



C. "Michael" Gaither

March 14, 1945 - August 24, 2018

Cecil Michael Gaither, 73, of Chiefland, Florida, passed away on Friday, August 24, 2018.

Mr. Gaither was born March 14, 1945 in Tallassee, Alabama to the late Cecil and Lucy Gaither. He moved to Chiefland in 2001. He proudly served in the U.S. Army and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans and Paralyzed Veterans of America. Mr. Gaither was a member and the chaplain of William T. Carlton Masonic Lodge #46, in Trenton, Florida. His hobbies were computers and birdwatching. He and Honey the Wonder Dog were ambassadors for the U.S. War Dogs Association, and a key founder of "Kids for K-9's". He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Chiefland.

Mr. Gaither is survived by his wife, Marilyn Kaye Gaither; son, Timothy S. Jeter of Tampa, FL; daughters, Patricia Keenan Assaid of Cary, NC and Kelley Kaye Jeter of Tampa, FL; grandchildren Brandon Williams and Jazlin Williams; sister, Lucille (Albert) Rece of Chiefland, FL

Funeral Services will be held Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 2:00 pm at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church with Father Joseph McDonnell officiating. Interment will be at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL on Thursday, August 30, 2018. A visitation will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2018, at

Rick Gooding Funeral Home, Chiefland between 6 and 8pm, with a Masonic Service to follow at 8:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: U.S. War Dogs, P.O. Box 10, Bronson, FL 32621, please mark, donation for "Honey the Wonder Dog" statue.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of Rick Gooding Funeral Home Chiefland, Florida 352-493-0050 and Cross City, Florida 352-498-5400. Please sign the online guestbook at rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Florida National Cemetery

6502 S.W. 102nd Avenue
Bushnell, FL 33513

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 28. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rick Gooding Funeral Home Chiefland
1301 N Young Blvd
Chiefland, FL 32626
(352) 493-0050
<https://www.RickGoodingFuneralHomes.com>

Service

AUG 29. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
4050 NW Highway 27 Alt.
chiefland, FL 32626

Interment

AUG 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

Florida National Cemetery
6502 S.W. 102nd Avenue
Bushnell, FL 33513

Tribute Wall



“ C. "Michael" Gaither

October 08, 2023 at 10:03 PM



“ C. "Michael" Gaither

January 30, 2023 at 01:26 AM



“ *My fondest memory of Michael was at the Kids for K9s School Program with his Honey the Wonder dog. He showed the children how Honey obeyed him and dropped a piece of paper in front of Honey. He gave the command to pick it up. Honey looked at him as if to say 'you didnt drop that accidently' (she was very smart) and he gave the command again. She picked it up and brought it to him. Then I took the paper and dopped it and asked Honey to "pick it up", Of course she didnt. So I told the children. "Well she not so smart - I dont think she's smart". And they all yelled out "NO She is Smart- she only takes orders from her handler". And Kaye Michael and I smiled in happiness because the children had learned what they were taught about our Hero dogs. It was a great day. Barbara Snow US WAR DOGS ASSN*

Barbara Snow US WAR DOGS Assn - August 28, 2018 at 02:10 PM