



Mr. Tilford Wesley "Wes" Miller

September 24, 1942 - October 2, 2025

Tilford Wesley "Wes" Miller, 83, of Plant City, Florida, passed away at home on October 2, 2025.

Born on September 24, 1942, to Tilford and Elma Lambert Miller in Osyka, Mississippi, Wes spent his early years on a dairy farm in Kentwood, Louisiana milking cows, driving tractors, and showing off his farming skills with Future Farmers of America. A gifted athlete, he played baseball, basketball, and football for the Kentwood Kangaroos and discovered a love of music while playing clarinet in the school band.

After high school, Wes proudly served his country in the United States Navy aboard the aircraft carriers USS Coral Sea and USS Enterprise. He was part of the USS Coral Sea crew that launched the first combat strikes against North Vietnam in 1964. While stationed in San Francisco, Wes met the love of his life, Julianne "Jewel" Winemiller on a blind date. Serving abroad in the Navy, he faithfully sent his paychecks home to her to begin building their future. The couple eventually married in 1965, which marked the beginning of many adventures together.

Following his naval service, Wes attended night school to earn his certification in computer programming and started his career at Crocker Bank in California. He and Julianne raised two children in Walnut Creek, CA, Beth and Peter,

before relocating their family to Colorado Springs, where he worked with the Navigators at Glen Eyrie, and enjoyed breathtaking views of Pikes Peak for many years.

Wes had many joys throughout his life. He loved caring for his horses, Midnight and Penny, and hauling their hay bales in his blue Chevy truck. He served as a deacon, elder, and Sunday School teacher in his church congregations and had a deep love of traditional hymns. An avid music lover of all genres, he listened to Willie Nelson, Patsy Cline, Rita Coolidge and all the “oldies but goodies”. He cheered for his daughter Beth on the sidelines of her high school volleyball games, and one of his proudest moments was seeing his son Peter graduate from United States Marine Corps basic training at Camp Lejeune. Friends will remember him for his regular visits to the Hungry Farmer with his best friend Joe for sweet tea. He traveled to exciting places like London and Costa Rica but enjoyed most of all his visits to places closer to home - watching the hot air balloon festival in Memorial Park; hiking to Bear Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park; camping at the Great Sand Dunes in southern Colorado; and driving through the massive red rocks in the Garden of the Gods.

Wes is survived by his devoted wife of fifty-nine years, Julianne, his stepsister Jeannette Blades and husband Darwin, his daughter Beth (Sasfai) and son-in-law Doug, his son Peter and daughter-in-law Kimmy, and his five beloved grandchildren, Jacob, Caleb, Emily, Olivia and Ethan. He will also be dearly missed by his loyal dog Scooter, who could always count on Wes to share his sweet potato fries.

Tribute Wall

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“ Bob & Diane DelBuono purchased the Healing Thoughts Gift Basket for the family of Mr. Tilford Wesley "Wes" Miller.



Bob & Diane DelBuono - October 07, 2025 at 12:57 PM

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“ Bob & Diane DelBuono planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Tilford Wesley "Wes" Miller.

Bob & Diane DelBuono - October 07, 2025 at 12:57 PM