



## Mr. Dwayne B. DeShong

January 20, 1948 - September 6, 2021

Dwayne B. DeShong, 73, of Valrico, Florida, born in Plant City on January 20, 1948, entered into eternal rest on September 6, 2021. He was a proud Navy Chief, serving his country from 1969-1996. His military service recognitions include National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy Expert Pistol Shot medal. His rank at discharge was Chief Petty Officer, USN-USNR, Submarine Qualified (SS).

Dwayne graduated from Turkey Creek High School in 1965. He loved playing saxophone and followed in his father's footsteps to serve as drum major. Later, he was also a member of The Buccaneer Band as well as The Awesome Original Second Time Arounders Marching Band. He was privileged to march in countless parades including parades in Canada and Ireland, and two Macy's Thanksgiving Day parades. In addition to playing the saxophone, was an avid animal lover, enjoyed racing, traveling, flying and diving.

He is survived by his wife of 11 years, Sandra J. DeShong; son, Greg (Toni) DeShong of Plant City, and Angela (John) Mercer of Valrico, stepchildren Emily (Nate) Fraser of Tampa, Rachel (Jemel) Negrón of Fort Dodge, IA and Jeremiah (Trinity) Pullman of Valrico and ten grandchildren. Dwayne was pre-deceased by his twin brother, Dana DeShong, by just 33 days.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, September 18 at 7:00 P.M. at First Baptist Church Plant City, 3309 James L Redman Pkwy, Plant City, where the family will receive friends beginning at 6:00 P.M. For those unable to attend, the service will be live-streamed at [fbcpc.com](http://fbcpc.com). In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church Plant City at [fbcpc.com](http://fbcpc.com). Expressions of condolence at [HopewellFuneral.com](http://HopewellFuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **18.** 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Plant City  
3309 James L Redman Pkwy  
Plant City, FL 33566  
<http://fbcpc.com>

## Memorial Service

SEP **18.** 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Plant City  
3309 James L Redman Pkwy  
Plant City, FL 33566  
<http://fbcpc.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Dwayne B. DeShong



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**Hopewell Funeral Home** - September 17, 2021 at 03:50 PM



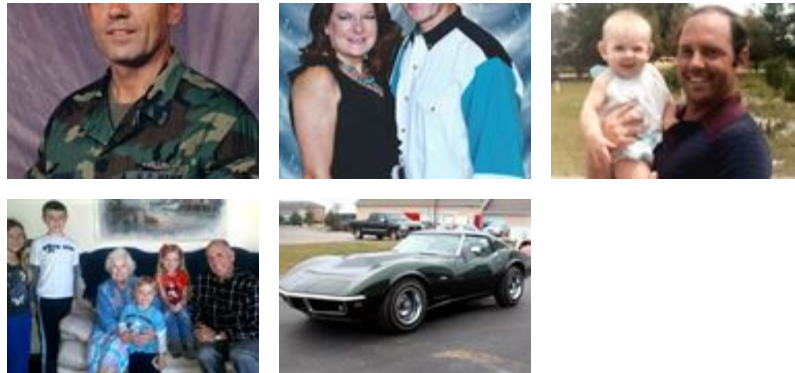
“ We have just learned of Dwayne AND Dana passing within weeks of each other. My husband, Bud Mueller and I, Barbara Mueller, were good friends with both brothers from high school through college years , and spent so many wonderful times together! We want the families of both to know how SORRY WE ARE! ❤️ These two were both such terrific guys and we will be keeping their loved ones in our prayers! God bless you.

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**Barbara Mueller** - September 19, 2021 at 05:13 PM



“ 56 files added to the album Life Tributes



Hopewell Funeral Home - September 17, 2021 at 03:33 PM



“ I wish I had the right words to say but all that comes to mind is that I'm sorry...  
I'm sorry we couldn't do more to save you , I'm sorry for my mom who lost her best friend , I'm sorry for being so rotten as a teen. But most importantly I'm grateful for all of the times we had together as a family . I'm grateful my kids had someone they could call grandad ❤️. Until we meet again .. fly high Dwayne !

Sunny RaysLashes - September 16, 2021 at 12:50 AM



“ Dwayne was one of the good guys. A patriot. A father. A good worker. Cheeful and smiling even in dire times. We all will miss him. God comfort and sustain his loved ones.

Patrick Miller

Patrick Miller - September 15, 2021 at 07:56 AM

TB

“ Dwayne, thank you for your service to our country. It has been an honor to know you and Dana for so many years. Rest in peace brother.

Travis W. Burkett - September 15, 2021 at 05:58 AM

JN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jemel Negron - September 14, 2021 at 05:50 PM

JN

“ Dwayne,

*I can't tell you what it meant to me when you accepted me into your family. I could feel the love you had in your heart and it gave me hope in the world that anything is still possible. I wish I had more time to have stood by you and your family to learn and understand this world better. Im thankful for the time I did have and im also really thankful that you came to our party for our kids. It meant the whole world to us knowing that the last time you went to the beach was when Chloe was born. So thank you for that beautiful memory and just know I will carry a piece of you in my heart forever. Thank you Sir and carry on in the silver city.*

*Jemel C Negron*



Jemel Negron - September 14, 2021 at 05:48 PM

KR

“ I am sorry i didnt get to know my cousin more.He was too young to pass. We live in ky and didnt visit much. My dad his uncle Dean is 90 and still kicking physically but mentally he doesnt know a lot. R.I.P. Dwayne!



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**kathy a ritchie** - September 14, 2021 at 04:40 PM

TM

“ Sandi and Family  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We are so sorry for your loss Dwayne was always kind to us and we enjoyed the time we spent with him. We ask God to keep you and yours in his loving hands as you go thru this.

*Love and Blessings*

*Jack andToni Milholland & Family*

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**Toni Milholland** - September 14, 2021 at 04:04 PM

MD

*Sandi,*

*Dee and I reach out in prayer that our gracious Lord comfort you and all of Dwayne's family. Dwayne was a special man that we were blessed to know.*

*Mike and Dee Dimitri*

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**Mike Dimitri** - September 15, 2021 at 02:41 PM

MF

“ Rest in peace my friend " may you dance in heaven as you and Sandy did on earth "

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**Melinda Farmer** - September 14, 2021 at 02:46 PM

LW

“ *May your journey on the other side be all you hoped it would be.  
Rest In Peace .  
Lucy Raulerson Williams*

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**Lucy Raulerson Williams** - September 13, 2021 at 07:41 PM