

GRAND CHAPTER OF DELAWARE, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



IN MEMORIAM

BROTHER R. DALE GLADDEN, Jr., PAST GRAND PATRON
WORTHY GRAND PATRON 2009 - 2010

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Brother Roland Dale Gladden, Jr, 73, Past Grand Patron, Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

Brother Dale was born in Salisbury, Maryland, son of the late Roland Dale, Sr., and Winnie Faye (German) Gladden. He graduated from Wicomico High School with the class of 1966. After graduation he joined the U.S. Army and was first stationed in Turkey. He served in the U.S. Army for 20 years in various capacities and retired in 1986 with an Honorable Discharge with the rank of Sergeant First Class. After Brother Dale's service to his country, and retirement from the U.S. Army, he moved into the auto industry where he worked for 30 years in management and sales. He worked alongside Al Gardner at Milford Motors, and then moved to CF Schwartz, from which he retired in 2008. Not wanting to fully retire, he and his daughter Casondra opened Gladden's Furniture, Bedding and U-Haul in 2010.

Brother Dale was a member of Calvary Wesleyan Church in Harrington and Lighthouse Christian in Milford.

Brother Dale's fraternal memberships included membership in Union Lodge No. 7 AF&AM, Dover, DE.

Brother Dale's journey in the Order of the Eastern Star began with his initiation into Victory Chapter No. 15, Dover, DE on June 27, 1988. Brother Dale served as Worthy Patron in Victory Chapter No. 15 with Sister Judith Parrott in 1992-1993 and 1999-2000, Sister Joan S. Edwards, PGM, 1993-1994, and his wife Sister Cheryl Gladden in 1994-1995 and in Kent Chapter No. 11 with his wife Sister Cheryl from 2002-2010 with the exception of 2006-2007. Brother Dale was elected Grand Sentinel in 2007-2008 and advanced to the station of Worthy Grand Patron in 2009-2010. He served with Sister Marlene D. Simpler of Sussex Chapter No. 7. They presided over the 89th Annual "Proud to be American" Session in 2010.

Brother Dale's hobbies included golfing, shooting pool, traveling, and spending time with his family. Brother Dale, and his pool team, were sent to tournaments in Las Vegas to represent the State of Delaware three different times. He always put his family first and was very invested in their lives. From family dinners to barbeques, vacations, and everything in between; he was always excited to be wherever his family was. He loved to travel in his motor coach and most recently enjoyed a trip to Tennessee, with family to enjoy the area. Brother Dale also had a soft spot in his heart for animals of any kind, especially rescues.

In addition to his parents, Brother Dale was preceded in death by two brothers, Terry W. Gladden and David Lee Gladden of Salisbury Md.

He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Sister Cheryl (Sherwood) Gladden; five daughters, Caprecia and Michael Zdradzinski, Catrena Gladden-Welch and Doug Brown, Casondra and Michael Cain, Julie-Marie Gladden, Lourdes Huerta-Ojeda and her family in Peru; ten grandchildren, Zachary (Ashley Powell), Zadriene (Allen Hickman), Zarianna, Zarek, and Zellalia Zdradzinski; Tyler Welch, Whitney-Jane Dale Welch (Buddy Bloom, IV), Chandler and Emilia-Grace Welch and Jaiden-Laura Cain; brother-in law, Robert L. Sherwood; one brother, Tinker Gladden and wife Carol; several nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

A visitation and memorial service were held Friday, October 8, 2021, at Lighthouse Christian Center, 347 Calvary Road, Milford, DE. Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions are welcome to Shriners Hospitals for Children, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa Florida 33607, or online at www.lovetotherescue.org. Arrangements were in the care of Berry-Short Funeral Homes, Felton. Online condolences are welcome for the family at www.shortfuneralservicesandcremation.com

As a token of our love and respect, we request that this memorial be read at the first state meeting after its receipt and the Altar draped for a period of thirty days in loving memory of our Past Grand Patron, Brother R. Dale Gladden, Jr.

Life is but a stopping place, a pause in what's to be, a resting place along the road, to sweet eternity.

We all have different journeys, different paths along the way, we all were meant to learn some things, but never meant to stay.

Our destination is a place, far greater than we know, for some the journey's quicker, for some the journey's slow. And when the journey finally ends, we'll claim a great reward, and find an everlasting peace, together with the Lord.

In loving tribute to Brother Gene's memory, we request that this Memoriam be read at the first stated meeting after its receipt and the Altar to be draped for a period of 30 days.

Kathleen A. Trombly
Worthy Grand Matron

Wayne A. Stacey
Worthy Grand Patron

Barbara F. Lott, PGM
Grand Secretary

