



## Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.)

November 9, 1948 - April 23, 2022

Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret), age 73, of Hendersonville, NC, died at Elizabeth House of IPF, Pulmonary Fibrosis on Saturday, April 23. IPF did not define Guy; he was so much more. Guy grew up in North Augusta, SC. He was the late-life son of Guy B. Leary, Jr. and Hazel King Leary. He was an unexpected joy and surprise to his parents and 14-year-old sister, Carolyn. Guy was a life-long Methodist. He was a member of Grace Methodist in North Augusta, Ortega United Methodist in Jacksonville, FL, and First United Methodist in Hendersonville, NC. During the last 20 years, he became more involved in the church, serving on the Board of Trustees in both Jacksonville and Hendersonville. He was involved and loved the men in his Emmaus group and participated in their bi-weekly Bible Study.

Guy proudly served for 24 years as a Naval Flight Officer (NFO) in the U.S. Navy. The majority of his career was spent in the P-3 aviation community specializing in anti-submarine warfare. He began his career in Pensacola, FL, served in numerous locations and retired as a Commander in Jacksonville, FL. He received a Master's Degree from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, CA in 1986.

Following high school graduation, Guy attended Clemson University, graduating in 1970 with a B.S. Degree. Guy was a loyal and avid Clemson supporter throughout his life. He attended as many Clemson football games as possible both at Clemson and away games.

Guy was a strong Christian who found peace and joy in serving his Lord

Jesus Christ. He treasured the good friends in his life, many going back to his Clemson days. He had an abundance of curiosity and enthusiasm for researching; Google was his friend. Guy was an adventurous, creative cook, who quickly mastered the Instant Pot. He enjoyed serving many successful, delicious meals to family and friends, with seldom a flop.

Guy greeted each day with a smile and was quick to laugh. He was a kind and caring man; honest and ethical in all his endeavors. His passions included, in addition to serving Jesus, his love for Vicki, his Clemson Tigers, golf, and spending time with family and friends. There was always a dog or two in the Leary home. The one who completely stole Guy's heart and always loved Guy best is their current dog, LoLa.

Guy was predeceased by his parents, sister, Carolyn Williams, and his brother-in-law, Chuck Dowdy. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Vicki D. Leary, his brother-in-law, Jim Williams of Acworth, GA, his sister-in-law, Jane Pressley, and her husband, Robert, of Charlotte and Hendersonville, 18 nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and 2 great, great-nieces. Guy loved the special relationship with his West Coast Williams family – nephew and niece, Mike and Pam, and their twin girls, Bella and Rees, of Seattle, WA. Guy was grateful for and loved the many wonderful friends and family in his life, especially during his final, valiant battle with IPF. He will be greatly missed by all who loved him.

His Memorial service celebrating Guy's life will be held in the Sanctuary at First United Methodist Church, 204 Sixth Avenue, West, Hendersonville, NC on Thursday, April 28 at 1 PM. A reception will follow at Hendersonville Country Club.

Donations in Guy's memory may be made to Four Seasons Foundation for Elizabeth House, 211 N. Main Street, Hendersonville, NC, or to Cards for Hendersonville Causes, 69 Old Pasture Way, Hendersonville, NC 28739. Their website is [www.cardsforacauseNC.com](http://www.cardsforacauseNC.com), or to a charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
204 6th Avenue West  
Hendersonville, NC 28739

## Reception

APR 28 (ET)

Country Club of Hendersonville  
1860 Hebron Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28739  
Hendersonville, NC 28739

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ I served with Guy while in VP 17 at Barbers Point, Oahu in the 70's. He was a bit senior to me so he was the mission Tactical Coordinator (TACCO) while I was his navigator on a number of rather stressful missions. Guy was always a calming influence and a consistently nice person. His family was fortunate to have such a good person in their lives. I just learned of Guy's passing a moment ago. It's funny what you remember about people, and Guy is clearly a 25 year old in my mind. We flew into Nairobi in the US as a show of support for Kenya when Idi Amin was raising hell. Having to leave Nairobi on short notice, we left for a 12 hour flight out without coffee and I recall sitting there with Guy chewing on week old coffee grinds to stay awake. I have nothing but good memories of him and his family should be proud of the person he was.

Raymond Skoff - May 16, 2025 at 11:25 PM



“ Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.)

