



## Austin D. Duckworth, Jr.

September 19, 1925 - March 11, 2023

Austin D. Duckworth, Jr, 97, of St. Albans, WV passed away peacefully at the Hubbard Hospice House West on March 11, 2023. He was born on September 19, 1925 in Gassaway, WV to the late Austin Sr. and Audrey Pearl Simmons. Also, preceding him in death are son Austin Wayne who died in the military in 1974; brothers Ernest, Fredrick and sister Wilma June Fansler.

Austin attended Gassaway High School before entering the Army in 1943. He married Greynell Stanley in 1945 who preceded him in death in 2004. He was retired from the U.S. Army and the WV National Guard as a Msgt. (E-8) with 38 years active and reserve service. He also took retirement from FMC Corp. after 18 years, was a member of the American Legion Post 73, St. Albans.

Surviving are his daughter Laura (Michael) Hall; grandchildren Justin (Kellie) Hall, Kelcey (William) Brock; two great grandchildren Natalie and Lacey.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, March 17, 2023, 2pm at Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home with Rev. Ronald Moore officiating. Burial will follow in Cunningham Memorial Park, St. Albans with military honors.

A gathering of family and friends will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

You may visit Austin's tribute page at [BartlettNicholsFuneralHome.com](http://BartlettNicholsFuneralHome.com) to share memories or condolences with the family.

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Ave., St. Albans is honored to serve the Duckworth family.



# Cemetery Details

## Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane  
St. Albans, WV 25177

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home  
409 Sixth Avenue  
Saint Albans, WV 25177  
(304) 727-4325

## Funeral Service

MAR 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home  
409 Sixth Avenue  
Saint Albans, WV 25177  
(304) 727-4325

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ I worked with Duck at the South Charleston FMC plant. he was my Forman for about 10 years. I have kept in touch with him over the years. I always loved and respected him. He always treated me fair, Duck was a good Man and I know he is with Greynell. May God bless and watch over Laura and the rest of his family with Deepest Sympathy Steve Merrifield.

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**ronald stephen merrifield** - March 16, 2023 at 08:44 PM

SD

“ Logistics and Employment obligations being what they are (I live in South Alabama), I am unable to attend the funeral. My name is Steve Duckworth and Austin was my last surviving uncle. You might know him as Austin, some knew him as Jr. but I knew him as Uncle Toots (all the family had nick names and were rarely called by their given names). Please allow me to share some things that I know about him. First he was a member of a group that most Americans call the greatest generation (and a positive example of that generation he was). His life was hard. Born in 1925 he was only 4 years old at the beginning of the great depression. At 14 the great depression was ending but WWII was about to begin. With pride in his country and a strong sense of duty he joined the Army when he was old enough to do so. Military service is a strong tradition in the Duckworth family. His father served in the Guard, his great grandfather fought in the civil war as a union infantryman and as a cavalry soldier. In fact he has direct ties to a Duckworth who fought in the Revolutionary War. Based on his life experencies it is not surprising that some may have viewed him as a hard man. He was, but he was also a good man who was fair and loving in his own way. As his nephew I can say that he was very supportive of my military career and his great nephew's military career as well. I can also tell you that his great niece thought he was absolutly wonderful and had a great sense of humor. Based on distance, I was never able to spend as much time with Uncle Toots as I would have liked but any time I spent with him was fun and ended with me having a positive memory. I am truly sorry that I cannot be at the funeral to share some of the humorous moments that we spent together with everyone. I know however, that he would understand.

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**Stephen G Duckworth** - March 14, 2023 at 06:40 PM

KD

*Well said, he was a good man with a unique sense of humor. I will miss all the good natured banter.*

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**Kimberly Duckworth** - March 14, 2023 at 07:54 PM

MD

*With my military commitments, I am unable to attend the funeral. However, I would like to expand on what my father, Steve Duckworth, wrote.*

*Uncle Toots was a strong and devoted man to the family. He would regularly check in and provide his commentary. This commentary was always a strong mix of humor and wisdom. While his humor was hard to grasp for some, it was never meant to be cruel. As a WWII veteran and a Senior Non-Commissioned Officer, Uncle Toots had insight into the military that I cherished. When I first joined the Army in 2012, Uncle Toots called me and told me that he was proud of me and let me know that I was following in a noble profession like many of the Duckworths before me. Encouraging phone calls like that one were so validating because he was genuine.*

*His care extended to my time at WVU College of Law where he would periodically call me to come to St. Albans and visit. During those times he would always insist on taking me to lunch and then exclaim that I was eating him out of house and home. These visits always turned into a history lesson about Uncle Toots' life that I took to heart. His life, as my dad said, made Uncle Toots a hard man. But although he was hard, he always had a soft spot for the people he cared for.*

*My time with him has given me insights into leadership, family, and purpose. It was also filled with fits of laughter that would leave me gasping for breath and sore abs. Although my duties keep me from attending, I know that Uncle Toots would understand.*

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**Mitch Duckworth** - March 14, 2023 at 09:08 PM

HT

*With back to back conferences that I am hosting, I am unable to attend the funeral. Over the years, I would call Uncle Toots to check in. Each time, he would rush our phone calls because "I was running up his phone bill" then he always ended the call with a big I love you now go give that military dad and brother a kick in the butt. He was always interested to hear where I was working and what my goals were. He was always very encouraging and always kept me on my toes with his quick witty comments. My personal favorite memory of him was when I sent him my wedding invitation and he sent me back a get well soon card. Our relationship is one that I have always held near to my heart. This is not goodbye only see you later.*

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**Hayley Duckworth Trammell** - March 14, 2023 at 09:24 PM