



Samuel "Sam" Robert Lathan Jr.

April 6, 1943 - July 12, 2025

Samuel "Sam" Robert Lathan, Jr., 82, of Middlesex County, VA, passed away peacefully on July 12, 2025.

Born in Mecklenburg County, NC, on April 6, 1943, Sam pursued a lifelong passion for aviation. After earning his Airframe and Powerplant license, he began his career crop dusting before going on to serve as a pilot for Union Camp Aviation and then Philip Morris Aviation, where he proudly worked for many years until his retirement and where he formed lifelong friendships.

Sam had a deep love for the outdoors and found joy in the simple pleasures of life—whether sitting on the porch, relaxing on the dock or beach, or tinkering in his garage. He passed on his love of hunting and fishing to his two sons, creating cherished memories on many outdoor adventures together.

A true collector at heart, Sam was fascinated by history and craftsmanship. He had an extensive collection of antique memorabilia, bottles, knives, and Native American art. He was also a firearms enthusiast with an encyclopedic knowledge of every make and model.

Above all, Sam adored his family. He especially treasured time with his grandchildren. Wednesday night suppers, tailgate conversations and trips to the dollar store were the highlights of his week.

Sam was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Olivene Lathan of Charlotte, NC. He is survived by his sons, S. Robert Lathan III (Teresa) and Adam Lathan (Susan); his beloved grandchildren, Amelia Lathan, Charlotte Lathan, and Brendan Harlow (Katie) of West Point, VA; and his sisters, Sandy Leatherman (Tommy) and Joy Houston (David), both of Charlotte, NC.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Vincent Funeral Home in West Point, VA.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Hartfield Volunteer Fire Department, 3309 Twiggs Ferry Road, Hartfield, VA 23071.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **16**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

AN

“ Sorry to hear about this. LOTS of great memories of Sam (Mr. Lathan) and Family during the 1980's. My condolences to Adam and Robert.

Andy - October 26, 2025 at 05:18 PM

AG

“ We built a home next door to Sam 6 1/2 years ago. Needless to say, with Sam's vast knowledge of guns and knives we became emediate friends. He would come over on his golf cart and we'd talk gardening,guns,and what was going on in the world and he'd always ask what my boys were up to,and he give me a rundown on his granddaughters. After he injured his leg we would go over and check up on him,and what I thought would be a 10 minute check up would usually turn into a hour or two. In retrospect it was worth every minute, I'm really going to miss our time together. To know Sam was to love him, one of the nicest men I ever had the pleasure of knowing. A true Southern Gentlemen. Not only was he a good neighbor but he was a great friend. We will miss him, Love you Sam. Anthony Glasco

Anthony Glasco - July 16, 2025 at 10:54 AM

AS

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to your family during this difficult time.
Amy "Shaf" Smith



Amy Smith - July 16, 2025 at 09:06 AM

VB

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.*
Vic and Sharon Britton

Vic and Sharon Britton - July 16, 2025 at 08:31 AM

JL

“ *Adam,*

*In memory of your Dad! So sorry for you and
your family's loss.*

Jim & Ellen Leigh



JIM LEIGH - July 16, 2025 at 08:21 AM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss*



Thomas Widgeon - July 16, 2025 at 06:22 AM

BE

“ *Deepest sympathy to the family.*
Beverly & Jim Ross



Bev&Jim - July 14, 2025 at 08:49 PM

FS

“Faith Silva lit a candle in memory of Samuel
"Sam" Robert Lathan Jr.



Faith Silva - July 14, 2025 at 03:45 PM