



## David L. Ramsey

December 19, 1933 - March 25, 2011

David Lavaughn Ramsey, 77, went home to Heaven on March 24, 2011, surrounded by his loving family and friends. He was born December 19, 1933, to Samuel N. and Emma Ramsey in Zion, Franklin Township, Izzard County, AR. Dave grew up on the family farm, helping with keeping it going from the time he could walk. It was there that he learned the value of hard work and honest, moral values. Dave entered the United States Army upon graduating from school. He proudly served his country in Korea from 1954 to 1956. He held many ranks while there, including PVT, PVTE2, PVTE3, Specialist 3rd Class, Motor Pool Sergeant and Corporal. He earned many medals and ribbons, including the United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. He was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 3617, where he held many positions over the years. Dave had many hours of volunteer work helping Veterans and their families. Upon his honorable discharge in 1956, Dave moved to Washington State, where he fell in love with the Wenatchee Valley and spent the remainder of his life. Dave found work in the fruit industry and eventually landed his key job at Van Well Nursery, where he was Warehouse Supervisor for 33 years. Upon his retirement, he continued working independently as a well-sought-after Bud Grafter in the orchards of NCW. Many orchards in the state flourish today because of his talent for grafting. Dave married Oreeda Stone on June 18, 1976. The love they shared was like a blooming rose - opening over and over for 34 years, always

unveiling a new adventure. When Dave married Oreeda, he also married her six children and quickly took on the roll of "Dad." He told us at the beginning that he wasn't trying to take the place of our deceased father, but that he wanted to take up where he had left off. And he held that promise throughout the years. He then earned the title of "Father" to us. Dad and Mom, along with their granddaughter, Brandi, opened Guardian Angels Daycare, which they retired from about seven years before his passing. Dad had many hobbies, which included fishing, hunting, playing poker, panning for gold and car racing. He even owned his own race car, which he ran at the Wenatchee Valley's Super Oval for many years. Dad and mom traveled to many places in their years together. They saw a lot of historical places and made memories wherever they went. Dad was a gentle giant with a heart made of gold. He was loved by all who knew him. He never had a mean word to say about anyone. When one of us children would have trouble in our lives, he would tell us to pick ourselves up, dust off and go on. Dad was a joke player and teller, and was well known for his corny jokes. He had the jolliest laugh ever. Dad was a whistler, and whistled from sunup till sundown. He was always in tune with the season. Dad left us whistling, clear up until a few days before his passing. Dad never complained of anything or wanted anything for himself. He always put his family first. Even though he was in dire pain himself because of his illness, he held on and took care of Oreeda until her passing in December of 2010. It was then, that he knew it was OK to let go of his battle with his own illness. And even then, he didn't complain of his own pain. Dad will be greatly missed and our lives forever changed. God threw away the mold when He made dad. We are forever blessed. Although time and tears will ease the hurting pain of losing our dad, nothing will ever remove the memories of dad or the everlasting love we have for him that's planted so deeply within our hearts. His work on earth was done and it's time for him to rest with the Lord and he's reunited with Oreeda again.

