



## Russell Keith West

January 24, 1967 - October 7, 2021

Russell Keith West, 54, passed away on Thursday, October 7, 2021, in Roswell, New Mexico. Please take a moment and share a kind thought or memory with Russell's family at [www.andersonbethany.com](http://www.andersonbethany.com).

On January 24, 1967, Russell was born to Duane and Alma West in Alamogordo, New Mexico. He went to Del Norte High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Russell enlisted in the United States Army and served with the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg North Carolina. Russell proudly received numerous awards and medals such as Army Achievement Medal 1st Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Lapel Button, Army Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, NCO Professional Developmental Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, South West Asia Service Medal w/2 Bronze Stars, Air Assault Badge, and a Parachutist Badge. Russell worked as a heavy equipment operator and calibrations specialist. Russell was honorably discharged six years after serving.

He was a lifetime member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, American Veterans DAV, VFW of Alamogordo Chapter, USO, and multiple American Legion Chapters. He was an American Legionnaire and a life supporter, and a member of America's Veterans. Russell will be missed by his family.

SURVIVORS: Those left to cherish memories of Russell are his daughter, Amber West; sister, Deborah and husband Melvin Ragan; niece, Daylene Myers; and his four nephews: Joshua Ragan, Joseph Ragan, Thomas Ragan, and Levi Ragan.

PRECEDED: Russell is preceded in death by his mother, Alma West; father, Duane West; and niece, Brandie Ragan.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be given to any Veteran Association, DAV, or 82nd Airborne Division Association, and Wounded Warrior in honor of Sgt. Russell Keith West.

Russell's family would like to thank all family and friends for their support.

### The Desert Road

The waxing moon hangs in the night.  
Casting down it's eerie light.  
Upon the desert's sleeping night  
Over which we soon may fight.

I feel that soon we'll have to go.  
There will be no blinding snow.  
Tis only sand that these winds blow  
Into the eyes for tears to flow.

I sit and gaze across the land  
To which we flew to lend a hand.  
We wait to fight the evil man who  
Attacks his neighbor without a plan.

I sit here now and simply stare  
At the iron beasts with which we dare  
To mold the land to suit our ware,  
Wondering if they even care.

We are engineers by trade.  
You can tell the road we made.  
The road is rough, for quickly made  
With rocky marl and metal blade.

By: Sgt. Russell K. West  
82nd Air Born Engineers  
Desert Storm Veteran

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JAN **24**. 10:30 AM (MT)

General Douglas L. McBride Veterans Cemetery  
Between S Main St and SE Main St (US 285) on E Jaffe St, in Roswell, at the north end of  
South Park  
Roswell, NM 88203

# Tribute Wall



“ *Russell Keith West*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Our condolences. Just learned of Russ' passing (Aug 21, 2022). My husband was his best friend from high school on. May he rest in peace.*

**Christine Culley** - August 21, 2022 at 11:24 PM



“ *Josh Ragan lit a candle in memory of Russell Keith West*



**Josh Ragan** - December 02, 2021 at 07:17 PM



*So sad to learn if this now. My husband was one of his best friends.*

**Christine Culley** - August 21, 2022 at 11:22 PM



“ *Lois Darnold lit a candle in memory of Russell Keith West*



**Lois Darnold** - November 12, 2021 at 06:23 PM

IK

“ *Ike & Kathy lit a candle in memory of Russell Keith West*



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**ike & Kathy** - November 01, 2021 at 05:40 PM

DA

“ *Daniel Alkov lit a candle in memory of Russell Keith West*



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**Daniel Alkov** - October 28, 2021 at 05:09 PM

JN

“ *When I think of Russell, I remember when we would spend time at the ranch on Tulie Creek. Russell was just a little guy & was happy to be tagging along...eager & curious. He will surely be missed. You are in my thoughts & prayers, Debbie. This has been a very sorrowful time for you & I wish you strength & peace.  
Love you~Jamee, Aunt JoJo & All*



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**Jamee Nelson** - October 24, 2021 at 11:28 PM

AR

“ *Debbie, Melvin and family you have our heartfelt condolences. We are praying for you and may God’s peace that surpasses all understanding be in your hearts. We are praying for you. Russell’s military service was impeccable may he Rest In Peace.* ”



**Alton and Gloria Reynolds** - October 23, 2021 at 01:21 PM

TV

“ *So sorry to read this sad news. Debbie and all the family, I offer sympathy, love and prayers for your well-being. This news is heart-rending. Applause and thank you for your service to this country, dear soldier.* ”



**Toni (Porter) Vann** - October 22, 2021 at 03:41 PM

SR

“ *Rest well Soldier* ”

**Sara and Michael Russell** - October 22, 2021 at 12:59 PM

AW

“ *Art Wolfe lit a candle in memory of Russell Keith West* ”



**Art Wolfe** - October 18, 2021 at 09:09 PM