



Russell Clark

December 4, 1938 - October 12, 2009

Russell K. Clark passed away on October 12, 2009 in Roswell. His wife, children and brother were with him. Dad was born on December 4, 1938 in Polo, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his sister Judy in 1984 and by his parents Russell Clark and Wilma Weaver Clark. His wife Karen Sue ("Susie") of almost 50 years survives him at the family home. He is also mourned by his six adoring children, his son Randy and his wife Jacque of Roswell, his son Ricky of Roswell, his daughter Pam and her husband Lee of Roswell, his daughter Karen and her husband Alan of Roswell, his son Russell ("Dean") of Las Cruces and his son Ray of Roswell. He is also survived by his brother Kenneth Clark of Roswell and sister Shirley Willis of Braymer, Missouri along with many grandchildren, great grandchildren and friends and family to whom he was known as "Duck."

Russell was raised in farm country, in Missouri, until he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served honorably with almost all of his service being overseas. He was most proud of his ships, the USS Roanoke CL-145 and the USS Shangri-La CVA-38, both of which saw action in the South China Sea and elsewhere receiving combat "E" awards. He was honorably discharged from active duty in 1959. He then served in the Naval Reserve. He later continued his service to our nation and state by serving in the New Mexico Army National Guard. This service lasted many years. In the course of this service he also received many awards, too many to list – but they include the Army Achievement Medal, Long Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve

Components Achievement Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Medal for Meritorious Service and commendations for his actions during the infamous Santa Fe prison riot back in the early 80's. He received others awards from both the Guard and his Navy military service. Dad was proud of this service and was a member of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans. Prior to moving to Roswell to stay in the late 1970's with his wife and their six children Russell had worked for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, first on the Missouri river working on dredges to keep the river open and safe and later as an oiler on heavy cranes at the Naval Shipyard in Long Beach, California. He then worked in commercial construction for many years. He was a union laborer and worked on projects varying from the former Arrowhead football stadium of the Kansas City Chiefs, to the old St. Mary's hospital in Roswell. Dad had a tough life in some respects, but as he showed us in his battle till the end, he was one tough little guy. He overcame adversity and during his retirement enjoyed the special treat of his grandchildren. Papa, as he was known to his grandkids, was the perfect grandparent for them, completely easy and unable to say no! The times he spent with them and their joy at being with Papa will always be remembered. When the grandkids were picked up from Papa's, they were usually fine but Papa was in trouble. But it was a good trouble, it was usually that "can't say no" thing again.

In his later years Dad also enjoyed the continued company of his brother Kenneth. Their daily visits were good for both of them and quite entertaining to the rest of the family. They were partners, like not many brothers, for more than 50 years since they both returned from military service. Football was one of their "issues." They fought like cats and dogs, made bets, welched on bets and "mis-remembered" routinely. And speaking of football, Dad loved his Dallas Cowboys but lord help you if they were losing. He saved and used some special "words of encouragement" he learned in the Navy for when the Cowboys were not doing well. Of course his kids had to help his grandkids unlearn some of those words later. When we pointed this out to Papa, he would just grin at us.

In the end, our husband, dad and papa was a giver. He never complained for himself or asked for anything, but you will not find a soul who knew him that he didn't do something for or give something to. We couldn't count the number of times things would turn up missing which led us to the usual suspect – Dad. If it was gone, Dad gave it to someone. But mostly he gave to us, his wife and family, his heart. And now he's taken that, along with a huge piece of ours and gone home. We'll see ya Pop. We love you more than we could ever say. A farewell and goodbye service will be conducted at 10:00 am Saturday, October 17, 2009 at the South Park Cemetery in Roswell. Pastor Miller of Tabernacle Baptist Church will preside and a military honor guard will be present. This will be followed by an informal get together for lunch and to visit with all friends and family at 11:00 am at the Tabernacle Baptist Church at the corner of 11th and Richardson streets. Everyone is welcome. However, if you can make it to the service or lunch or both, come join us but please don't dress up. You know Dad, he would have pitched a fit – or made fun of you – or maybe both.

Please share your thoughts and memories with the family in the online register book at andersonbethany.com

Services are under the direction of Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home & Crematory.

