



## Garland C. Butler Jr.

January 14, 2021

Garland C. Butler, Jr. 74, passed away on Jan. 14, 2021. He was a native of Portsmouth, retired from the Portsmouth Police Department and the Portsmouth Sheriff's Office. Garland served in the US Air Force. He was a member of the FOP, Confederate Veterans, Hoffler Creek Wildlife and was known as "Turtle Man" for his love of box turtles and his ability to assist with the rehab of them.

Garland is survived by his wife, Betty; 2 sons Andy Butler and wife Michelle and their daughter Carmen, Justin Butler and wife Melanie and their son Colin; stepson John McKee, Jr.; stepdaughter Joanna Outland; sister Dail R. Harrell; brother Kevin Butler and wife Karene.

Memorial contributions in memory of Garland may be made to the Portsmouth Humane Society 4022 Seaboard Court, Portsmouth, VA 23701 or to Hoffler Creek Wildlife Preserve 4510 Twin Pines Rd. Portsmouth, VA 23703.

A memorial service will be held at Community Church on Friday January 22, 2021 at 1pm.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN 22. 1:00 PM (ET)

Community Church  
1935 Jolliff Rd  
Chesapeake, VA 23321

# Tribute Wall

HA

“ Randy and I are so sorry to hear of Garland's recent and unexpected passing. Betty we are sending our love and hugs to you and the entire extended family. Garland was such a nice person and we will always remember the good times we all had together.

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**Holly Yates Ashberry** - January 26, 2021 at 09:33 PM

SJ

“ Garland, I hate not seeing you in years. You were a good friend. Your in God's hands now. We will meet again on day in Heaven. Rest In Peace my Brother. Stephen Jones and Family

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**Stephen Jones** - January 24, 2021 at 07:51 AM

FJ

“ Garland was such a wonderful person. So kind and outgoing. I met him at your neighbor, June Williams' beauty shop. He just casually walked in and was talking to June.....and me. It was like he had known me forever. His reason for being there was to find out who the Ford Explorer belonged to. It was mine. He said if I ever wanted to sell it, he wanted to buy it. I said ok, knowing he wasn't serious!! But a few months later my husband and I bought another car. The next day I went to June's and told her we were going to sell the Explorer. Garland was good for his word. He came to my house that day and bought it. A few days later after he had done some things to it, he came over to show us. It looked so good that I almost wanted it back. I am so sorry for your loss. He was very special. Fondly, Frances Johnson

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**Frances Johnson** - January 22, 2021 at 11:37 PM

BC

“ On behalf of WWHS Class of 64.5, we send our heartfelt sympathy to Garland's wife Betty and his children, siblings, and friends. He was always a nice friend, a happy man, and a lover of nature. We will remember him always in that way.

Barbara Castellanos Carson - January 22, 2021 at 12:21 PM

FC

“ Our sympathy to Garland's family. He was always known and will always be remembered as a nice guy. He was a blessing to all of nature where he nurtured, preserved & cared about its pristineness.



Fletcher Carson - January 22, 2021 at 12:13 PM

RC

“ Garland was a good person, a blessing to those around him with his smile and sense of humor even if it was a little warped sometime. He always had your back, he will be missed.

R Kirk Culpepper - January 22, 2021 at 10:54 AM

TB

“ My condolences to the family. Heaven has gained a fine man. I know his stepson John and he instilled many fine characters in him. May his love for his family give them peace.  
Tom Branton

Tom Branton - January 22, 2021 at 09:01 AM

TA

“ *It was always nice to chat with him while he was working in the yard ! We will miss him revving up the engines in his car and truck every morning ...my condolences to Mrs. Betty and the family*

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**The Allen's** - January 21, 2021 at 08:20 PM

SB

“ *Steve met him once, but is very close with his brother, Kevin. We are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you. We love you guys. God bless you.*

*Steve & Carol Brinn*

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**Steven Brinn** - January 21, 2021 at 06:10 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Garland C. Butler Jr..*



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January 21, 2021 at 09:59 AM

Erika  
Buckman

“ Have known him many many years thru my Mom, then the professional world. You touched so many lives and you will be missed. But not forgotten. To the family, the tears are good but know he would not want you to cry, he would want you to think of all the happy times you all have had together and dwell on those. You know he is with the Lord now and no longer suffering and one day when the Lord calls you home you can join him. But only in His time. right now you have a special guardian angel watching over us all.

