

Jimmy L. Hembree

Jimmy L. Hembree, 57, of Murphy, passed away Saturday, Dec. 10, 2005, at the Copper Basin Medical Center in Ducktown, Tenn.

A lifelong resident of Cherokee County, he was the son of Winnie Smith Hembree Little and stepfather, Gauvain Little, and the late David Hembree.

He was a graduate of Hiwassee Dam High School and a U.S. Army veteran. He was an over-the-road trucker for 25 years, which he enjoyed immensely and was a lifetime dream fulfilled. He had worked for 15 years for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. He was a devoted family man, a loving husband, father and popaw. He loved the outdoors, camping, fishing and his dogs, the family said.

He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Winnie Smith Hembree Little and Gauvain Little of Murphy; his wife, Linda Long Hembree; a daughter, Joy Dockery and husband Jeff, of Murphy; a brother, Roger Hembree and wife Sharon, of Gastonia; two sisters, Lucille Gilford and Lois Turner, both of Gastonia; two grandchildren, Lucas and Courtney Dockery of Murphy; two stepsisters Brenda Carter and husband Ralph of Murphy; and Debbie Elliott of Ringgold, Ga.; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2005, at 2 p.m., at the Shady Grove Baptist Church. Revs. Ned Golden and Warren Golden officiated.

Burial was at Shady Grove Baptist Church Cemetery with military graveside rites conducted by veterans organizations Murphy VFW Post 10222, Joe Miller Elkin American Legion Post 96, D.A.V. Chapter 73 and Clay County VFW Post 6812.

Pallbearers were Jonathan Mull, Bobby Stewart, Eddie Taylor, Jeff Robertson, Jeff Raper and Roger Hamilton. Employees of the North Carolina Department of Transportation Maintenance Department served as honorary pallbearers.

The family received friends on Monday, Dec. 12, 2005, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Townson Rose Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in memory of Jimmy L. Hembree to the Shady Grove Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, c/o Wilma Shields, 115 Dairy Farm Rd., Murphy, NC 28906

Townson Rose Funeral Home in Murphy, was in charge of arrangements.

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