



## David Ray Millikan

July 28, 1959 - March 31, 2025

David Ray Millikan, beloved son, brother, uncle, veteran, and friend, passed away on March 31, 2025, at the age of 65.

Born on July 28, 1959, to O. Ray and Linda Millikan, David grew up with a deep love for family, nature, and tradition. He learned to shoot from his grandfather during childhood, developing an early connection to the outdoors. He cherished time spent with his grandparents, playing baseball, and protecting his younger sister, Shari.

David attended Sam Houston State University before embarking on a long and diverse career spanning the gas and oil industry, nuclear power plants, construction, and welding. Throughout his life, he was deeply proud of his service in the United States Navy and remained actively involved in Chickasaw Nation events and heritage.

A lifelong learner, David held a passion for knowledge—constantly pursuing certifications and staying engaged in topics like politics, health, and faith. He often spoke of how his dream job would be to work in space, reflecting his deep curiosity and adventurous spirit. His wisdom was rooted in experience, sharpened by humor, and always guided by his faith in God.

David was also a legendary cook in his own right, known especially for his

famous meatloaf and hamburgers. He found joy in the simple, meaningful moments of life: hunting, fishing, and watching the Aurora Borealis at night with the love of his life, his late wife Vickie—whose marriage he always considered the shining highlight of his life.

David is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Vickie Millikan; his father, O. Ray Millikan; his maternal grandparents, Linwood and Chickasaw elder Grace Lloyd; his paternal grandparents, Orville and Louise Millikan; and his maternal great-grandparents, WWI Chickasaw elder John W. Connelly and Lillian Evans Connelly.

He is survived by his mother, Linda Millikan; his devoted sister, Shari Millikan; niece, Misty Day Millikan and her children, Nolan Alex Rice, Ryan Eli Rice, Holland Landry Millikan, and Aspen Reign Gregor; niece, Sara Renee' Kersten and her children, Gunner Lee Travis Claxton and Kenedee Sunshine Williamson; his aunt and uncle, Dicky and Rita Lloyd Payne; cousins, Paula Wyman and Kyle Payne; and countless friends and family whose lives he touched with his kindness, knowledge, and unwavering spirit.

No services are scheduled. Arrangements are under the direction and care of DeArman-Clark Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall

SM

“*Dave's dream job was to work in space. As kids, we always dreamed of being in space or doing something in space. As a huge fan of Star Trek, he decided that was the the type of job he wanted and talked about to this day and age. Me, I always said I wanted my honeymoon on Mars. Neither of us were able to reach those life long goals, but it never stopped us from dreaming. I will miss you big brother. I know I will see you again. Your journey has only now begun. Your little sister, Shari*

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**Shari Millikan** - April 23, 2025 at 09:26 AM

LM

*David was a son who was always loving and kind. We traveled several places and he loved Hawaii. He would visit his aunt Rita and get bacon to catch crawdads. He joined the Baptist church when he was a child. He had a lot of friends and belonged to the until a teenager. He would hug me and and send me cards when older and tell me he loved me. He loved his grandparents and cousins. He was extremely neat. He attended Sam Houson in Huntsville. He was always learning. I taught him how to play basketball and he had a sense of humor. In later years he went through many operations and severe pain. My grief is is very great at this time but knowing he is not in severe pain anymore God will help me and know someday will know him again. I loved him very much as he was always there. He was my beloved son. His mother.*

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**Linda Lloyd Millikan** - April 23, 2025 at 09:51 AM

LM

*He belonged to the boyscout until after teenager. He was in track and could run very fast*

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**Linda Lloyd Millikan** - April 23, 2025 at 09:54 AM

PW

*I remember growing up with David always being my big idolized cousin. He was always the most handsome and smartest guy. He was funny and kind. I remember listening to Papaw telling us about space, the stars, and the potential life out there while holding marshmallows and hot dogs to the fire. We all dreamed of space.*

*David taught me how to play games. One of my favorites when I was little was sitting on the porch with a blanket and covering with it to hide from monsters (cars) when they came down the street. Shaking and holding our breath, hoping the monsters wouldn't see us and come after us. He introduced me to music and would let me stay up with him to watch *The Midnight Special*. I remember lake outings, walks, scary movies, and philosophical and political discussions. Family get togethers, laughing, remembering good times, and visits to Tishomingo will never be the same. Miss you Dave :(*

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**Paula Wyman** - April 26, 2025 at 10:23 AM