



Rory "Bud" Swanson

January 20, 1952 - April 20, 2022

Rory "Bud" Swanson, 70, of King and Queen County, VA, passed away unexpectedly on April 20, 2022. He was the son of the late Army Sargent First Class Roy Swanson and Jacqueline Swanson (Women's Army Corp Private First Class) of Park Rapids, MN. Bud was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Kathleen "Kitty" Swanson. He is survived by his children, Kristen Swanson Houston (Vince) and Daniel Swanson (Sidney); grandchildren, Danika Swanson, Adeline Swanson, Audra Boone, Everett Swanson, and Nancy Anne Swanson; mother, Jacqueline Swanson; Brothers, Steven Swanson (Julie) and David Swanson (Julie); and a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives, and friends from the Lower King & Queen Volunteer Fire Department.

Born in Chelsea, MA, Bud moved with his family to (the then active) Fort Monroe Army Base in Hampton, VA in 1962. Following his graduation from Kecoughtan High School (Hampton, VA) in 1970, he served our nation as an Airman in the United States Air Force from 1970-1974. Bud married his high school sweetheart, Kitty, in 1972 at the Fort Monroe Chapel. After his military service (stationed in Myrtle Beach, SC with a tour in Thailand), Bud and Kitty moved to Bemidji, MN where he received a Bachelor of Science in 1978 from Bemidji State University. While at BSU, Bud was an announcer for the campus' radio station, and also was a statistician for the Sports Information Director's office.

When Bud and Kitty returned to Hampton, VA in 1978, he worked as an announcer and news writer for WNOR FM99, prior to beginning his career in telecommunications. During his 20 years of employment with Time Warner Cable (Hampton, VA), Bud worked his way through the ranks, from Dispatcher and Installer, to System Designer, and then Technical Support Supervisor. After a franchise acquisition, Bud's employment transitioned to Cox Communications (Hampton Roads), where he served as Project Coordinator, Construction Planner, and Construction Supervisor for a team of 22 prior to his retirement in 2016. Following his retirement, Bud worked part-time at the Middle Peninsula Regional Airport, and then later for AMR (American Medical Response, Inc.) doing medical transport.

For almost 15 years, Bud devoted his time to the Lower King & Queen Volunteer Fire Department, serving as Secretary, Captain, and Fire Prevention Officer. At the time of his death, Bud was the Chairman of the Ethics Committee. He was a true example of a dedicated volunteer Firefighter and EMT, and was willing to step in and lend a helping hand at any moment.

When he wasn't at (or volunteering on behalf of) the fire department, taking care of his beloved Kitty, fishing in the Outer Banks of North Carolina, cruising down Claytor Lake (Pulaski, VA), or loving on his grandchildren, you could find Bud exploring Williamsburg with dear friends, working in the yard, planting fruit trees, having lunch at Nick's or Albarro's in Shacklefords, enjoying a cup of Dunkin' Donuts coffee, listening to Classic Rock music, watching Law and Order, or cheering on the JMU Dukes, the Virginia Tech Hokies, the Minnesota Vikings, or the Washington Football Team.

A memorial service to celebrate Bud's life will be held at 2pm on Saturday, May 7th at Vincent Funeral Home, 417 11th Street, West Point, VA. The family will receive friends one hour prior to services. In lieu of flowers, the family

requests that donations be made to the Lower King & Queen Volunteer Fire Department (Gressitt Station, #4), PO Box 187, Shacklefords, VA 23156.

* A recording of Mr. Swanson's service can be found at: <https://vimeo.com/711017177> *

Previous Events

Receive Friends

MAY 7. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel
417 11th St
West Point, VA 23181
(804) 843-2550

Memorial Service

MAY 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel
417 11th St
West Point, VA 23181
(804) 843-2550

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Donna Moore lit a candle in memory of Rory
"Bud" Swanson



Donna Moore - May 07, 2022 at 03:00 PM

GD

“ Bud was my full time partner for just over a year at AMR. He always came to work with a smile and a great attitude! It's rare to be privileged enough to work with someone so positive and I missed him terribly when he left. I would still run into him from time to time and he always had a smile and kind word for us. He will be greatly missed.

Gwen D'Amico - May 06, 2022 at 05:51 PM

CS

“ Bud, when I started my venture over to Construction, Bud became my supervisor; he was such an incredible supervisor, and then he became a friend, and then when he became a project coordinator, he showed me so much stuff that I had no idea. Bud had a gentle soul always had a kind word. I will keep his friends and family in my prayers.

Cat Skinner - April 30, 2022 at 02:37 PM

JB

“ Rory was a well respected teammate on the KHS football team.
Rest In Peace Warrior!

John Barrett - April 29, 2022 at 10:03 AM

BR

“ Prayers and comfort for Bud and his family from your Cox Family!
Rest well my friend.

Brock - April 28, 2022 at 08:17 PM

PM

“ Worked with Bud for many years at Time Warner and Cox. He was
always a soft spoken helpful gentleman. My thoughts and prayers
are with all his family. RIP Bud!

Pat Madden - April 28, 2022 at 04:19 PM

HH

“ Harwood Hall lit a candle in memory of Rory
"Bud" Swanson



Harwood Hall - April 28, 2022 at 02:55 PM

KG

“ Kathy Glass lit a candle in memory of Rory
"Bud" Swanson



Kathy Glass - April 28, 2022 at 11:52 AM

MR

“ I ran a lot of calls with bud when I was in the fire dept especially the rescue squad bud was a good friend and a good person he loved the fire dept and he loved helping people bud you will be greatly missed rest in peace my friend

Mike Redford - April 28, 2022 at 10:00 AM

PJ

“ I still can't believe he is gone. Rory was a wonderful guy. My deepest condolences to his family and all who love him. He is with Kitty now. Rest In Peace dear friend.

Pam Hale Johnson - April 28, 2022 at 09:55 AM

BV

“ Barbara Vandegrift lit a candle in memory of Rory "Bud" Swanson



Barbara Vandegrift - April 28, 2022 at 07:41 AM

MR

I ran a lot of calls with bud when I was in the fire dept especially with the rescue squad he was a good friend and a good person he loved the fire dept and he loved helping people bud you will be greatly missed Rest In Peace my friend

Mike Redford - April 28, 2022 at 09:55 AM

CG

My sincere condolences to Rory's family. Great man & former classmate. May he RIP.

Carol Fuller Goodbody - May 01, 2022 at 11:56 PM

DN

“ In 1976, I was a brand new instructor in the communications department at Bemidji State. I was the general manager of two radio stations operated by the university. And I was in over my head, out of my league, and a long way from my support network.

Fortunately I found I had a steady, sage student manager to work with me. He had already seen the world, had started a family, and was well respected by fellow students. How fortunate I was to spend time with Rory, Kitty, and Kristen during the year our time in Bemidji overlapped.

We brought a crew of 15 students and two faculty to the National Association of Broadcasters convention in DC that year, traveling from Minnesota in two rented motor homes. After the event, Bud was proud to bring all of us down to his home territory for some R&R by the ocean. And I'll always remember how he and I took one of the vehicles to a truck center near Norfolk for a necessary realignment job.

Bud, I don't think I ever thanked you for what you did for me. I truly learned as much or more from you than you ever learned in my classes. You and Kitty, aka "Munch", will always be in my memory.

Peter Nordgren



Dr, Peter Nordgren - April 27, 2022 at 10:55 PM