



Clyde Damron Stapleton

AUG 9, 1934 - DEC 12, 2024



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Bud Stapleton, age 90, of Mount Dora, Florida, passed away Thursday, December 12th, 2024. He was married to Frances Eleanor Stapleton for 61 years. Frances preceded him in death on December 16th, 2020. He is survived by his daughters, Elizabeth Ann DaSilva and son-in-law, William DaSilva of Clearwater, Florida, and Melissa Jane Stapleton and son-in-law, Bryan Hoover of Seneca, South Carolina, and his grandchildren, Kelsey Amerzee Rudder, Blake McKinley Rudder and Zachary James DaSilva. Additionally, his faithful companion, his dog of 15 years, Digger.

Bud proudly served his country in the Armed Services while stationed in Arlington, Washington D.C. Following his military service he attained his Bachelor's of Arts Degree at Eastern Kentucky State College. He later would secure two additional degrees at Eastern Michigan University, where he achieved both his Masters of Arts Education and his Specialists in Arts. Bud retired with the Michigan Public School system where he was a Public School Administrator for 30 years. During his many years as an educator and community leader, he dedicated himself to civil leadership. In 1991, Bud was proudly presented as a Kentucky Colonel, the highest title of Honor bestowed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. A recognition for noteworthy accomplishments, contributions to civil society and outstanding deeds and services to the community, state or nation.

Bud retired with Frances to Fairfield Glade, Tennessee. He enjoyed golfing in Golf Leagues and Tournaments and was a proud member of the Hole-in-One Society, having Seven Aces over his golf career. Over the years and into retirement Bud continued to plan trips and travel with his grandchildren and friends. He especially enjoyed spending days landscaping/gardening, making golf clubs and entertaining family and friends.

Mount Dora, Florida, became his second retirement home. Over the years, he continued his passion for Golf, Kentucky basketball and cooking. After his wife's passing, he developed an



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interest in baking, he loved to share his “Bud's Banana Bread” with his neighbors. At 87 yrs, he found great joy in learning to paint.

Known to family as “Bud-Dad” and Bud to his friends, he led a full and active life where he touched many hearts daily. His love for life and passion for living will forever and always be in our hearts.

In lieu of flowers or memorial gifts, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society at [acs.org](https://www.acs.org).



Tribute Wall

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Erika Rossi posted:

Uncle Bud was an incredibly kind and devoted family man who will be dearly missed by everyone who knew and loved him. I will always remember his smile and his kind words. - Erika Rossi

December 22 at 6:34 AM



Jody St. Andre lit a candle in honor of Clyde.

Bud Dad was the most admirable man I have ever known. He shared his gifts of intelligence, motivation, concern, optimism, problem solving, family prioritization, generosity, and love with everyone he knew. He was such a unique blessing in the world. He and Fran raised an incredible family- more gifts to the world.



December 21 at 5:17 AM



❤ lit a candle in honor of Clyde.

❤ lit a candle in memory of Clyde Stapleton



December 20 at 5:31 AM



Suzanne Vilicich (Stabnau) lit a candle in honor of Clyde.

Mr. Stapleton was a pillar in the community of Belleville Michigan where he and his wife Fran raised their lovely daughters. The classiest couple in town and we lovingly called this man who was Principal of many elementary schools "Bud Dad" with all of his credentials he was always approachable and was by far the best looking and most youthful of all the Dads. We will never know how many lives he inspired. He was a great listener had an optimistic outlook and took interest in others. He was very much respected by the students and the community. He made a difference here on earth. He was a self made man who worked hard yet also knew how to have a good time, God bless you Bud Dad! I hope you are enjoying golf in heaven. You will forever be "Gentle on my Mind" love Suzy Stabnau Vilicich and family.



December 17 at 5:24 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Clyde by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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