

ETC(SS) Donald Lee Godfrey
Crew UNK Onboard 1976
Born: March 26, 1942
Eternal Patrol: January 19, 2018



Rev. Dr. Donald Lee Godfrey, Sr., 75, of Salisbury, passed away Friday, January 19, 2018 at his home.

He was born March 26, 1942 in Burlington, NC to the late T.A. and Stella Hurt Godfrey. Donald graduated from Walter M. Williams High School in Burlington in 1961, he then enlisted in the United States Navy serving for over 22 years, retiring in 1985 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer. During his time in the Navy Donald was a Electronics Technician on Nuclear Powered Submarines, he also earned his Bachelor's Degree from the University of South Carolina. After retiring from the Navy, Donald went to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary earning a Master's Degree and Doctorate in Divinity.

During his time as a Pastor, Donald served the following churches, Warrenton Baptist Church in Warrenton, NC; Hickory Rock Baptist Church in Louisburg, NC; Sandusky Baptist Church in Lynchburg, VA; and retired from Dunn's Mountain Baptist Church in Granite Quarry.

Donald enjoyed researching his family's genealogy, he published three books about his family. He also enjoyed gardening, woodworking and spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, Donald was preceded in death by his Brother, Edwin Godfrey.

Donald is survived by his wife of over 52 years, Penny Godfrey, whom he married February 1, 1965; sons, Donald Lee Godfrey Jr. and wife Rose of Louisburg and Jonathan Richard Godfrey of Phoenix, AZ; grandsons, Walker Godfrey and Quinn Godfrey; granddaughter, Ingrid Godfrey; sisters, Charlotte Hatchel of Burlington and Christine Sharpe of Greenville; and eleven nieces and nephews.

The family will greet friends and relatives on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Powles Staton Funeral Home, Rockwell, NC.

The funeral service will be held at 12:45 pm on Wednesday, January 24, 2018, in the Powles Staton Funeral Home, Rockwell, NC, with Rev. Jim Brookshire, officiating.

The graveside service will be held at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at the Salisbury National Cemetery with military graveside rites provided by the United States Navy and the Rowan County Veterans Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in memory of Rev. Godfrey may be made to Rowan Hospice and Palliative Care 720 Grove Street Salisbury NC 28144.

Powles Staton Funeral Home of Rockwell, honored provider of Veterans Funeral Care, is assisting the Godfrey family. Online condolences may be made at www.powlesfuneralhome.com.



Donald Lee Godfrey, Sr , ETCS(SS)



US Navy Service Information

Years Served	Joined in 1963 left in 1985
Highest Rank - Rate	E8 - ETCS(SS)
Other Military Service	Branch: ? Highest Rank:
Service Number	
USN Retired	No
Naval Service Highlights	
Ships Served On	SSBN-622, SSBN-617, SSBN-635, SSBN-643, SSBN-655, AS-34, AS-33, AS-32

Hull#	Ship's Name	Rate/Rank	Years
SSBN-622	James Monroe		1965-65
SSBN-617	Alexander Hamilton	ET2(SS)	1966-67
SSBN-635	Sam Rayburn		1967-68
SSBN-643	George Bancroft		1969-73
AS-34	Canopus		1976-76
SSBN-655	Henry L. Stimson		1976-76
AS-33	Simon Lake		1976-79
AS-32	Holland	ETCS(SS)	1983-85