



Edward Thomas Jefferies

September 30, 1940 - June 1, 2022

Chaplain Dr. Edward Thomas Jefferies was a man of God who went about doing good. He fought a good fight, kept the faith, and finished the course June 1, 2022, at the age of 81. He set goals for his life and with God's help, accomplished each one and much more. His purpose in life was loving Jesus, his family, and helping others.

Ed was born in Baltimore, MD, to Edward May Jefferies and Rena Caroline on September 30, 1940. He joined the Navy in 1958, and ended his tour of duty aboard the USS Enterprise in Vietnam in 1968. He married Marlene Spears in Jacksonville, FL on August 18, 1962, giving her a non-boring life.

He and Marlene associate-pastored First Assembly of God in Auburndale, FL; pioneered Glad Tidings Assembly of God in Eden, NC; and for 36 years, they pastored Trinity Assembly of God in Johnson City, TN. He served as Chaplain of Johnson City Police Department, Tennessee Highway Patrol, FBI, hospitals, Marketplace Ministries, and other organizations. He served on several boards, commissions, and contact ministries, involving several topics and missions including suicide prevention, education, assisting those displaced/impacted during international conflicts and wars, and serving in several local and national crises and natural disasters. He received many awards including the John A. Price Award as a career chaplain for excellence in Law Enforcement Chaplaincy for the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC), and the ICPC Fellow Level Award, the highest professional level of Law Enforcement Chaplaincy.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Robert Edward Jefferies and wife, Doris, Charlotte, NC; sister, Dorothy Jane Wilhelm and husband Walter, Hartly, DE; and brother-in-law, Lewis Charles Spears and wife, Merle, Crawfordville, FL.

Left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife, Marlene; son, Keith Gordon Jefferies and wife Gina, Knoxville, TN; daughter, Andrea Renee Lovekamp and husband James, Valparaiso, IN; daughter, Alexa Marlene Magowan and husband Daniel, Duluth, GA; and Kenneth Charles Jefferies and wife Jill of Johnson City, TN; four grandsons, Austin Jared

Lovekamp, Spencer Keith Jefferies, Joshua Caleb Magowan, and Adam Seth Magowan; two granddaughters, Kaleigh Danielle Camp and husband Oliver, Meredith Christine Jefferies; brother, David Charles Jefferies and wife Doris, Antioch, IL; sister-in-law, Virginia Waldrop; sister-in-law, Elayne Huebner and husband Sheldon, Crawfordville, FL; many beloved nieces and nephews; and buddy Rex, his Australian Shepherd.

A history and Greek scholar and knowledgeable about Hebrew, Ed prepared for his sermons by translating the original passage, comparing his translation to others from his scores of different translations, and overlaying historical references and information from hundreds of research materials to provide a rich interpretation of the biblical meaning.

An entrepreneur in spirit, he started several businesses including a Christian bookstore in Eden, NC, and The Lighthouse restaurant in Erwin, TN.

A life-long fan of the Baltimore Orioles, he would follow each farm club and the major league team, giving his family a daily update, particularly when they won against a New York Yankee team. He loved to cook, particularly if he could add onions, peppers, and tomatoes, and make his own special blend of coffee. His unique wit and humor resulted in daily laughs and rolled eyes.

He worked hard, played hard, and slept easy.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, June 7, from 3 to 6 p.m. at Trinity Assembly of God, 617 University Parkway, Johnson City, TN with the Celebration of Life beginning 6 p.m. Interment will be Wednesday, June 8, at 1 p.m. at Mountain Home National Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Trinity Assembly of God, P.O. Box 1102, Johnson City, TN 37601.

Cemetery Details

Mountain Home National Cemetery

Mountain Home, TN 37684

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 7. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Assembly of God
617 University Parkway
Johnson City, TN 37604

Celebration of Life

JUN 7. 6:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Assembly of God
617 University Parkway
Johnson City, TN 37604

Interment

JUN 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Mountain Home National Cemetery
53 Memorial Avenue
Mountain Home, TN 37684

Tribute Wall

EV

“*Brother Ed Jeffries, along with his fellow chaplains, was always a sight for sore eyes, offering help, advice, guidance and prayer. He did this not only for me, but also for the other employees at Mullican Flooring. He may help brighten heaven, as God allows, but I'm certain he's missed by family, my former fellow co-workers (I've since retired), and especially the chaplain staff who still visit the workers. To those: Manuel Vargas, David Crutchfield, Roger and the rest, your kind deeds will always be remembered and greatly appreciated. God bless you, and thank you.*

Edwin "Rocky" Vines - June 08 at 02:00 PM

SC

“*Chaplain Jefferies helped out our Counseling Dept. many times through the years at SHHS. He was a kind, faithful, understanding, and intelligent man to have around when there was a major crisis. He always had a smile, wise words, and a positive attitude. He knew when to help with everything he had and when to back away to let healing run it's course. I always appreciated his presence and when things got too much for the counselors, he would help us get through as well. My sympathy to all the family. RIP Chaplain Jefferies - you will certainly be missed.*

