

## **Dr. Emery Austin Russell Jr**

**1938 – 2017**

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Colonel Emery Austin Russell Jr. retired after 30 years of service to his country in the United States Army to Crossville, where he became a farmer. Born in Elk Valley, Tenn., to Emery Austin and Estelle Russell Sr., his father was the manager for James H. Moore Housing, where he also worked. Austin worked while going to high school, then college and graduated from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, after marrying his wife of 59 years, Loretta Joyce Taylor.

He attended Baylor Dental School in Dallas, Texas, and graduated with honors. He continued his education by completing his residency in oral surgery at Brooke General Hospital in 1968.

During his 30 years in the Army, he was stationed at many bases, served in Vietnam and was commander at multiple bases as well as commander of the DENTAC in Frankfurt, Germany. He received numerous awards during his service, as well as completing Air Assault School at Fort Campbell, Ky., as his 30 years were winding down in 1989. As for all he accomplished in his life, who can write all that down in an obituary?

He battled cancer like the warrior he was and beat it for 10 years, until February 6 2017. He is survived by his wife, Loretta; daughter and son-in-law, Valerie and Tim; three granddaughters Kelsey, Kayla and Kylie; and his two sisters and brothers-in-law, Jean and Jim Doane and Ann and Terry Calhoun.

He has multiple nieces and nephews whom he loved. He is also survived by his best friend, whom he called a brother, Jerry Kerley. Mr. Russell and his family would like to especially thank Dr. Davidson; Beki Hillis, Pa.; and the incredible cancer fighting staff at Dr. Davidson's office. Seldom do you see that many wonderful people in one place. They would also like to thank Cumberland Regional Medical Hospital (every floor of nursing staff, hospital staff and Hospitalists) with a very special fondness for the infusion center staff.



Finally, but foremost, they are grateful to God, our Almighty Creator and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for giving us the gift of Dad and time.

The funeral was held at Hood Funeral Home Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, at 1 p.m. with a viewing before the funeral and Wednesday, Feb. 8, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hood Funeral Home and Crematory, LLC ([www.hoodfuneralhome.com](http://www.hoodfuneralhome.com)) was in charge of the arrangements.