



Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor

November 16, 1947 - March 7, 2024

Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor, 76, of Dalton, passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2024. Born in Pittsfield, MA, on November 16, 1947, son of the late John and Claire Kelly Connor, he attended Dalton schools.

David was a Vietnam War veteran. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1964. He proudly served his country until his honorable discharge in 1967, as a Specialist 5th Class.

For the majority of his career, David was employed by Crane and Company, where he dedicated over 40 years until retiring.

Among many things, he enjoyed being outdoors, especially when fishing. He always appreciated classic cars, playing pool, and spending time with his friends. Swatzie was a huge Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots fan.

David was a former member of the Dalton Fire Department, as well as a longtime member of the Dalton American Legion and VFW, Post 9566.

David was predeceased by his beloved wife of 23 years, the former Marilyn Sabin, whom he married on March 17, 1980. Marilyn passed away in 2003. He was also predeceased by his stepson, Joseph Bacon as well as his brothers, Robert and John Connor.

David is survived by his children, Audrey Herrick, Patrick Connor, Geri-Lynn Dillard, and Jeffrey Shepard. He leaves behind his companion, Debbie Wigglesworth, as well as his friend and former spouse, Judi Chandler. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, and many other friends too numerous to mention.

Funeral Notice:

A graveside service with full military honors for Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor will be Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 11am at Ashuelot Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in David's memory can be made to the VFW, Post 9566, in care of the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Ashuelot Cemetery

Ashuelot St.
Dalton, MA 01226

Previous Events

Gravside Service

MAR 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ashuelot Cemetery
Ashuelot St.
Dalton, MA 01226

Tribute Wall

MR

“ I worked with Swatz for many years at Crane. On our time off we shared many a beer and a cigar, good conversation and stories. Swatz always liked his polka hour on Sundays, so when we had to work, we would broadcast polkas over the company radio. At that time, he was our dispatcher, and would get a kick out of hearing his music coming from the company trucks. Rest easy my friend, I wish I made more time to see you after you retired. One day again we'll have a Pabst and a cigar together. Rest easy buddy. Mike Robins

Mike Robins - March 14, 2024 at 10:39 AM

GE

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



gerilynn - March 13, 2024 at 04:48 PM

JC

I posted, but can't find it, I was remembering over the years, sitting at your kitchen table until all hours of the night into the morning just talking and laughing, and having such a good time. Thank you for being my friend and for always being there for me, no matter what I was doing. You were my go to person. It seems ever since I was 19-20 years old. We shared a lot of memories, and we had all of the same friends. The Dalton gang. Thank you for being a part of my life always. If there was one person I knew that love me on this planet I know it was always you. Rest in peace Dave.

judi chandler - March 15, 2024 at 03:23 PM

JC

“ *What do i say after 57 years? A lot of ups and downs but we always remained great friends and parents to our children. Can't believe your gone! Just talked to you a few weeks ago. You will be greatly missed by myself and our Kids. I will miss hanging out with you and our regular conversations. Always in our hearts. See you on the other side My friend. 🌹❤️*

Judi chandler - March 12, 2024 at 04:50 PM

SG

“ *I was giving the honor of meeting Swatzie while visiting my sister Debra, and spoke to him many times of the telephone. He was very polite and enjoyable person to speak to and be around. He will be greatly missed by our family and my sister Debra. May he rest in peace.*

Sandra Guzman, Texas

sandra guzman - March 12, 2024 at 03:20 PM

GD

“ Hey, it's Geri-Lynn. Your adopted daughter. I can't believe you are not here. I'm just happy you aren't suffering any longer. I know Dalton will never be the same again. Want to let you know I met my sister Audrey. I know you see us and it brings you joy. Just know, we will watch out for each other.

The memories of you I will cherish and hold near. Camping, Forest Park, my youth on Pleasant Street, the parades... You will not be forgotten!

Love always,
Gerilynn

Gerilynn Dillard - March 12, 2024 at 01:37 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.



March 11, 2024 at 09:35 PM

TD

“ Thomas D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.

Thomas D. - March 11, 2024 at 09:35 PM

DB

“ Dear Audrey and Alecia. We are sending out sincere condolences. Swatzie was a good friend who will be missed. May he rest in peace.

Doug and Karen Bates - March 11, 2024 at 05:31 PM

KB

“ Karen B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.

Karen B. - March 11, 2024 at 05:23 PM

MG

“ Sending prayers of strength and comfort for Audrey, Patrick, and Jeffrey, and everyone who loved Uncle Dave. I will always remember him fondly and will miss our occasional meet ups at Teo's since before I was old enough to drink. Hotdogs, a Genny pale ale (after 21), and scratch tickets. I'll also remember our times in Dalton as little kids when Uncle Dave was a firefighter and being on the firetruck and summers at Cape Cod. I pray your resting in Heaven Uncle Dave. Love, Melissa (Missy Gelpi) and boys.

Melissa Gelpi - March 11, 2024 at 01:03 PM

JF

“ Judi Chandler & family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.



Judi Chandler & family - March 11, 2024 at 11:19 AM

KB

“ Hi! We wanted you to know that the 3 memorial trees Kezia B planted with the help of this website are from all of the Marshfield-based Bacon family -- Sandy, Bob, Kezia, Abel, Marnie, and Joe. We planted one for Marilyn, one for Swatzie, and one for Joey. Sending our love and our deepest sympathies.

Kezia Bacon - March 10, 2024 at 06:44 PM

KB

“ Kezia B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.

Kezia B. - March 10, 2024 at 06:41 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.



March 10, 2024 at 09:12 AM

AH

“ Alecia Herrick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. David "Swatzie" Connor.

Alecia Herrick - March 10, 2024 at 09:12 AM

MA

“ My sincere condolences to the Connor family. I worked at the VFW and liked chatting with Swatzie. RIP my friend.

Mardi - March 09, 2024 at 10:17 PM

AH

“ Swatzie, Dad, I am happy that you are at peace but I am so sad to lose you so soon, my heart is broken. You were my rock, my confidant, my Dad, my everything. You were so strong and patient and always knew the right thing to do in every situation. You took such great care of my mom, my brother and myself for so long and I will cherish our so many memories throughout the past 45 years forever. May you rest in peace now.
Love you always and forever,
Audrey

Audrey Herrick - March 09, 2024 at 06:19 PM

SM

Dear Audrey and family,

So sorry to hear of Swatzie's passing, He was such a good friend of ours and he and Jerry Masiero had so many great times together. Rest in Peace dear friend.

Sarah Masiero and family

Sarah Masiero - March 12, 2024 at 04:40 PM