



Larry W. Dredge

September 8, 1942 - November 20, 2021

First Sergeant E-8 (RET), US Army, Larry W. Dredge age 79 died on November 20, 2021 at Cobre Valley Regional Hospital in Globe, AZ from covid complications.

Born September 8, 1942 in Geneseo, Illinois to Henry Albert Dredge, "Service man" in the US Army and Elaine Ella Groy - Dredge, Housewife.

Mr. Dredge is survived by wife of 27 years Jill Dredge of Pearce AZ, His children Jeanette Jones, (John) Kathy Fockler (Bunnell), Stepson Russell Mundell, stepdaughter Jessica Ziemann (Richard), Grandkids Ryan, Gabriel, Makenzie, Destiny. Great grandkids Elijah, Ian, Darla, Noah first wife Patricia Rearden, Brother James Dredge, (Joan)

Preceded in death by mother Elaine Ella Dredge, Father Henry Albert Dredge, brothers Kenny Dredge and Michael Dredge and his son Larry Wayne Dredge Jr.

Larry Dredge proudly joined the US Army at the age of 17, serving from December 1958 to March 1981. He is a Vietnam veteran and earned several medals during his service career including three Commendation Medals and the bronze Star. He began in the Army as a medic, served as a scout during Vietnam, was a drill instructor, and served many years in Germany. on one of his trips home from Germany western actor John Wayne bought him a beer at a Tucson, AZ bar saying I'll buy that soldier a beer. Larry worked for many years for the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department where over the years he made many friends. Larry and his surviving wife Jill enjoyed many

years of riding their horses and camping in the mountains of Arizona.
A Military Graveside Service will be noon on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Sierra Vista. Military Honors will be rendered by the Fort Huachuca Military Honor Guard. Please be at the staging area at 11:30 am to line up in the procession.

Cemetery Details

Southern Arizona Veteran's Memorial Cemetery

1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
(520) 458-7144

Previous Events

Staging Area Line Up

DEC 7. 11:30 AM (MT)

Southern Arizona Veteran's Memorial Cemetery
1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
(520) 458-7144

Military Service

DEC 7. 11:59 AM (MT)

Southern Arizona Veteran's Memorial Cemetery
1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
(520) 458-7144

Tribute Wall



“ *Larry W. Dredge*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Jessica - December 15, 2021 at 10:07 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Jessica - December 15, 2021 at 10:05 AM

JD

“ Larry, my older brother, was born during ww2 living his first years with my my mom and some of her family in Geneseo Illinois. My dad came home from the war serving in the army air force as a bomber radio mechanic and i came along in 1946. I'm sure Larry had much better memories of those years as we lived next to the tavern my folks co- owned then a farm then to the small town of Port Byron Ill. He was about 15 and I was 11 when we moved west to San Diego to join some relatives already living there. After a couple of years he decided to join the Army and made a good career of of it. While he was serving his country for the next twenty some years. I didn't see much of him except when he was living in National City and when he would visit between duty stations. He left his new 1963 ford fairlane with me while he went overseas for me to drive my senior year of high school which was about as cool as it gets for a 16/17 year old kid. When he came home and picked the car up i had new "recap tires" installed which all blew out while he was driving through the desert! He never said a word to me about that for about 40 years! A man of few words for sure! Never asked me to pay for a new set of tires either. He paved the way for home ownership for Joan and I by offering for us to take over payments of their house in National City when they had to move to the next base! I think the balance was about \$18000 at the time. You helped us out more than you would have imagined.

Gods Speed Brother, condolences to all family members!
Brother Jim

Jim Dredge - December 06, 2021 at 02:16 PM

JD

Larry also tried to recruit Joan as an army nurse when he was a recruiter in San Diego! No telling how that would have turned out!

Jim Dredge - December 06, 2021 at 05:51 PM

MS

“ Larry was my boss and friend, like most people in parks and recreation. One day I called in sick because my horse was having trouble delivering her foal. Larry gave me a hard time but he understood horses. The next day I brought him a big bag of Cheetos, he loved Cheetos! And pictures of the filly. He gave me a pink bubblegum cigar. We had a good laugh. I hope you find the greenest pastures up there Larry and watch the wild horses run!

Mary Soriano - December 05, 2021 at 10:55 PM

MS

“ Mary Soriano lit a candle in memory of Larry W. Dredge



Mary Soriano - December 05, 2021 at 10:51 PM

KL

“ Larry embraced Parks and Recreation even though military and recreation were often on different ends of the spectrum. We learned from him and he learned from us. He started at Armory Park as security and ended up as the supervisor of Randolph Recreation Center. We loved him. He took kidding and jokes on him very well such as getting joke shoes he dumped in the dumpster reappear as a gift at another event.. He was elected President of the local Arizona Parks and Recreation Professional Association. He did a great job at that. He mentored many young professionals who shine today because of him.

After retirement, friendships he made while working carried on. The last time I saw him was in September where several of us enjoyed a long lunch. Larry was doing so well health-wise, and laughed with us as we shared lots of memories. He is missed and will always be remembered.

Karen

Karen Larkin - December 04, 2021 at 11:26 AM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Larry W. Dredge.



December 04, 2021 at 10:28 AM

JJ

“ *Larry and Jill loved going to the Apple Auntie’s farm and orchard!*



Jeanette Jones - November 22, 2021 at 10:14 PM

DE

“ *Great grandpa Larry & his granddaughter Darla. He was a sweet grandpa!!! We will miss him so much. 💙*



Destiny - November 22, 2021 at 09:37 PM