



Mr. Joel Carter Denney

October 30, 1947 - August 13, 2017

Joel Carter Denney, 69, of Oxford, AL was called home by his Savior on Sunday, August 13th. His Memorial Service will be held 4:30 in the afternoon on Friday, August 18th at Golden Springs Baptist Church, 3 Robertson Rd. in Anniston. Joel is survived by his wife, Nancy Denney; son, Jace Denney and his wife, JJ; daughter, Jennifer Scoggins and her husband, Gordon; grandchildren Mitchell, Madi, Mabrey, Marly, McCartney, Josie, and Judd; brothers, Ralph "Hap" Denney and his wife Marlene and Sam Denney and his wife, Stephanie. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Mary Louise Denney and his sister, Linda Cordaro and her husband Guy Cordaro. Joel dedicated 26 years of his life to the United States Army and retired as a well-decorated Colonel in 1993. He served in Korea, Vietnam, Forts Benning, Hood, Carson, and Riley, two tours in Germany, two tours at Anniston Army Depot and Aberdeen Proving Grounds. He held degrees from Park College in Kansas, Southern California University, and the Army War College. Since his retirement he has dedicated his life to serving others to include being Chairperson for the Alabama Honor Flight, President of the Habitat for Humanity, Co-chair of Military Affairs Committee, Board of Governors for the Berman Foundation & Museum, and working countless labor hours for Carpenters for Christ. He was the former Commander of the Anniston Army Depot, actively participated with the Anniston and Calhoun County Chambers of Commerce, and was the BRAC Representative for the State of Alabama. Joel absolutely loved Corvettes (especially red ones) and served as the

President of the Alabama Corvette Club. His love for Corvettes however was no match for the love and loyalty shown to his family and friends. He loved all fiercely and his seven grandchildren were privileged to know the best "Poppie" ever.

In lieu of flowers donations would be appreciated for Habitat for Humanity, Honor Flight of Alabama, Carpenters for Christ through Golden Springs Baptist Church, and/or Multiple Sclerosis.

Previous Events

Service

AUG 18. 4:30 PM (CT)

Golden Springs Baptist Church
Anniston, AL

Tribute Wall

BB

“ This is a message for Nancy. My name is Barney Beals and I was stationed with Joel at Camp Paine in South Korea . I was there fro 12/68 to 1/70. He was a great guy and I am so sorry to see that he has passed. I was searching for him recently and saw his obituary. I can't believe he has passed and I don't know how else to get to his wife Nancy. I am hoping she will see this and reach out to me. I will leave my contact information with the funeral home...this is 12/23/22

thanks

barney Beals - December 23, 2022 at 02:08 PM

JG

Joel was my Battalion Commander in Hanau Germany. I was stationed there from 1985 to 88. My wife and I often reflect on our years spent there. I can honestly say that over my 21 year Army career, Col. Denny was one of the most respected commanders I served under. He had no issue to leave his office and come out to the motor pool and help me, just to do it. Nancy, Laura and I want you to know that you and your husband were a blessing to us. We are so thankful we had the honor of knowing you and your husband. I look forward to meeting Joel again someday.

God bless you and your family.

Joe and Laura Gray
HHD 85th Maintenance Bn.
1985-88

Josef Gray - March 11, 2023 at 11:44 PM

VR

“ Joel demonstrated Christ-like humility. His strength was bridled. His love was far reaching. His compassion was genuine. Glad to have worked along side him with Carpenters for Christ.

Vince Riffe - May 30, 2021 at 12:41 PM

RF

“ Joel was the perfect husband for Nancy. He was strong, handsome, commanding, and madly in love with Nancy. I envied your love. Our favorite memory of Joel was the time Roy and I visited you both in Germany in the early 80's. He was stationed in Frankfort but had business in Munich. We were encouraged to take the train to Munich and spend the day there with Joel. We did so and he gave us a tour of Munich and we went to the Haufbrau House for a beer or two. We were so blessed that he took time to make our visit more memorable. Roy always enjoyed talking with Joel at the many class reunions we attended in Bethel Park. Joel will be greatly missed. Our hearts go out to Nancy and the Denney clan. Donna and Roy Fuerherm.

Roy Fuerherm - August 18, 2017 at 12:02 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



August 18, 2017 at 11:46 AM

MA

“ It was our good fortune to know and work with Joel in the CPT Kyle Comfort 5k Memorial Race for several years and to become a friend with him and Nancy. Our prayers go to the family and friends.



