



Beverly Rivell

July 30, 1953 - June 4, 2019

Beverly Irene Rivell, 65, passed away June 4, 2019.

Born July 30, 1953 in Portsmouth, VA, she was the daughter of Robert Edward Rivell and the late Barbara Olsen Rivell.

Bev was an important person to so many. She gave her generous support and love to husband Gene, children Brett and Reid and grandchildren Penelope, Josephine and Liam, her brothers and sisters, her parents, her nieces and nephews, her many friends, those with whom she worked, and those with whom she served in the U.S. Army.

Her educational accomplishments are impressive. She earned a Master of Science in Nursing at Widener University becoming a Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner, a Master of Public Administration in International Economic Development at Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, a Master of Public Health in International Health and a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Health at New York Medical College, School of Medicine.

The list of appointments and special projects is long. Here are just a few: She worked as a Nurse Practitioner, an Administrative Nursing Supervisor, and in Public Health Nursing in the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Rwanda, Uganda, Botswana, Niger, and Trenton, NJ. She was the Director of Public Health Nursing for the NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services, a Health Officer for the City of Trenton, NJ. She taught Community Health Nursing as an Adjunct Professor at Fairleigh Dickenson University. In the US Army, she was a Family Nurse Practitioner, a Battalion Logistics Officer, Public Welfare

Officer, and a Plans, Operations, and Training Officer and Brigade Surgeon at Fort Dix, N.J. She later became a Consultant with Logistical Health International.

She was published in the United States Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine on soldier health. She also raised capuchin monkeys and was published in the American Journal of Primatology and other newsletters regarding primate behavior.

She was a member of the Harvard Alumni Association, Sigma Theta Tau, International Nursing Honor Society, Global Health Council, International Council of Nurses, American College of Nurse Practitioners, American Public Health Association, American Society of Tropical Medicine, Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing, International Society of Primatologists, and the American Society of Primatologists.

Bev retired from the U. S. Army after 30 years of service with the rank of Colonel. During her tenure, she earned a host of recognitions including: 2 Meritorious Service Medals, 6 Army Commendation Medals, 2 Army Achievement Medals, 2 National Defense Service Medals and the Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation.

Although it is important to recognize her many accomplishments, what she will be remembered by most is her generosity and her fierce commitment to doing right, to speaking truth to power, regardless of consequences, and for standing up for those without rank or privilege. May the world learn to emulate her sense of duty to treat one another with compassion and respect and may we find in our hearts the call to carry on her legacy to work toward change for the good of all.

Bev is survived by her husband, Gene Van Benthysen and his children Brett Van Benthysen (wife Dr. Fahimeh Sasan and granddaughter Penelope) and Reid Van Benthysen (wife Amanda and grandchildren Liam and Josephine) her father, Robert Edward Rivell, her brother William Rivell (wife Maria Amadoz Rivell), her sister Elizabeth Salasko (husband William Salasko), her sister Sue McClam (husband Robert McClam), her brother John Rivell (wife

Doreen Rivell), her brother Robert Rivell (wife Lydia Parras), her brother James Rivell (wife Maria Luisa Rivell) 20 nieces and nephews and 7 great nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her mother Barbara Olsen Rivell.

We will celebrate her life on Monday, June 10th at 11:00am at Florence National Cemetery in SC with full military honors.

Services have been entrusted to Kistler-Hardee Funeral Home and Crematory of Darlington, SC.

Memorials may be made to Harvest Hope Food Bank <https://www.harvesthope.org/> or Darlington County Humane Society <https://darlingtonhumane.org/>

Tribute Wall

ER

“ As a neighbor and longtime friend of Bev during her residence in Titusville, she will be greatly missed. She was an amazing person, and it was an honor to have known such an incredible woman. It was a pleasure to be given the opportunity to care for her monkeys, as we know she had such a love for them. We are deeply saddened to hear of her passing.

Edward Ranke - January 07, 2020 at 08:01 PM



“ Of all the grandchildren of Harold and Monica Olsen only Bev was older than I and I remember our visits to her family in northern Jersey when very young. They had two horses, Apache and Teacup, that we were invited to ride. I remember Bev whispering to me in a conspiratorial manor to "take Apache as their names did not match their behavior." A small kindness compared to all the good she has done but mine. Bless to Bev and Godspeed from this Air Force vet.

James Olsen - July 20, 2019 at 12:53 PM

DM

“ Bev and I lived near each other in grade school on Oldwick Road. We were good friends until I moved away in 7th grade. We went to high school together and re-connected somewhat; we both had horses and met up a few times to ride together. Sadly, we completely lost touch with each other after we graduated. It sounds as though Bev had an amazing life and I'm sad that it ended way too soon. My deepest sympathy to her family, friends and colleagues and my prayers are with you all.

Debbie Powers McDonald - June 28, 2019 at 02:29 PM

DP

“ *A wonderful person that I had the honor of knowing in my lifetime. She loved her family, her pets, and making a difference in others lives! Always thinking of others, and never once complaining. She will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of her family, and the many others who will miss her!*
Danielle Petker and Anderson Animal Hospital

Danielle Petker - June 18, 2019 at 04:22 PM

CP

“ *Carla Castner Prepejchal lit a candle in memory of Beverly Rivell*



Carla Castner Prepejchal - June 18, 2019 at 02:17 AM

CS

“ *The NHRHS Alumni sends their condolences. May she rest in peace.*

Christopher V. Sakos - June 16, 2019 at 08:15 PM

JH

“ *Beverly will always be a shining example of not stuck on stupid*

Jeffrey D Held - June 08, 2019 at 04:45 PM

CR

“ Cousins Rich and Sharon Rivell purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Beverly Rivell.



Cousins Rich and Sharon Rivell - June 08, 2019 at 10:25 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Beverly Rivell.



June 08, 2019 at 06:46 AM

TW

“ Bev was a steadfast and generous colleague and friend. We miss her greatly.

Timothy R Williams - June 07, 2019 at 10:35 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Beverly Rivell.



June 07, 2019 at 10:00 AM

JC

“*The Colonel*” was a special lady. A loving wife, caring mother, sweet grandmother and an exceptional aunt to her many nieces and nephews. She would always do something special for me and Walt Dorf to recognize our combat service in Vietnam on Veterans Day. She made everyone feel special. Rest In Peace Colonel you deserve it for a job well done.
I salute you and wish you God speed,
Joe “Captain” Casey

Joe Casey - June 06, 2019 at 11:57 PM

TH

“*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam - May she Rest In Peace.*”

Tara Marie Hintz - June 06, 2019 at 10:50 PM

JJ

“*Joan and Tom Jankunas purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Beverly Rivell.*”



Joan and Tom Jankunas - June 06, 2019 at 08:47 PM

DC

“*DeeDee Chisholm lit a candle in memory of Beverly Rivell*”



DeeDee Chisholm - June 06, 2019 at 03:27 PM

PM

“ We would like to express our sincere condolences to you and your family. With deep sympathy, we share your sorrow, after the tears have dried and the goodbyes have been said, all we have to hold onto are the happy memories that we've shared with our loved ones who have passed, this is what keeps them alive in our hearts and in our minds, and they will continue to live on, through us. May God give you the strength to endure the pain you are going through and may he embrace you and comfort your family during this difficult time."Jesus said to her: 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life.'" - John 11:25

Patrisia Magallon - June 05, 2019 at 01:59 PM