



1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr.

January 20, 1959 - January 3, 2026

Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley, Jr., 66, of Pike County, husband of Cathy Ann Brown Kelley, died Saturday, January 3, 2026, at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta.

Born in Griffin, January 20, 1959, he was a son of the late Willie Thomas Kelley, Sr. and Marguerite Gunter Kelley. Mr. Kelley was extremely proud of his military service. He was a highly decorated service member earning and awarded the Legion of Merit and seven Meritorious Service Ribbons among numerous other medals, awards, and ribbons. He obtained the rank of First Sergeant and was a US Army Recruiter. Mr. Kelley retired from the US Army in 2002 and went on to work for Sigvaris from 2002-2008 where he was third-shift supervisor and later worked for Vernay and Auto Glass Outfitters.

He was a lifelong member of Mt. Zion Methodist Church and enjoyed camp meetings and other church activities when possible.

He was compassionate for animals and often took in strays.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Kelley was preceded in death by a daughter, Brittney Brazier; brothers, Charles Wayne Kelley and John Robert Hoard, Jr.; brother-in-law, James Edward (Buster) Brown; and a nephew, Jared Brown.

Survivors include his wife of forty-five years; children, Shane Brazier of Ludowici, William Kelley and wife Natalie of St. Augustine, FL, Christopher Kelley and wife Megan of Enfield, CT, and Jacob Kelley and Brody Kelley, both of Zebulon; grandchildren, Hailey Miller and husband Jake, Conner Wilson, Jack Cooper, Olivia Kelley, Lydia Kelley and Amelia Kelley; great-

grandchildren, Lane, Hollis and Fletcher Miller; sister, Pamela Kelley "Pam" Ray and husband Alan of Griffin; brother, Everett Dwight Hoard of Milner; brother-in-law, Thomas "Bud" Brown and wife Sonie of Orchard Hill; numerous nieces and nephews; and his well-loved pets.

Funeral services for Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley, Jr. will be conducted Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 2:00 PM from the Chapel of Haisten McCullough Funeral Home with Reverend Debby Stikes officiating. Burial with Full Military Honors will follow in Westwood Gardens.

The family will receive friends Wednesday from 1:00 PM until the service hour at the funeral home.

For online condolences please visit www.haistenmcculloughfuneralhome.com. Haisten McCullough Funeral Home, 1155 Everee Inn Road, Griffin is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Westwood Gardens

1155 Everee Inn Rd.
Griffin, GA 30224

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Haisten McCullough Funeral Home
1155 Everee Inn Road
Griffin, GA 30224
(770) 229-4994
<https://www.haistenmcculloughfunerals.com>

Service

JAN 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

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1155 Everee Inn Road
Griffin, GA 30224
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Tribute Wall

AM

“ You will be missed Mr Kelly.



Ashley Morgan Mt,View - January 08 at 04:12 PM

AM

“ Ashley Morgan Mt,View sent a virtual gift in memory of 1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr.



Ashley Morgan Mt,View - January 08 at 04:10 PM

HW

“ Harold And Dickienna White(neighbors) lit a candle in memory of 1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr.



Harold and Dickienna White(neighbors) - January 07 at 11:32 AM

HW

Tom would stop and talk to us whenever we were walking on the road. Very nice guy! Hate to hear of his passing 🙏😞

Harold and Dickienna White(neighbors) - January 07 at 11:34 AM

CN

“ I'll miss Uncle Tommy; he was such a wonderful person. Kathy, please know that we love you and are lifting you up in our prayers.

Cindy "Hoard" Nicholson - January 07 at 10:14 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Life Tributes



Haisten McCullough Funeral Home - January 07 at 08:05 AM

SH

“ Susan H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of 1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr..

Susan H. - January 06 at 09:38 PM

AX

“ ART & DEBRA MASTRILL & AUTO GLASS XPERTS purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of 1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr..



ART & DEBRA MASTRILL & AUTO GLASS XPERTS - January 06 at 09:24 PM

AX

“ ART & DEBRA MASTRILL & AUTO GLASS XPERTS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of 1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr..

ART & DEBRA MASTRILL & AUTO GLASS XPERTS - January 06 at 09:24 PM

DA

“ David and Alivia purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of 1st Sgt. (USA, Ret.) Willie Thomas "Tommy" Kelley Jr..



David and Alivia - January 06 at 06:58 PM



“ 57 files added to the album Life Tributes



Haisten McCullough Funeral Home - January 06 at 02:27 PM

TK

I went to school with Tommy. What a great guy . My thoughts and prayers go out to Cathy and family ❤️❤️

Tim Killingsworth - January 06 at 08:08 PM

DM

WE ALL WORKED WITH THOMAS. WONDERFUL GUY TO KNOW.

DEBRA MASTRILLI - January 06 at 09:27 PM

JG

I'm sorry to hear about Tommy. He was always the life of the party. I'm so sorry for your loss Cathy.

Julie Purmort Grant - January 07 at 01:04 PM

TB

I pray that your heavy hearts can be lifted at this most difficult time and peace from above be with you.

Psalm 34:18

Tesha B. - January 08 at 12:00 PM