



Joe Marshall Neely

January 2, 1928 - April 27, 2018

Joe Neely was a life long resident of Wildwood, Georgia. He was born January 2, 1928 and passed away on April 27, 2018.

He was a boiler welder, working for Combustion out of Chattanooga.

He was a blacksmith, learning the craft from his father and grandfather. The sound of the hammer on the anvil is a memory of time spent with him.

He was a beekeeper, a bicyclist, a birdwatcher, a ham radio operator, a square dancer, a watcher of cartoons and a reciter of poetry.

He was a gardener, still planting the pumpkins passed down in his family from the time of their coexistence with the native Cherokees. And he would let you know he still preferred plowing with a mule team to a tractor.

He was a baker, making sourdough loaves from scratch, a mean coconut cake and a fresh pan of biscuits every weekend morning.

He was a husband, and father, and grandfather, and great-grandfather. His entire life he remained close to the land that sustained generations of his family. He was born in a cabin in the holler just a short walk from the home where he gently passed away last night.

He was loved and he will be sorely missed

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fran and Alma Neely, a sister Violet Neely, and his wife of nearly 40 years Faye Neely. He is also preceded in death by his companion of 20 years Carolyn Moore of Signal Mountain.

He is survived by his brother Frank (Marjorie) Neely, son Marshall (Bonnie) Neely, daughter Marie Neely, son Scott (Gay) Neely all of Wildwood and 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation is Saturday May 5, 2018 from 11am-1pm at Wildwood Methodist Church, with a memorial service immediately following. In lieu of flower the family ask that donations be made in his honor to Wildwood Methodist church. Arrangements by Ryan Funeral Home, Trenton, GA.

Events

MAY **Visitation** 11:00AM - 01:00PM

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Wildwood United Methodist Church
436 Old Birmingham Hwy, Wildwood, GA, US, 30757

MAY **Memorial Service** 01:00PM

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Wildwood United Methodist Church
436 Old Birmingham Hwy, Wildwood, GA, US, 30757

Comments



“ Terry And Sharon Snyder lit a candle in memory of Joe Marshall Neely



Terry and Sharon Snyder - May 06, 2018 at 08:57 AM



“ It was honor to know Joe and learn the art of black smithing from him. I will always cherish the times I spent with Joe and his son Marshall, they meant the world to me. To the Neely family we are so sorry for your loss. Terry and Sharon Snyder

Terry and Sharon Snyder - May 06, 2018 at 09:03 AM



“ Marshall, Marie, and Scott;

The obituary was quite fitting for your dad. He and your mom were part of a group of friends from Dade County who went to high school together. My mom and dad were part of that group, Barbara and Pat Light. My dad took footage of your uncle Frank and Margie's wedding in the 1950's with your dad there of course.

All of you visited our house in Lookout Valley probably 55 years or more ago. Your dad was always laughing....that I remember well. And I always thought of him when seeing Kirk Douglas with the famous chin.

I was thinking today of just how quickly life passes...we are blessed to have had such good role models. My dad died very early (at 53) and my mom 3 years ago. One other memory I have of your dad is that he talked with HR at Combustion about a pension for my mom....of course, they had other ideas. It struck me how thoughtful that was of your dad. My sympathy goes to each of you and your families.

Ginnie Light Gray
glgray5@bellsouth.net

Ginnie Light Gray - May 05, 2018 at 07:24 PM