October 09, 2023 at 01:52 AM



“ Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.)

October 08, 2023 at 10:49 PM

CH

“ I was privileged to have worked along side CDR Leary my first Navy duty station VP-67 NAS Millington, TN mid 80's. A genuine, kind and respected officer that always smiled. After transferring to NAR Jacksonville, I learned that Mr. Leary was assigned there as well. Here we were on the same bowling league and our team took the championship early 90's. I'm sure that the team trophy is still being displayed in the case at the Navy Operational Support Center Building. My condolences to the family. He was a great man that listened to those that he interacted with. YN1(MTS) Hobbs retired.



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Chris - February 13, 2023 at 04:23 PM



“ Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.)

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October 24, 2022 at 11:11 PM

AM

“ I met Guy back in the late 60s through my brother, Carter when they became friends at Clemson. Later, I enjoyed being friends with him after his Navy career while he and Vickie were in Jacksonville and later in Hendersonville.

*My family and I cherish the memories we have of staying with Guy and Vickie in Jacksonville and Hendersonville.*

*I never saw Guy in a bad mood. His smile and ready laugh always brightened those around him. He faced his impending death from IPF with a grace and peace which inspires all of us. Would that we can all be so gracious and positive as we approach our inevitable end of days. I shall always hope to attain Guy's amazing courage.*

*Al Montgomery, fellow Tiger*

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**Al Montgomery** - April 27, 2022 at 12:23 PM

HP

“ Horace and Pat Padgett purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.).



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**Horace and Pat Padgett** - April 27, 2022 at 12:03 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.).



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April 26, 2022 at 09:07 PM



“ *Rainbow Reflections Basket was purchased for the family of Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.).*



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April 26, 2022 at 04:06 PM



“ *We love our Uncle Guy and our hearts are aching imagining life without him. We cherish our many great times full of food, fun and laughter. We love you, Aunt Vicki. You're in our thoughts and prayers. Your west-coast Williams family*

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**Mike, Pam, Rees & Bella** - April 26, 2022 at 03:20 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.).*



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April 26, 2022 at 01:02 PM

GC

“ I was truly blessed to know Guy (a fellow Naval Flight Officer) during our time together at Naval Air Reserve Jacksonville, Florida. We shared many “sanity break” lunches during the very busy Reserve drill weekends. We also shared a somewhat whacky, dry sense of humor which helped to give us the energy to carry on. I miss him greatly, but was glad to have had the chance to talk with Guy over the phone a few months ago. May God bless and comfort you, Vicki!

*George Currie, Cmdr., USN (Ret.)*

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**George Currie** - April 26, 2022 at 11:36 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Guy B. Leary III (CDR, USN, Ret.).



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April 26, 2022 at 10:28 AM

DW

“ Vicki,

*We are so sorry to hear about Guy’s passing. God gave you both an amazing strength to get through the difficulty of the past few months. We wish we could have spent more time getting to know Guy better. He was so quick witted and kind.*

*We hope your many wonderful memories will help you through the months to come. Our hearts are heavy and we think of you often.*

*Michael and Debra*

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**Debra and Michael Werman** - April 24, 2022 at 10:02 AM

DT

*Dear Vicki, so sorry to hear about Guy. I have been remembering him and you in prayer. May God give you great comfort and peace now and in the future. You have been an amazing wife to Guy. Take care and God Bless You and those who loved him. Love, Deborah Tucker*

Deborah Tucker - April 26, 2022 at 12:07 AM

GL

*“ We lost...and heaven gained a GREAT man! He left behind lots of accomplishments and wonderful memories!*

Gary Lambert - April 24, 2022 at 06:54 AM

SC

*“ Vickie,  
Nancy Worley just sent us the sad news-my heart is hurting for you. I hope you were able to take comfort with each other and the lord at the end. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
See you soon, love, Sue and Bill*

susan champion - April 23, 2022 at 03:31 PM

JW

*“ Always my brother!*

jim Williams - April 23, 2022 at 12:45 PM

JP

*“ I will always remember when Guy stood-up to hug me after I told him I had made and brought him a Peanut Butter pie. What a great smile he had!*

*Love,  
Jane & Robert*

Jane D. Pressley - April 23, 2022 at 12:21 PM