Tribute Wall



“ *Russell Clark*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Pam,
I am sorry for your loss.*

Katrina Bacon - November 09, 2009 at 08:39 AM



“ *We are sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Mike & Linda Richards - October 17, 2009 at 08:52 PM



“ *I didn't really know your Dad, but I can say that he raised a wonderful family with the help of his loving wife. God Bless all of you.*

Linda (Whitt) Hartman - October 16, 2009 at 10:38 PM



“ *My sincere sympathy to all the family. Wishing you comfort and peace in your loss.*

Waynette Wooton - October 16, 2009 at 12:05 PM

GP

“ RUSSELL WAS A GOOD MAN, AND I WAS GLAD TO HAVE MET HIM. I ENJOYED VISITING WITH HIM WHEN I WOULD STOP BY ON MY ROUTE. MY FATHER IN LAW HAS TOLD ME A LOT OF STORIES ABOUT WORKING WITH RUSSELL, AND I KNOW HE WAS A GOOD FRIEND TO HIM. SONYA, ROBERT, GEN AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEND OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.
GOD BLESS,
GUY

Guy Pearce - October 16, 2009 at 09:51 AM

GH

“ Duck was not only a great brother-in-law, He was a true friend. Over the years we have spent many, many hours fishing, playing poker and dominos as well as watching and arguing over the Dallas cowboys. Duck was a man who always thought more of others than himself. We will always miss and remember him.

George & Billie Harrison - October 16, 2009 at 08:30 AM

PM

“ Randy, Jacki, Melissa & family,
So sorry to hear about the passing of your dad and grandpa. Words are hard to find at times like these but know that you are in my thoughts and prayers, You all hold a special place in my heart.
Brighter days are ahead, I promise.
Peggy (Corey's mom)

Peggy Adams Meadows - October 15, 2009 at 09:09 PM

KA

“ Dad, I love you and thank you so much for being the perfect dad for us kids. the perfect husband for mom and the perfect papa for the grandbabies.

You have always loved us unconditionally even when we let you down. We just grew from it and you helped us.

I can't wait until we can all be together again. Only then will our hearts and our family be whole again.

The pain of losing you is so deep that I just can't wrap my mind around it. I never knew humans could ever have the capability to hurt like this. But unfortunately, I have found out that it's true. But thanks to you, we know we will get thru this because that's how you raised us.

We will see you soon Dad and I can't wait.

I love you so much, Your Daughter, Karen

KAREN - October 15, 2009 at 07:50 PM

MG

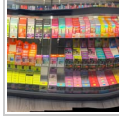
“ Love you Papa Clark.....tell Jesus hi for us. love Gaigerman and Malia

Malia and Gaige - October 15, 2009 at 07:34 PM

SS

“ I WANT TO GIVE THE WHOLE FAMILY MY CONDOLENCES. I TOOK CARE OF MR. CLARK IN THE HOSPITAL AND HE GREW ON ME. HE WAS A VERY CARING MAN AND ENJOYED TAKING CARE OF HIM. I WILL MISS HIM. AGAIN MY CONDOLENCES TO THE ENTIRE FAMILY. YOU ARE ALL IN MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. DON'T HESITATE TO KEEP IN TOUCH. MY EMAIL SHOULD BE DISPLAYED.

SANDRA STODDARD - October 15, 2009 at 05:33 PM



Thanks you Sandra stoddard for taking care of our papa I am one of the grandkids

Emmet Clark - December 26, 2023 at 01:47 AM

JW

“ *To all the Family, We are all so sorry to hear about Russell passing away. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Especially Karen, Pam and Rick. My kids all run around with them. If you all need any thing or want to talk, feel free to call any of us. Love to all of you, Judy, Deb, Linda Dave and Susan*

Judy Huddleston (Whitt) - October 15, 2009 at 05:28 PM

PA

“ *Dad, Thank you for everything you have done for your family, your kids, grankids, your unconditional love for all of us will be forever remembered...there are no words to explain the pain of losing you, its all so surreal...thank you for being such a wonderful dad, papa, friend, husband, uncle, an brother...you are and will forever be loved and rememberd as the rock of this family..I miss you so much already, as do the whole family...but you are with jesus, grandma wilma and many family members, not feein no pain anymore...Till we see each other agin in heaven ...I love you dad.....love your daughter pamela..... (I want to thank Chris, and the whole resp team at medical center for your wondeful, carin support you gave my dad an family...and sandra sweet sandra thank you for carin for my dad, and cowboy..... you are truly an angel.... Thank u all....)Pamela*

Pamela - October 15, 2009 at 12:55 PM

KC

“ Hi Yall I just want to let yall know that my thoughts and prayers are with you. Austin and Savannah and me really loved Uncle Duck and will miss him greatly. I really liked the obituary, it told me alot of things I didn't know about Uncle Duck. Take Care and we love yall
Kathy Austin & Savannah 10 Three Acre Lane Wheatridge Colorado 80033

KATHY CLARK - October 15, 2009 at 09:48 AM

MC

“ Ray, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Love,
Michelle, Joseph, and family

Michelle Ceballos-Dominguez - October 15, 2009 at 09:22 AM

CO

“ I am so sorry for your loss my thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Pam, Karen and Ricky if theres anything I can do Please let me know. Cathy Overton

Cathy Rich Overton - October 15, 2009 at 08:40 AM