



Sam Robert McNiel

June 20, 1943 - November 22, 2022

Sam McNiel passed away Tuesday November 22, 2022 in Austin, Tx. He was 79 years old. Sam was born in Rockdale on June 20, 1943 to James Larkin McNiel and Elva Mae (Ellis) McNiel. He was the father to Shawn McNiel. He had one brother, James Larkin McNiel, Jr and one sister, Peggy Joyce Nicar.

Graveside services will be held at Forest Grove Cemetery, Tuesday November 29th at 11:00 am. Viewing will be prior to the service at graveside, between 10:00 and 11:00

Sam was a loving father, son, brother and uncle. He was a dedicated nurse and a proud patriot.

Sam joined the Navy in 1960 when he was 17 years old. He served as a combat medic during the Viet Nam war. He also served in Cuba and Guam. He served on several cruisers and a helicopter troop landing ship. During his career he received numerous Medals, Badges and Ribbons. He retired from the Navy in 1981 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer.

After the Navy, Sam continued his career in medicine. He worked as a nurse in Ventura California before returning to Rockdale to take care of his elderly father. He continued his medical career in Rockdale working at Richards Memorial Hospital as an Emergency Room nurse as well as at Alcoa in the

Medical Department. At Richards he was able to get the hospital its first Trauma Designation from the State of Texas and worked to maintain our Trauma Registry and trained staff as well. At Alcoa he was a member of the Medical team but also instrumental in developing the computer program to follow the Metrics of the entire facility and keep medical records for the staff. He retired for the second time in 2000.

Sam is survived by his son Shawn McNiel and his daughter in law Barbara, 3 step-grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, James Larkin and Elva Mae McNiel, brother James Larkin McNiel, Jr. And sister Peggy Joyce McNiel Nicar.

Previous Events

Viewing

NOV **29**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Forest Grove Cemetery
8902 South Highway 77
Rockdale, TX 76567

Graveside Service

NOV **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

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8902 South Highway 77
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall

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“ *I worked with Sam at Richards Memorial Hospital in Rockdale. He was a great nurse. I was the pharmacist and we worked well together to give the best care to our patients and their families. He will be missed. Anna Kleinschmidt, RPh*

Anna Kleinschmidt, RPh - November 30, 2022 at 11:59 AM