

## **Billy Ray Ringwald**

### **1935 -2019**



Billy Ray Ringwald, 84, died December 9, 2019, in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Services will be held at Strode Funeral Home December 13, at 10:30 a.m. Billy was born February 7, 1935 during the dust bowl in Moscow, Kansas to John and Eva (Wilson) Ringwald. He grew up in Ripley, Oklahoma, graduating from Ripley High School in 1954.

Billy married Rowena Riddle in 1959 and they had four children, Billy George, Patricia Ann (Patti), David Ellis and Curtis Neal. They later divorced. Billy married Bonnie Steele in 1989 and they lived happily in Stonewall, Oklahoma for 28 years. They enjoyed traveling all over the United States and serving their church in food and clothing ministries.

Billy was a proud American who considered it a privilege to serve his country in the U.S. Navy during the Korean, Viet Nam and Cold War era. He began his military career in the Naval Reserve, then active service, serving with the Pacific Fleet on the USS Carronade (IFS-1), Destroyers USS Rogers (DDR-987) and USS Mansfield (OD-728). Billy was honorably discharged at the rank of E-6 Petty Officer First Class. Billy was a member of American Legion Post 129 and served as the Post Commander in 1972-1972 and was a Lifetime Member of the Disabled. American Veterans.

Billy's civilian career began with the ASCS Department of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and he continued to work for the Government with the U.S. Health Service - Indian Health Service Branch at the Pawnee Indian Hospital and the Ada Indian Hospital. His proudest accomplishment in his civilian career was to establish the IHS Central Supply Service Center with four of his co-workers, that provided supplies to the entire Oklahoma area.

Billy is predeceased by his wife Bonnie; his parents; children, Billy, Patti and Curtis; brothers, John, Wayne, and Archie; sisters, Wanda and Lucille.

He is survived by his son, David; stepson, Bill Steele; stepdaughter, Debbie Wise and son-in-law Monty Adler; grandchildren, Jared, Jordyn and Olivia Adler; Monica and Megan Wise; Abranda Masoner; Josh and Addyson Steele; 9 great-grandchildren; brother, Dale Ringwald; and sister, Val Sims; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Commander Hanner-Sharp American Legion Post 129 1972-1973 and served 57 years in the American Legion.