



W. Denny Heard

July 2, 1944 - October 18, 2023

With profound sadness, we announce the passing of Wayne Denny Heard on October 18th, 2023, at the age of 79. Born in Valdosta, Georgia, on July 2nd, 1944, Denny was a man of integrity, respected by all who knew him. He was known as a loyal patriot with an innate sense of justice and a drive to serve his community. Denny dedicated his life to serving his nation and as a leader and pillar of strength within his family.

In 1966, Denny joined the United States Air Force and was stationed as a military police officer at Hahn Air Base in Germany, where he served until 1970. He received a degree in Criminal Justice from Reinhardt College in 1977. Denny served 25 years with the Georgia State Patrol as a Trooper. He was a beloved figure among his colleagues and those he served, earning numerous commendations, including the Purple Heart. As a State Trooper, Denny protected the highways and performed executive security for several Georgia Governors, Chief Justices of the Georgia Supreme Court, and Presidential Candidates.

Off duty, Denny was an avid golfer who enjoyed traveling and riding motorcycles across the country, but there is no doubt that his proudest role was the one he served in his family. Along with his wife of 45 years, Susan, Denny valued the family above all else. As "Pop Denny - PopPop," he served as Little League coach, wise mentor, and supportive motivator. His legacy of

duty, honor, and love will continue to inspire all who know him.

Denny is survived by his loving wife, Susan Causey Heard; his children, Chris Heard (Jen) and Brett Heard (Catie); grandchildren, Hunter Heard (Camille), Tyler Heard (Georgia), Rebecca Thornton (Todd), Barrett Heard, Parker Stanhagen, Peyton Stanhagen, Cameron Ward, and Carter Ward; great-grandchildren, Asher Thornton, Kai Thornton, and Wilkes Heard; brother, James Heard (Kay), and a large circle of nieces, nephews, and friends. Denny is preceded in death by his parents, Wayne and Elerleen Heard.

A service to celebrate Denny's life will be held at McKoon Funeral Home on Saturday, October 21, at 4:00 pm. The family will receive friends from 2:30 pm until service time. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Hunter Scarbrough Foundation, PO Box 651 Newnan, GA 30264, or www.hunterman.org in his name.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.mckoon.com

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **21**. 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Funeral Service

OCT **21**. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of W. Denny Heard*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - October 21, 2023 at 01:28 PM

MB

“ *Very sorry to hear of his passing! My condolences to you his family! I knew Denny as a Trooper, and an exemplary one at that! I liked and admired him. I have some good memories of working with him. God bless you all.*

Mark Bentley, GSP 864 retired

Mark Bentley - October 20, 2024 at 03:05 PM

SH

“ *Susan, James and family, we at Oak Mountain Golf are so sorry to hear of Denny's passing, he and James always made us laugh. They became family to me. You all are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Sherri Hildebrand - October 24, 2023 at 09:57 AM

JM

“ Junie Austin Merkle lit a candle in memory of W. Denny Heard



Junie Austin Merkle - October 23, 2023 at 01:20 AM

JT

“ Susan and family, you are in my thoughts and prayers. My family thought the world of Denny and he will be truly missed by all who knew him.

Jenny Carlisle Toney - October 21, 2023 at 11:08 AM

GL

“ Praying for you and the family Susan. So sorry I will not be able to attend. Denny was wonderful to work with. He had that incredible smile that no one can forget. I was blessed to know Denny and he will be missed by everyone. Gail Ladd

Gail Ladd - October 20, 2023 at 10:21 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of W. Denny Heard.



October 20, 2023 at 09:28 PM

WS

“ *When I think about Denny I smile. He was a great trooper and a credit to the Georgia State Patrol. He had all the attributes you look for in a law enforcement officer. Always a friend.
My thoughts and prayers are with Susan and the family today. May God give you strength and comfort in the coming days.*
Wayne Starley (Major , Retired)

Wayne Starley - October 20, 2023 at 04:57 PM

GG

“ *29 files added to the album G Gillis memories of Denny*



Greg Gillis - October 20, 2023 at 04:23 PM

CH

Greg those are so good. Thank you

Chris heard - October 20, 2023 at 07:52 PM

ML

On the behalf of my Family, our prayers are with the family and friends of Master Trooper Heard.

Sir. It was a pleasure working with you over the years. you were always fair and kind to everyone. Take your rest Trooper. You are now in Gods hand. Master Trooper Moses Little 311 Post 50 Atlanta GA.