May the Lord's strength and healing protect you all. In Jesus name.  
Amen

Erika (Clark) Buckman

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Erika Buckman - January 20, 2021 at 10:10 PM

AD

Garland was a fun person and a good police officer. Cowboy was truly loved. Prayers to family and friends. Sorry for your loss.

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Al Dumire - January 22, 2021 at 08:49 AM

MB

We knew Garland as a great neighbor and fun person back in the Rivermill Circle days of the early 90's. We always enjoyed him being around him. We're very sorry for your loss.

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Mike Brown - January 22, 2021 at 09:05 AM

JM

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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John McKee - January 20, 2021 at 04:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Garland C. Butler Jr..*



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January 20, 2021 at 02:58 PM



“ *Garland was my buddy. Met him when he was with the PD and later when we both worked in the Sheriff's Office. During my second go working with the PSO I was fortunate enough to work with him. Having him there helped me through some tough times. He saved me in many of my darkest hours. When he met Betty, he was over the moon. What a terrific couple they made. He loved his boys. And was proud to be a grandpa. Family meant a lot to Garland. He and I sure had some belly laughs together! He was the Turtle Man, and really enjoyed telling people all about turtles during educational seminars at Hoffler's Creek Wildlife Refuge. He loved his pets, both his dogs and all the cats he and Betty rescued from the neighborhood, of course his turtles. He was a good man, with a big heart. He'll be missed by many. Garland, thanks a million for your friendship, and hope to see you on the other side.*

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**Elizabeth Betty Axson** - January 20, 2021 at 12:12 AM



“ *Marilyn lit a candle in memory of Garland C. Butler Jr.*



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**Marilyn** - January 19, 2021 at 10:08 PM

MA

*Garland and I grew up together and I have fond memories of him. He was a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers are with you Betty and your family. 🙏*

Marilyn - January 19, 2021 at 10:11 PM

LR

*Rest in Peace Tooger. You will be missed greatly.*

LeRoy Reynolds - January 21, 2021 at 09:35 AM

DH

“*Garland was not only a good cop and deputy sheriff for the City of Portsmouth, but was a really good guy. Sad that he departed us, but happy that he is not suffering and is enjoying eternal paradise. Praying for the family that the Good Lord will get you through this period of mourning.*”

Donald Hundley - January 18, 2021 at 07:47 PM

RB

“*Rita Dutton Black purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Garland C. Butler Jr..*”



Rita Dutton Black - January 17, 2021 at 06:30 PM

SM

“ Garland gave our five year old granddaughter, Kayse Lee , a full teaching tour of the turtle farm. To thank him, she drew a picture of the event, and in her picture, Garland was covered in tattoos. He loved the letter, framed it, and hung it on the wall in his den.

*We will miss you, Friend.*

*Lee and Susan Morris*

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**Susan Morris** - January 17, 2021 at 06:11 PM

RD

“ Rip my good friend,I will miss our daily phone calls. See you on the other side

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**ronnie &jody davis** - January 17, 2021 at 05:10 PM

PF

“ We are going to miss Garland very much. He was always there when you needed him. RIH and keep an eye on my sister. We love you very much.

*Pam Fogleman and family*

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**Pam Fogleman** - January 17, 2021 at 12:49 PM

JF

“ Although we haven't known Garland long, he endeared himself to us at the many breakfasts at Nix. Loved his tattoos, his many pristine vehicles and his love of turtles. Rest in peace friend.

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**John and Chris Fields** - January 16, 2021 at 08:08 PM



*Garland was a gentleman. He will be missed by all that knew him.*

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**Laurie Burgess** - January 21, 2021 at 07:08 PM