



## John William Blackburn

January 8, 1948 - March 21, 2025

John William Blackburn of Centerville, Tennessee, passed away March 21, 2025 at Horizon Medical Center in Dickson, Tennessee, due to a continuing illness. John was born in Kingsport, Tennessee, January 8, 1948. He was welcomed by his parents, the late Daniel and Marie Blackburn, and big sister Gloria.

John graduated from Blountville High School and then from University of Tennessee where he was named a Honor Military Graduate. He spent 22 years in the army. John served at Fort Sill, in Germany, Redstone Arsenal, Milan Army Aviation Camp, Fort Leavenworth and the Pentagon. He served 13 years in Germany, he came back to the states to Redstone Arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois to procure ammunition for Europe.

John was instrumental in bringing the perishing missile into Germany along with five hundred policeman.

After retirement John came to Centerville to Camp NaCome. During his ten years there John built new cabins and made tremendous improvements. John was thinking of something he could do to help out Centerville and the American Red Cross. He began talking to people That were invested in making a difference and he came up with the National Banana Pudding Festival. The last few months of his life, he started another project called Camp Hope. Its purpose was to focus on Nursing Facilities for Veterans. John

never got to finish this, but maybe someone will pick up where he left off and carry on this project.

John is survived by his two daughters; Kaitlin Blackburn (Kyle Bell) of Woodland, Washington and Corey Blackburn of Columbia, Tennessee; sister Gloria Blackburn Culver (Sonny) of Rogersville, Tennessee. In addition to his parents John is preceded in death by his wife, Mary Clayton Blackburn.

McDonald Funeral Home in Centerville, Tennessee is honored to be serving the Blackburn Family during this difficult time.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 29. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County  
102 West End Ave.  
Centerville, TN 37033  
(931) 729-3561

## Celebration of Life

MAR 29. 11:00 AM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County  
102 West End Ave.  
Centerville, TN 37033  
(931) 729-3561

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ Stephanie Plotzer lit a candle in memory of John William Blackburn



Stephanie Plotzer - April 26, 2025 at 11:26 AM

JH

“ John did so much for our community. So many are unaware of. He was one of the founding members of Hickman County Long Term Recovery Committee. He worked to help those affected by the tornadoes in 2008, flooding in 2009 & the big flood in 2010. He used his skill to help others, all while sharing lots of amazing stories. In 2011 he won the TN Titan's aware and earned \$10,000 for Hickman Co. Long Term Recovery and the work we do in the community. He was instrumental in bringing the Am Red Cross to our community and in heading up the National Banana Pudding Festival. He will be missed!



Jeannetta Hitt - March 28, 2025 at 06:14 PM

PC

“ Penny Creech lit a candle in memory of John Blackburn



Penny Creech - March 26, 2025 at 05:49 PM

LW

“ John was a good friend to us .. He brought hope back to the camp and helped us when we were at our lowest ! We will always remember him for this and how he helped the community there in Centerville bringing the Banana Pudding Festival there and all his selfless acts of kindness for others ! We will miss u John !



Lynn Whitt - March 26, 2025 at 09:55 AM

TS

John, a friend whom enjoyed conservation and dedicated to community

Tammy Smith - March 26, 2025 at 01:30 PM

SH

“ Sarah Hinson lit a candle in memory of John William Blackburn



Sarah Hinson - March 25, 2025 at 02:07 PM

SH

“ I have so many precious memories of John as a friend and coworker with The National Banana Festival and Ted Cross. My prayers are with his family and other friends for the comfort God can give them. 💕🙏💔😔

Sarah Hinson - March 25, 2025 at 02:07 PM



“ *Becky Palmer lit a candle in memory of John William Blackburn*



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**Becky Palmer** - March 25, 2025 at 01:30 PM

CS

“ *Charlotte M Staggs sent a virtual gift in memory of John William Blackburn*



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**Charlotte M Staggs** - March 25, 2025 at 11:23 AM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of John William Blackburn*



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**Michael Bates** - March 25, 2025 at 09:42 AM

RH

“ *We are thinking of u.*

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**Ruby & Rex Horner** - March 24, 2025 at 11:20 PM

RS

“ *We are thinking of u.*

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**Regina & Martha Shelton** - March 24, 2025 at 11:19 PM



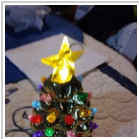
“ *We are thinking of u.*

Regina Shelton - March 24, 2025 at 11:17 PM



“ *We are so sorry of the death of John Blackburn.*

Regina Shelton - March 24, 2025 at 11:16 PM



“ *We are thinking of u.*

Regina Shelton - March 24, 2025 at 11:15 PM



“ *Kim skelton lit a candle in memory of John Blackburn*



Kim skelton - March 24, 2025 at 09:46 PM