Margaret Adams - August 17, 2017 at 09:52 PM

ES

“ So sad to get this news. Joel was a very special person and friend. Nancy, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.



Ed and Wanda Shimko - August 17, 2017 at 07:40 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



August 17, 2017 at 09:04 AM

GM

“ We had the pleasure of meeting Joel at a family wedding. He had such a warm and kind personality, he immediately made you feel like an old friend. We greatly respected his years of service to our country! This is such a hard and sad loss to everyone who knew him. Our prayers and love to his family.

Gary & Karess Merriman

Gary & Karess Merriman - August 16, 2017 at 08:43 PM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



August 16, 2017 at 03:33 PM

-T

“ -Pratt Bentonville Team purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



-Pratt Bentonville Team - August 16, 2017 at 03:17 PM

KR

“ For us Joel was a cousin and special friend. But he was also much more than that. He was a husband, father, brother, grandfather, uncle, soldier, community leader, patriot, and a Christian. He will be greatly missed for all those aspects of his life, but equally important he will be remembered for all that he accomplished and by all those he befriended in a life that was far too short. Knowing that he will be at Heaven's gates greeting family and friends with a smile and warmth equaled by few others gives us hope and comfort as we remember and celebrate a life well lived.

Keith and Connie Van Riper / New Bern, North Carolina

Keith and Connie Van Riper - August 16, 2017 at 01:02 PM

CW

Joel DENNEY was a special person to so many people. Everyone who knew him loved him. He and Nancy settled in Alabama after retirement and the people of Alabama have been truly blessed because of that decision. Joel's mission in life was to serve / help others. I have never met a more loving, caring man. He made such an impact on anything he was involved in. He loved life, his family, his friends, his community and his country with all his heart. Our hearts break for his precious family who have lost their "ROCK"

We have all lost a piece of our heart. Heaven has gained a very special angel.... Til we meet again

The Woodard Family

Carol Woodard - August 18, 2017 at 10:29 AM

BS

“ Bill, Amy, Rachal, Sarah purchased the Memorial Honor Blanket for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



Bill, Amy, Rachal, Sarah - August 16, 2017 at 07:54 AM

YF

“ Your 2nd Armored Division Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



Your 2nd Armored Division Family - August 16, 2017 at 12:41 AM

PR

“ We are proud to have known our cousin Joel, a strong Christian, loving father and grandfather, and patriotic American soldier. He will be forever missed, especially at our Davis-Denny Family Reunions. We saw Joel as a reserved, but strong, confident man of exceptional character. He was a delight to talk with because of his wit and deep store of knowledge. He was a modest man, although he had no need to be in view of his many accomplishments and years of military and public service. May we all take heart knowing he is in the arms of his loving God. Kent and L.C. Van Riper

Paul Kent Van Riper - August 15, 2017 at 08:25 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.*



August 15, 2017 at 04:20 PM



“ *My HERO has gone home to be with the Lord. I have called Joel Denney "My Hero " for years. If you look up the definition of Hero in the Tom Hultz dictionary here is what you will find. Everything I always wanted to be! I am not angry, I am grateful for the time we had him. When he approaches the Pearly Gates he will be greeted with these words. Well done my good and faithful servant. Our loss is Heavens gain. My heart goes out to his family as I feel their loss. Uncle Tom Hultz*

Tom Hultz - August 15, 2017 at 03:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.*



August 15, 2017 at 01:28 PM



“ *Sending sincere thoughts and prayers to the entire Denney family on the loss of such a great person. He will be missed by everyone who knew him. He will always have a special place in my heart. Sincerely Donna (Pasquale) Berdar.*

Donna Berdar - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.* ”



August 15, 2017 at 11:24 AM

TD

“ Joel's smile preceded his large presence when he entered a room - one could see it from a mile away. His gentleness towered over the large framed body that his soul was housed in. His kindness overshadowed the evil in this world. His wisdom and character are difficult to find in today's time.

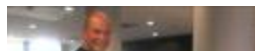
When we first met via email in early 2014, we were corresponding about a cross country bike ride to help wounded veterans that I was a part of. Joel volunteered all sorts of help and support for our team, including arranging a Fire Truck escort into Oxford. We met face to face for the first time on July 4 and I was instantly struck with the feeling that I was in the presence of a very important person - but he did not let on. It was just something I knew.

Last summer my Dad was injured on a rope swing while on a Mission Trip to Costa Rica. A freak tragedy. He was taken from us days later. Dad was my life hero and Joel reminded me very much of him on so many levels. No wonder I recognized greatness when I met Joel. Dad and Joel did meet briefly on that same July 4 with American flags blowing in the breeze - how fitting. I could tell that these two soldiers of the Cross could be fast friends if they had the time.

We have been friends since that bike ride, and we even got to visit the Denney's this May where we enjoyed such sweet fellowship. My husband and I will never, ever forget that time with them.

The only peace we have in his passing is that he and Dad now have a good while to deepen their friendship and share stories of Jesus and His goodness. We can't wait to see them again!

Nancy - just as Mom is doing well, you will too. Army wives can handle anything, particularly coupled with the supernatural faith that God alone gives. We love you and are available to help in any way possible.





Tracy Draper - August 15, 2017 at 10:02 AM

KH

“ *I had the privilege of working with Col Denney of two tours at the Depot....once when he was Major and the other as Colonel....he was one kind, caring and dedicated to his profession and it was an honor to call him my friend. I will always cherish the friendship that he & Nancy showed me and will never forget him. My prayers are with Nancy and his family during this difficult time and may God comfort you all....much love.....Kathy Harrell Hammonds*

Kathy Hammonds - August 15, 2017 at 09:13 AM

NF

“ *Nancy and family,
Rich and I want to express our great sadness over Joel's passing away. We will always remember him by his great smile and friendly nature. We regret that we didn't have the opportunity to know him better. We pray that God' grace will strengthen you and your family during this time of extreme sadness and loss of your beloved Joel.
Nancy & Rich Frechette*

Nancy Frechette - August 15, 2017 at 08:53 AM

KE

“ *I had the privilege of working with Joel on the 2016/2017 HONOR FLIGHT. His skills, with people, will be sorely missed as Co-chair of this year's trip. He is now in the arms of our heavenly father.*

Ken - August 15, 2017 at 07:40 AM

BM

“ Nancy, Jace, Jen and families,

Our hearts break for you. You have our deepest thoughts and love at this very difficult time. Joel was a wonderful person and will be held in so many hearts forever. We spent some wonderful Christmas Eves with you where Joel always had his pie in a bowl with a spoon. He will be missed by anyone who knew him.

Bob & Trish Morgan - August 15, 2017 at 07:34 AM

RR

“ Dear Nancy and family I want to send my heartfelt condolences to you on the death of Joel. I will keep your family in my prayers Whenever he attended our high school with unions he always made sure to sit down and talk with people to share the memories I am glad we had the stocks and I will miss him Rita Rae

Rita Rae - August 15, 2017 at 06:26 AM

CH

“ So very sorry to hear of Joel's passing.
*Lots of great childhood memories from Ft. Riley and laughs at the lake with the Denny's are running through my mind.
Sending comfort and condolences.
With love,
Cheri (Wilcox) Baker*

cheri - August 15, 2017 at 04:53 AM

WS

“ I hope Heaven has extra large comfy couches, because I know an Angel that is going to want one. The Army blessed my family with "Uncle Joel", and his grin, games and wicked smart mind will always be treasured. Dearest Denney family, my heart breaks for each one of you. But know Uncle Joel will always be loved and never forgotten. His greatness will be shared with the funny stories we all have about crazy shenanigans he got us into.



Wendy Shipley - August 15, 2017 at 12:48 AM



“ Heaven gained an angel yesterday. Joel certainly leaves this world a better place because of his great heart for people, compassion and caring. Please keep this family in your prayers! Joel will be missed dearly but never forgotten!

Amanda Pinson - August 14, 2017 at 09:32 PM

MB

“ Loved this man. He always had that infectious smile. Had so much fun playing volleyball with him and being a member of the Corvette club with him. Was at the Baptist at the Lake when he and Nancy were baptized. A truly amazing man in every respect.

Martha Buttram

Martha Buttram - August 14, 2017 at 09:29 PM

 Renee Rich

“ It was a true honor to have met Joel. I met him when I made him some business cards for his Corvette Club and items for the Honor Flight. After that, I can honestly say, I never seen him anywhere or anytime that he did not speak to me, and give me a hug. I will truly miss seeing him come to the OC. and "that smile" just made my day. Go rest high on that mountain my friend... ♡

Renee Rich - August 14, 2017 at 09:23 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Joel Carter Denney.



August 14, 2017 at 08:20 PM



“ What a loss for the people that knew Col. Denney...When I was the railroad agent at the Anniston Army Depot he went the extra mile to help me with my job there...I will never forget that. As I worked at Cider Ridge I would see him from time to time out walking and he always had time to chat with me... A great man that will truly be missed..

Steve Akers

Steve Akers - August 14, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ Went to high school with Joel! He has had an incredible life since those days! Condolences to his family! Rest in Peace Col Denny!

Geo Staples - August 14, 2017 at 08:06 PM

ER

“ Many folks woudn't understand how can a soldier be friends with his Battalion Commander and his family. I can say yes we were. I learned a lot from COL. Denney how he loved life, The US ARMY, his soldiers and his loving family. Our prayers are with you and your family. At the Pearly Gates ATTENTION AT THE GATE Col Joel C Denney HAS ARRIVED" RIP SIR :-(

SFC. Edwin V.Rodriguez US ARMY RETIRED. GOD BLESS AMERICA.....

Edwin Rodriguez - August 14, 2017 at 07:51 PM

KC

“ Nancy and family, we know how precious Joel was to you, we also know how much all of you meant to him. He always made everyone have a wonderful feeling just by his laughter and his smile. We will miss our beloved friend and his contagious smile. May God be with you and your family thru this time of sorrow. We Love You ! Ed and Kay

Kay Chandler - August 14, 2017 at 07:10 PM

MR

“ Joel and Nancy have a very special place in my heart! I had the pleasure to be their neighbors and friends we lived in the suburb of Philadelphia in this neighborhood called wind Hate Farms ,we had a house build there. Then come across the street from us,Joel and Nancy Denny, it was instant friendship. We meet each others family attended many fabulous family functions together. We been to the lake for vacation . You can travel the world and never meet two wonderful people as Joel Denny and Nancy Denny. I'm proud and lucky to have been your friend. Rest in peace Joel. Love you always, and your beautiful family. Monica Recchilongo

Monica Recchilongo - August 14, 2017 at 07:03 PM

GL

Nancy, When Anne called last evening, Jan and I were so deeply struck. How beautiful the two of you are in our lives. Our love for you spans so many years and it seems so untrue. Please know that the memories we made together were some of the best of our lives. Please know that you are loved and to be included as your friends is a tremendous honor. Surely Joel is near us, nearer than we might know. God in his greatness would never completely separate us from those we love so much. May God keep you in his embrace. With our love, Gary and Jan

GARY LAGRANGE - August 14, 2017 at 08:55 PM

LW

Nancy and family, We are so surprised and saddened to hear about Joel. We were just enjoying your Christmas card a few weeks ago. Joel was the kind of husband, father, friend and soldier we would all hope to be and he will be greatly missed by all who got to know him or serve with him. You guys helped make Ft Riley a bright spot in our lives and our surprise get together in Maui is a wonderful memory! We love you all and you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Judy & Larry

Larry & Judy Wilcox - August 14, 2017 at 09:47 PM

NI

Nancy, I'm so so so so sorry that you have lost this great, great man. My broken heart reaches out to yours.

I made these notes in my contacts file after I had married into the family and met you at the reunion in 2012: Nancy is short and blond and laughs at my jokes; Joel is tall and handsome. !!! I don't remember writing it but it brought a smile to my face just now when I found it. What I do remember is that you guys were as friendly and wonderful to me that first day as if we had been close family my whole life. From the looks of these other notes, you and Joel enveloped everyone around you in that same blanket of warmth and kindness. I feel it even now when I think of him. What a beautiful legacy.

*All our love,
Nissa, Steve and Ellis*

Nissa - August 15, 2017 at 06:25 AM

JM

Always kind to everyone no matter their status, always gave 110% to everything he did , always my friend. His corvettes were absolutely always spotless. i look forward to seeing him In Heaven cause I know he is there.

Jim Mitchell

Jim Mitchell - August 15, 2017 at 07:42 PM

MM

Humanity has suffered a loss. In this day more than ever we need men like Colonel Denney. I had the pleasure of working as his Deputy G4 in the 2d Armor Division back in the late 1980s and we continued to work together for the next several years in different capacities. Colonel Denney was more than a boss he was a friend and mentor to me. After 68 years I can say the number of men in my life that I loved could be counted on one hand and I would still have fingers left over, Colonel Denney was one of them. He and Nancy were an example of what family and love should be. God Bless him and his family

Michael Merola - October 10, 2017 at 04:00 PM