



# **Randy Albert Gilkey**

MAR 27, 1950 - DEC 3, 2018



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FLORAL HAVEN

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## **Randy Albert Gilkey**

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**R**andy A. Gilkey resident of Fort Gibson, Ok formerly resident of Tulsa, Ok, passed away on December 3rd at Saint Francis Hospital at the age of 68. He was born March 27, 1950 in Searcy, Arkansas. He attended East Central High School where he played varsity football. He loved hanging out with his friends, especially his long time friends, Ronnie Stefanoff and Rev. Sam Davis. Spring Break of 1970, Randy and Ronnie joined the Marines on the buddy system. After surviving boot camp, he signed up to go to Vietnam. He had boots on the ground at the age of 18 in Da Nang. His MOS was a helicopter gunner and a parameter guard. He later was sent to Japan to be a MP. He returned home in September of 1971 and met his wife Elizabeth, while she was cruising the Restless Ribbon on Peoria. Randy said she was in a “butt ugly” green Gremlin. He took her out dancing at the factory telling her that he was going to marry her. Five months later they were married on February 19, 1972. In 1978 they were blessed with their son Randal Sean. While getting ready to go to the hospital, Randy was so excited, he said to Marlene “This is the happiest day of my life.” Randy loved spending time with his family. He loved to travel, go kayaking, playing games, hunting, fishing and four wheeling though the mountains. You name it he loved it. He was a proud Marine and always wanted to ride with the Rolling Thunder. Randy will be missed by his wife, Marlene Gilkey of 46 wonderful years; their son, Sean Gilkey and daughter Abby Gilkey; granddaughter, Courtney Gilkey; grandson, Trevor Gilkey; father, Thomas A. Gilkey; his siblings, Sandi and Hershel Sinnett and Terry and Melba Gilkey; his uncle, aunts, several cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary E. Gilkey and sister, Nancy Jo Gilkey. Viewing will be held Sunday, December 9th from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Floral Haven Funeral Home in Broken Arrow. Services will be held at 12:30 p.m. Monday, December 10th at the Southwood Baptist Church in Tulsa with Reverend Sam Davis officiating. Military Honors will be conducted by the United States Marine Corps.



## Tribute Wall

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PS

**Paul Smart** posted:

So sorry to hear this. I believe he is the son of my old friend from Trico Industries, Tom Gilky. RIP  
Paul Smart pcpaul1953@gmail.com

September 12 at 4:17 PM

PC

**Phyllis Carmack** posted:

The service was lovely, a perfect tribute to a hero. The graveside military honors were especially poignant. He's gone too early from you. I'm grateful you and he have Gods assurance of eternal life with Him. I pray Gods peace and comfort to you.

December 10 at 10:39 AM

KC

**Kathy Cooper** posted:

What a beautiful tribute to Randy! I thank him for his service and the sacrifice he made. Prayers of peace for the family knowing Randy is now with his Lord and Savior ????

December 9 at 3:33 PM

BJ

**Barbara Schultz Johnson** posted:

Proud to call you a friend and fellow East Central Cardinal. You are now whole again and dancing in heaven. Peace to your family.

December 9 at 12:15 PM



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MG

**Melba Gilkey** posted:

Randy was so strong. He fought to get back to his life when I know most of us would've given up. I respect his tenacity. I'll miss him so much. He teased me about literally everything. That's how I knew he loved me. He embraced our daughter from day one never making her feel like an outsider. She was always a Gilkey to him. He encouraged his brother and openly shared his love for him. That impressed me. I think the thing that will stay with me forever is how he loved his family. He was madly in love with Marlene like they were newlyweds after all these years. He talked about Sean with such pride and he adored Abby, Trevor, and Courtney (and Hannah too). His thoughts were always full of his beautiful family. In a world of absent fathers where so many kids are growing up without one, Randy Gilkey set the bar pretty high. While I feel profound sadness at the thought of Randy's life here ending, I am also experiencing joy for the hope of a better future. The next time I see my brother-in-law, he will be well. Completely well. Not only will he be as fit as when he dedicated himself to the Marine Corps, he will have no worries, no doubts, and no fears. God's word tells us that all things in Heaven bow before God and give him praise. I know that's what Randy is doing now; and I for one, will join him. Praising God is the one thing we can all still do WITH Randy until we're together again in Heaven.

December 8 at 2:37 PM

CP

**Cynthia Parson** posted:

To my dear family, my heart goes out to all of you. To my dear sweet little sister Marlene I saw the love you and Randy shared all these Almost 47 years. There were so many miracles in Randy's life. There were many ways you and Randy showed God's love in all The hospital and clinics you were in. Fighting for all the veterans who needed an advocate –you were there. God had a purpose for Randy's life and yours to be by his side. I was so blessed to be his sister-in-law. Thank you For all the prayers and kindness shown in his name. Thank you God for loving and giving us comfort.

December 8 at 2:22 PM

PK

**Pam Kinkade** posted:

So glad to have had the privilege to know your brave marine. What an amazing man to have endured all the surgeries he has had and still have had a smile for everyone and such a wonderful zest for life! He never let anything slow him down. All of you took such good care of him through it all. His love was so great that he fought hard to stay with you. However, God saw it was time for him to receive his great reward. Randy is free from pain at last as the angels in heaven rejoice at his homecoming! Praying God's blessings and comfort for all of you. Sending my love.

December 7 at 6:15 AM



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BT

**Betty Tinchler** posted:

Marlene I am so sorry to hear about Randy. He fought so long but all his pain is gone and he is with Jesus. Love you girl.

December 7 at 5:07 AM

BT

**Betty Tinchler** posted:

Marlene I am so sorry about Randy. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. So glad we have stayed in touch through the years.

December 7 at 5:04 AM

PH

**Pat And Leroy Hester** posted:

Randy's beautiful soul, full of love and faith, ascended to heaven, away from us, but closer to God, leaving loneliness and sadness here, but rejoicing at the same time knowing he is seeing the face of Jesus and those loved ones who went before. We are so thankful God allowed our paths to cross and gave us 45 years of friendship and memories to make together. Condolences to the your sweet family.

December 7 at 3:50 AM

TT

**Teresa Tichenor** posted:

Marlene and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Your Randy fought so hard for so very long. He was an amazingly brave, strong man. I picture him now healthy, strong and totally at peace. —  
Love, Teresa Qualls Tichenor

December 6 at 6:47 PM

CT

**Cassie Terry** posted:

You have loved and supported "Your Marine" through it all. Cynthia has kept me informed. Praying for you, Sean and his little family. Love you, little Sis

December 6 at 6:38 PM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Randy by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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