



## Arnold Leon Long

January 29, 1946 - February 8, 2022

Arnold Leon Long, 76, of Mint Hill, died February 8, 2022, at Novant Medical Center in Mint Hill.

Arnold was born in Charlotte, NC, on January 29, 1946, the son of James Willard and Margie Rosich Long. His father owned and operated Long Texaco Service Station and Pool House at the corner of Margaret Wallace and Hwy 74. Arnold helped his father around the station. At the grand old age of 13, he met Ms. Geraldine Elaine Linker at the service station and they later married. When the United States drafted young men to serve in Vietnam, Arnold's number came up and he faithfully served in the US Army as part of the 561st Transport Company. Upon his faithful service and honorable discharge, he returned to his wife and daughter, who would not stop crying because she did not like her daddy in his green uniform. Arnold went on to further his education at UNC Charlotte, earning both an Associate of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts degree. He went to work for Phillip Morris, giving them 23 years and 9 months of faithful service as a machine operator before retirement. Arnold was not known for sitting still, however. He also had a side business in Concord with Jack Butler. His children remember weekends of helping their dad put cardboard inserts into boxes for the reward of ice cream from the Midland Ice Cream Shop. Arnold was not always about work, however, he loved spending time with family and friends. A long time coach for Mint Hill girl's softball, he was known as a terror for his hard driving practices and pushing his team to

be their best. Contrary to his constant pushing of his softball team, however, many also knew Arnold loved turtles, including his pet turtle "Professor" and toy turtle, "Slow Down". Arnold was also a big fan of the Righteous Brothers, and the concerts turned into family outings. Up for a game of Poker? Arnold had you covered (along with many of his friends) and hosted many a poker game. He was also quite the tennis aficionado, playing on team for Phillip Morris during his time there and earning many trophies for his natural talents. One of his fondest hobbies, however, was Ford cars, especially his baby blue 1964 Ford Fairlane. Regardless of his life's loves and hobbies, however, what is uncontestable is that his greatest love in life was his family. The time he spent with them will be cherished forever and the unique spirit they knew as "The Blue Eyed Soul" will long be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Arnold is survived by his wife of 56 years (63 years if you count their courtship), Geraldine; his two daughters: Dee (husband Jim) Featherman and Lynn Long; two sisters: Judy Horne and Darlene Long; and grandchildren: Joseph Paul Long, Garrett Wayne Duncan, Leigha Lynn Sexton, Jamie Lee Duncan, Joshua Christopher Sexton, Dakota Grey Duncan and Logan Matthew Duncan. He is further survived by numerous other relatives, poker buddies and friends.

Arnold's family has given the family of Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home the privilege of caring for him and for them. The family would like to invite all to the family home, 8925 Truelight Church Road, Mint Hill, NC 28227, on Saturday, February 12, 2022, for a celebration of life service, which will begin at 1 pm with military honors.

Arnold's family respectfully requests that in lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Mint Hill Fire and Rescue in Arnold's name.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

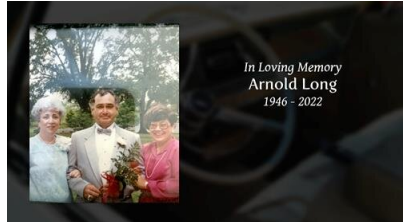
FEB **12**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Family Home  
8925 Truelight Church Road  
Mint Hill, NC 28227

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Arnold Leon Long* ”



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**Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home** - February 12, 2022 at 11:40 AM



“ *Arnold Leon Long* ”

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October 05, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Arnold Leon Long* ”

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October 24, 2022 at 08:52 PM

RD

“ I met Arnold (Bud) many years ago on the tennis courts of Mint Hill. I enjoyed playing with him and hearing his comments about the tennis action when he was watching others play. When the benches for the tennis courts at Mint Hill Park started falling apart, Bud took it upon himself to build new ones himself. Another thing I shared with Bud over the years was joining him in playing the Tennis Channel Racket Bracket contest for all the Grand Slam events. We enjoyed competing and seeing who would do the best and had some fun with some trash talking -lol. RIP Bud !!

*Bob Diepold*

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**Robert Diepold** - March 06, 2022 at 12:45 PM



“ Dear Elaine and Family, I am so deeply sorry for Your loss. I am just reading of Arnold's passing. I always enjoyed chatting with You and Bud when You came into Auto Aimers. I live in Florida now. I moved down here when I retired. I miss all the wonderful people that I came in contact with when I worked at Auto Aimers. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Take care and God Bless You! May God bring You comfort and May Bud Rest In Peace.

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**Rita Robinson** - February 15, 2022 at 01:29 AM

JL

“ We lived across the street from Bud and Elaine for over 25 years. We raised our kids there and would enjoy cookouts, swimming in their backyard pool and making homemade ice cream together. Bud was always ready for a game of tennis when he wasn't mowing grass on his riding mower. When we had car trouble, Bud was always quick to offer use of one of his cars and would offer to come get us if we ever were stranded somewhere. After we moved he and Elaine always remembered us with a card at holidays and would email us jokes he wanted to share. He will be missed, but the memories will make him live with us forever.

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**Jill Londeree** - February 12, 2022 at 08:54 AM

MI

“ Bud was also a great tennis player. He referred to us as a "herd of turtles". I uploaded a photo with him from 2009. He will be missed.  
Michael



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**Michael** - February 10, 2022 at 02:18 PM