Scarlett Coapstick - June 07 at 06:24 PM

SH

“*Prayers to Pastor Ed's family. I only knew Pastor Ed for a short time as he came through my office every Monday here at Mullican Flooring. But in that short time I met a man of God who was a light shining on a hill. As a Sunday School I had many discussions with him each Monday on many topics and those memories will be treasured and missed going forward. Again prayers to his family and RIP Pastor Ed. Sam Heinbach.*

Sam Heinbach - June 07 at 04:30 PM

BF

“*Pastor/Chaplain Ed Jefferies was a solid man of God, that I knew for several years. He was also people oriented, and made himself available to many situations. I worked as a probation officer at the Juvenile Court, and Chaplain Ed made numerous visits to this court. May the spirit of Christ give strength, and peace to the Jefferies family!! Respectfully, Benny Franklin.*

Benny Franklin - June 07 at 11:01 AM

WA

“ ed always told me I must be on the level because the bubble is in the middle. Bill Anttila. previously employed at Mulligan Flooring.

William r Anttila - June 07 at 05:03 AM



“ So sorry for the passing of your loved one. I had the honor and privilege to meet Pastor Jefferies when I worked for First American Bank. I know your family is thankful for the testimony of his life. He loved the Lord and had compassion for his fellow man. He will be missed in this world, but may you cherish all the wonderful memories until you are reunited in heaven one day.

Ann Rhem - June 06 at 06:39 PM

CE

“ A life well lived! May the peace of Jesus and comfort of the Holy Spirit sustain you as you walk through this valley. God Bless You, Chuck and Charlene Elliott Discover Life Church Assemblies of God.

Charlene D. Elliott - June 06 at 04:37 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward Thomas Jefferies.



June 06 at 03:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Edward Thomas Jefferies.



June 06 at 11:46 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward Thomas Jefferies.*



June 06 at 10:31 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Edward Thomas Jefferies.*



June 06 at 10:03 AM

MC

“ *Ann-
I'm so sorry to hear about your Dad . I'm sending Love and Prayers to you, and all your family .I remember going with you to the church, and for your Piano lessons. We always had a great time together growing up . Boy... times has passed so fast .
Take care and know I'm thinking of you !*

❤️ *Love You !
Charlsey (Brown) Cantwell*

Mike & Charlsey Cantwell - June 06 at 09:21 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward Thomas Jefferies.*



June 06 at 01:35 AM

TS

“ 1 file added to the album Papaw



Tetrick Funeral Services - June 05 at 01:39 PM

MM

“ Rev. Jefferies was a good man. I worked as a road trooper for the THP until 2010. Rev. Jefferies went with me on two different occasions to notify loved ones of a car crash victim of their passing. I was relieved to have him with me because of his compassion & understanding for his fellow man. He was really good on both of those occasions. Also took him to Nashville & back on one occasion for a meeting there. Got to know him a little during that car ride. A very interesting man. I'm grateful to have known him & wish his family peace during this difficult time. By the way, “worked hard, played hard, & slept easy.” - One of the best lines for an obituary I've ever heard. Love it.

-Sgt. Mark Musick
THP (retired)
Elizabethton

Mark Musick - June 05 at 09:28 AM

DH

“ Like many of my heroes, this man was bigger than life. The tales and memories will go on and on. I'm grateful I might have had a small part in a few of those tales and a memory or two. -Dave Hodges

Dave Hodges - June 04 at 11:00 PM

CL

“ My most vivid memory of Pastor Ed was when he had picked myself and my son up to go to hospital (my father n law was very sick). But first stopped by McDonald's to get food for my son: ordered, paid for for it and processed to pull off into street, up highway ramp. Then realized hadn't gotten food, stopped, put car in reverse, backed down ramp, across street, down entrance to McDonalds, to window. Got food and away we went. This was second time I had seen him in my life! But wasn't the last, he ministered to our family for the duration of my father n laws illness and funeral.
There are lots of memories I am left with of my friend (like family), and I shall cherish each one.
Love, hugs & prayers to the family. Love y'all bunches always ❤️

Cindy LaFollette - June 04 at 08:21 PM

ML

“ I first met Brother Jefferies at Camp Ambassador (Camp Jackson) around 1985. He was singing one of his favs “Beautiful fly on the wall,” much to the amusement of the campers gathered in the cafeteria. Brother Jefferies always supported missions and gave sacrificially to keep our family on the field. Helping others was his passion. Love for the lost and hurting was what drove him daily. He always made people laughed but he also loved people truly and dearly. What a loss for us, but a gain for heaven! Our prayers and condolences to his family and friends.

Melanie Lutes - June 04 at 07:23 PM

LC

“ Lora Casey lit a candle in memory of Edward Thomas Jefferies



Lora Casey - June 04 at 04:54 PM