina Ministries, c/o The Life Church, 10501 Balls Ford Road, Manassas,

Virginia 20109.

Tribute Wall

LB

“ I send my sincere condolences to the family of this dear sweet man. He and Kitty were two of the most wonderful people that I ever had the privilege to know. I know that Heaven is richer because of their presence there. I pray that you all who are missing them will have your hearts comforted by the One who pours out His grace in abundance, the precious Lord God Almighty, our dear Jesus and the One sent as a Comforter, the Holy Spirit. God bless you all.

Linda Blevins - March 29, 2013 at 02:01 PM

CN

“ I have sat on several occasions, in the last few days, to reflect on the Carleton that I knew and how I remembered him. I remember so looking forward to the nights that Val and I could go share a 'life group' Bible study with them in their home when we lived in Manassas. It was such a retreat, from the craziness that was life in Manassas, to turn on to his little dirt road and pull up to the quiet farm. Years later now, I just sat to 'Google' his name. (If he only knew. ;-) And read an excerpt from an article written by his close friend, Derrel Emmerson, almost a year ago. I thought it was quite appropriate:

"When I pray for my friend I give thanks for him. He demonstrates that one does not have to grow bitter because of the traumas through which they have lived. In fact, they can seize the moment and find purpose in them. In fact, such traumas have only helped make Leslie Carleton Raiford a better person. It even made him a grateful person. As a result, this ordinary man has touched many people for the good."

I couldn't have said it better myself.

Thank you Lord, for the lives that You have touched through Your servant Carleton, and may You bless him for it in Glory. -Amen

Cooper Family (Al, Val, AJ and Nathan) - March 29, 2013 at 02:01 PM

TC

“ *It been an absolute blessing and privilege to know Carleton. His smile reflected his love for life and adventure, and his stories and sense of humor were priceless. We were so sad to hear he was gone, but in our hearts we know he is where his heart has been since he received Jesus into his life. Now he is with his Lord and his leading lady in life. What a beautiful legacy of faith and family they have in their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. You are all in our prayers,*
Jim,Bea & Jay

The Cannings - March 29, 2013 at 02:01 PM

JE

“ *Debi & Diane and family,*
We have fond memories of your dad and mother at Christian Assembly, Vienna, VA since the 1980s. I worked for Derrel Emmerson in the church office for several years and always looked forward to seeing your dad and mom come in that door. I knew I was in for a special story (about roller coaster rides mainly) and a treat (candy) from a wonderful Christian brother and sister. Our heartfelt sympathy for now and in the days ahead. Every blessing from the Lord,
John & Nancy Entzminger

John & Nancy Entzminger - March 29, 2013 at 02:01 PM

JB

“ *Debi, Diane, and family,*

Carleton and Kitty were very dear to me as I attended Christian Assembly in the late 1970s as a member of the "College and Career" Fellowship and we would often go to their home.

Please know my loving thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of sorrow; please accept my heartfelt sympathy and may the peace which comes from the memories of love shared comfort you now and in the days ahead.

*In Him,
Jim Becker*

Jim & Carol Becker - March 29, 2013 at 02:01 PM

RR

“ *Diane,*

My deepest condolences for your loss. You and your family remain in my thoughts during this difficult time. You have a wonderful family! It's been a privilege.

Rachel Payne, RN - March 29, 2013 at 02:01 PM

RM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I know how painful it is to lose parents, but I hope all your wonderful memories carry you through the tough times.

I am grateful that I knew Kitty and Carlton - they were wonderful people. You were truly blessed.

Thinking of you,

Robin, Mike, Gabe, Cameron & Mallory

Robin McLane - March 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ He will always be remembered as you share the stories and the memories of how he lived his life and how very much he meant, may you find comfort...And, throughout this difficult time, may you also know the deep sympathy and concern that is felt for you and all your family. I have fought the fine fight, I have run the course to the finish, I have observed the faith.-2Timothy 4:7. As for me, I will lie down that I may sleep; I shall certainly awake, for Jehovah himself keeps supporting me. -Psalms 3:5

March 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM