

Samuel Ralph Wills



Samuel R. Wills, 85, of Jacksonville, Fla., formerly of Riddlesburg, PA, died on Jan. 22, 2021, in the Community Hospice Center, Jacksonville, Fla., after an extended illness. Born on Feb. 28, 1935, he was the son of the late Ralph G. and E. Ruth (McMurtrie) Wills. He is survived by children, Jean M. Hinson of Jacksonville, Fla.; Susan R. Miller, Burlington, N.C.; and Samuel C. Wills, husband of Deb, of Elizabethtown, Pa. He is also survived by brothers David A. Wills, husband of Elaine of Shertz, Texas; and Brian M. Wills of Riddlesburg. Also surviving are five grandchildren and

two great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant sister.

He was a 1952 graduate of Saxton-Liberty High School. Following high school, he entered the military to become a Marine and later transferred and attended the U.S. Naval Academy and served during the Korean War.

Following his military service and living in the Reading area, he then served as President of H.E. Fortna & Bro., Inc. During this time, he also raised and presented horses for show in Bernville, Pa.

Samuel was also a loving father and enjoyed spending time with family and friends, doing puzzles and gardening. He also enjoyed watching Major League Baseball with the Philadelphia Phillies, being his favorite and cheering for his favorite Nascar driver Tony Stewart and then after his retirement, the Stewart Haas Racing Team.

He was a fan of the Dallas Cowboys football team when Roger Staubach was the quarterback. Samuel had a 20-year special interest in studying the American Civil War to which he had a collection of over 100 books.

He was a member of the Saxton Sportsmen's Club and the Six Mile Run American Legion Post #556 Throughout his life, he was of the Methodist faith.

Samuel was laid to rest on Jan. 28, 2021, in Jacksonville National Cemetery with full military honors.

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