Moses Little - October 21, 2023 at 11:01 PM

MF

“ Megan Hardy and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of W. Denny Heard.



Megan Hardy and Family - October 20, 2023 at 02:38 PM

SJ

“ There's never been a finer individual than Denny. Unforgettable smile. Prayers and wishes for strength to the entire family. Rest well friend.
Steve and Michelle Jobe

Steve Jobe - October 20, 2023 at 01:52 PM

DK

“ Our prayers and condolences for the entire Heard family, Dwight Knowles & Laura Hutcheson.

Dwight Knowles - October 20, 2023 at 12:35 PM

SD

“ Susan, I am so sad to hear of Denny's passing.

Sue Dennis - October 20, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of W. Denny Heard.



October 20, 2023 at 10:59 AM

BB

“ Thoughts and prayers for Denny’s family. He was one of the good guys and will be missed by all who knew him.
God bless.
Captain Bill Bryant (GSP retired)

Bill Bryant - October 20, 2023 at 10:31 AM

DS

“ My dearest and most loyal friend on earth. Denny was truly a wonderful man. We’ve been through it all... happiness and sadness, sleet and sunshine, good days and bad, Denny was there for me for over 50 years! There is a hole in my heart that will never be filled because Denny is not here. Denny, you cannot come back to where I am, but I can come to where you are! See you in a little while my friend ❤️

Dan Spruiell - October 20, 2023 at 10:15 AM

LK

“ So very sad to hear this news. Denny was a remarkable man and great neighbor. Always supportive of our children. He and Susan bought many, many rolls of wrapping paper and whatever else they were selling for their fundraisers. As they became adults, he was equally supportive - always interested in how they were doing and sending encouragement as they embarked on their military careers. He truly loved his family and community and will be missed. Our prayers go out to Susan, his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, their families, and his countless friends.

Leigh and Bobby Knight - October 20, 2023 at 10:04 AM

WT

“ *Wilson And Jane Treadwell lit a candle in memory of W. Denny Heard*



Wilson and Jane Treadwell - October 20, 2023 at 09:55 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of W. Denny Heard.

October 20, 2023 at 09:52 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of W. Denny Heard.*



October 20, 2023 at 09:52 AM

SS

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss, Susan. My condolences to you and your family.*

Much love, Stacy

Stacy Siko - October 20, 2023 at 09:05 AM

RH

“ *He was a good friend. I have memories of him at the state capitol where i worked with GDOT and Denny with GSP.*

Randy Hallman - October 19, 2023 at 10:47 PM

MY

“ Our prayers and love to Susan and Family. Denny has been a friend for over forty years. Besides our law enforcement work we actually met doing landscape work on the side with our friend Duke. Through the years we played ball and golfed together. I tried my best to get Denny to join us at the Sheriffs Office for years but GSP was his calling. He was a true professional to the law enforcement profession and a man of integrity. All though it's been a while, I always enjoyed just hanging out and talking. Will miss my friend, job well done. Retired Sheriff Mike and Bev Yeager

Mike&Bev Yeager - October 19, 2023 at 09:59 PM

HE

“ I've known Denny for a long time and he was always a fine person. He represented the State of Georgia and the Georgia State Patrol with dignity and honesty. One of the finest people I have ever known. He always had a smile for you. It was an Honor to have worked with him and call him friend.
Hal Ellerbee

Hal Ellerbee - October 19, 2023 at 08:31 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of W. Denny Heard.



October 19, 2023 at 07:36 PM

SM

“ A fine man and a very dedicated Trooper. My sympathies with the family. I salute Denny Heard.

sid miles - October 19, 2023 at 06:02 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of W. Denny Heard.*



October 19, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ *Susan and Family. Thinking of you all. I have loved Denny since I was a little girl and was always excited to see him coming in T&R. He will be missed.*

Julie Olmstead Matthews - October 19, 2023 at 05:36 PM



“ *Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers 🙏 Denny was one of our favorite customers at T&R! Roger always appreciated his friendship.*

Debbie Olmstead - October 19, 2023 at 05:33 PM



“ *Gerrie Petty lit a candle in memory of W. Denny Heard*



Gerrie Petty - October 19, 2023 at 05:18 PM



So sorry Susan.

Gerrie Petty - October 19, 2023 at 05:19 PM

GW

“ *I am so sorry to read of your husband's passing, Susan. My sincere condolences are extended to you and your family. May he rest in eternal peace.*



Geraldine Welch - October 19, 2023 at 04:49 PM