



Mr. Franklin Dewitt Bland

October 7, 1957 - October 30, 2020

Franklin “Dewitt” Bland, 63, of Plant City, Florida, born on October 7, 1957, entered into eternal rest on October 30, 2020. He was employed with the Tampa ship yard as a crane operator for over 30 years where he was known as “cowboy” and volunteered with the Hillsborough County Fire Dept. He loved his family, and enjoyed woodworking, fishing, visiting estate sales with his wife, and spending time with family at their Georgia property. He is survived by wife of 43 years, Bonnie Bland; children, Nicole “Nicky” Patterson (Garritt) of Eustice, Tina Lee Bland of Leesburg, and Franklin “Bubba” Bland, Jr. (Melissa) of Wesley Chapel; 8 grandchildren, who affectionately called him “Papa Dee”; 1 great-grandchild; and siblings, Emma Benjamin, Melissa Bland, and Clarence Byrd, all of Plant City. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 7 at 2:00 P.M. at Holy Outreach Church 7935 N Armenia Ave, Tampa. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Moffitt Cancer Center at moffitt.org. Expressions of condolence at HopewellFuneral.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Franklin Dewitt Bland.* ”



November 06, 2020 at 03:54 PM



“ *Y'all are in our thoughts and prayers 🙏 Kay and Steve Gardner.* ”



Steve and Kay - November 05, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ *Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Mr. Franklin Dewitt Bland.* ”



November 04, 2020 at 10:09 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Franklin Dewitt Bland.* ”



November 04, 2020 at 06:08 AM

YF

“ *Your Maxim Family purchased the Glorious Grace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Franklin Dewitt Bland.*



Your Maxim Family - November 03, 2020 at 03:13 PM

JA

“ *I had the privilege of volunteering with DeWitt at the fire department and we even played a few rounds of golf together. He was a good all around person, couldn't have met a friendlier guy. Hate to hear the news of his passing your family will be remembered in our prayers.*

Junior Ashworth - November 03, 2020 at 11:38 AM



“ *It was my pleasure to have worked with DeWitt at the shipyard so many years ago, and call him my friend. It always breaks my heart to hear "one of my boys" as I used to refer to them, had to leave this world. DeWitt I will keep you in my thoughts and my heart until it is my time to go. May precious memories bring your loved ones comfort when they need it most. Thank you for walking through my life.*

*Love,
Jan Shogaa*

Jan Shogaa - November 02, 2020 at 12:29 PM

JM

“ *I know Uncle Amos was waiting at the gate!!*

Joann McHenry - November 01, 2020 at 09:38 PM