Dad was preceded in death by his wife; daughter, Lavonne; great-

granddaughter, Kayte; his parents; and brother, William. He is survived by his children, Diane (Oscar) Danforth of Soap Lake, Cheryl Reser of Everett, Pam Puffenbarger of East Wenatchee, Ron (Tammy) Stone of Wenatchee and Sandy Lachowsky-Stone of Seattle; one brother, Ed Ramsey of Harrington, AR; 14 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Patrick Lynch; Central Washington staff and nurses, Cindy and Trish; Social worker, Ericka; Hospice volunteer, Helen; CNA Nicole Millington; Trina Blankenship; Jessica Bovard; and the many others who helped in Dad's care. A very special thanks goes out to granddaughter, Amanda and husband, Michael Blankenship and granddaughter, Brandi and husband, Steven Dunlop of Northern Ireland for the great, unconditional care and love they gave to care for both dad and mom throughout their illnesses. We would like to especially thank Chaplain Scott Langager for his devotion to our dad and mom, and our entire family throughout the years. We say thank you to the Army National Guard, American Legion Post 10 of Wenatchee, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3617 of East Wenatchee and Service Officer Larry Stroyzk for the military burial dad so deserves. Also, a big thanks goes out to family friend and comrade, Wayne Mummert, for his support during Dad's illness; and to the people of Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Funeral Home. A Celebration of Dad's Life will be held at Jones & Jones~Betts Memorial Chapel on Wednesday, March 30, 2011, at 11:00 a.m., with Chaplain Scott Langager officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to Central Washington Hospital Home Care and Hospice. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at [jonesjonesbetts.com](http://jonesjonesbetts.com). Arrangements are

entrusted to Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Memorial Park

1301 10th St NE  
East Wentatchee, WA 98802  
(509) 884-4651

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 29.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Jones & Jones ~ Betts  
302 9th Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

## Service

**MAR 30.** 11:00 AM (PT)

Jones & Jones ~ Betts Funeral Home  
302 9th Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 662-1561  
[dante@jonesjonesbetts.com](mailto:dante@jonesjonesbetts.com)

# Tribute Wall

BC

“ I loved my cousin, David, and will cherish the memories of him when he was in my life. He lived with my family in Rock Island for a summer. He was never too tired to play with me and my siblings even after a long, hard day at work. He enjoyed the simple things of life like home cooking and visiting with family. I am thankful he found a wife and family and had a full life. My thoughts and prayers are with them. Barbara Ramsey Crosby, Melbourne, Arkansas



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**Barbara Crosby** - March 30, 2011 at 08:37 PM

DH

“ Dave was always a kind and gentle soul with a laugh that made you laugh with him. He will be missed by his cousins here in Wenatchee. Happy thoughts come to us of the school days, basketball team, bus trips and sleepovers of his childhood in Arkansas. We feel blessed to have had him in our family. We are also saddened that he had to suffer so before his ultimate release from his body. Rest in Peace, Dave.  
Dewayne and Barbara Herron

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**Dewayne and Barbara J Herron** - March 29, 2011 at 01:48 PM

SL

“Dad, Dave, Grandpa.....there is no other man like you. I mourn your absence and have the fondest memories of you as my father. You were the sweetest, kindest, most gentle man on earth. You knew no enemy. You loved my mother more than your own life.....I can't thank you enough for being there for her and my family for 35 years. We couldn't have asked for a better addition to our family. I could write forever, as your memories will never fade and are everlasting. I was so looking forward to our dinner this past weekend, you told me what you wanted us to have. We never made it. I will love you forever, and am so thankful you were my dad.....I am glad you are with our mom and I know you are a special angel. You were a gift to our family. Thank you for the cast iron kettle and iron from Grandma Ramsey. Just know, you are so special to so many people and the family adored you. The pain is powerful but we know you are no longer hurting and you are with another special angel or two! I love you.

Your youngest daughter, Sandy Stone Lachowsky

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**Sandy Lachowsky** - March 29, 2011 at 01:16 AM

JR

Thank you Sandy for the beautiful, and kind words. I know Dave felt the same way about the family, for was always speaking of what a nice family he had. We loved David and know he will rejoice being with you mother, for he loved her very much. His family loved him too, and hope he can rest in peace and no more suffering and pain thanks for the nice write up. Love Brother Ed and wife June Ramsey.

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**James Edward and Wilma June Ramsey** - March 29, 2011 at 02:59 PM

GR

David was my late husband, Gale Ramsey's nephew  
We had so much fun playing cards with his family and we loved him so much, just wish we had been able to visit him more.

Our prayers are with his family  
Aunt Glenda

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**Glenda Ramsey** - March 30, 2011 at 04:55 PM