



Rhonda Davis Ottinger

November 29, 1959 - November 16, 2024

Rhonda Pearl Davis-Ottinger, born on November 29, 1959 to Bobby Davis and Janice Teague Davis, left this world during the early morning hours of November 16th, 2024 after a courageous battle with cancer. Her final moments were peacefully spent surrounded by her children and loved ones. Rhonda carried the titles of Mom, Gigi, sister, girlfriend, friend, and many more. Known for her unwavering faith, strength, generosity, and kindness, she will be missed dearly by all who knew her.

Rhonda's life was spent in the servitude of others. She had a decorated military career in the United States Air Force, retiring after 16 years as a Master Sergeant. During her career she served as one of the first woman missile and space systems maintenance craftsman for intercontinental ballistic missiles, as well as a technical training and military education instructor. She also served in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm from August 2, 1990 to May 31, 1995. After retiring from the Air Force, she worked the following 20 years as a nurse. Rhonda's selfless nature was obvious to anyone who met her and she touched the hearts of many.

In her retirement Rhonda loved to fill her time being Gigi to her granddaughters, traveling, or spending the day in her garden. She was the family birthday cake baker and not a soul could resist her icing. Rhonda loved her family fiercely and this was felt by all.

Rhonda is survived by her significant other Richard Newman, son Jacob (Lauren) Colby, daughter Sara (Derek) Heim, son Matthew (Vicky) Palmer, granddaughters Evelyn Colby and Emmeline Heim, her sisters Karen Davis Graham and Donna (Kevin) Lamb, as well as many nieces, nephews, and close friends that she loved dearly.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 20, 2024 with the funeral service at 7 pm in Manes Funeral Home Chapel, with Rick Clevenger officiating.

Burial will be 10 a.m. Thursday, November 21, 2024 in the East TN State Veterans Cemetery on Governor John Sevier. Rhonda's family asks that she be remembered for the joy she brought to all, and not the sadness of her passing. Flowers and memorial gifts are welcome but not necessary.

Friends and family may sign the guest register online at www.manesfuneralhome.com

Arrangements with Manes Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

2200 E Governor John Sevier Hwy
Knoxville, TN 37920

Previous Events

Receiving Friends

NOV **20**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Manes Funeral Home Inc.
363 East Main Street
Newport, TN 37821
(423) 623-6952
manesfuneralhome@bellsouth.net
<https://www.manesfuneralhome.com/index.cfm>

Funeral service

NOV **20**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Manes Funeral Home Chapel
363 East Main Street
Newport, TN 37821

Burial

NOV **21**. 10:00 AM (ET)

East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery
2200 E Governor John Sevier Hwy
Knoxville, TN 37920

Tribute Wall



“ *Manes Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Rhonda Davis Ottinger*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - November 20, 2024 at 02:57 PM

JJ

“ *Janice Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Ottinger*



Janice Jenkins - March 23, 2025 at 12:54 AM

AR

“ *I was a classmate of Rhonda, Northport and CCHS. We had only spoken once briefly after high school. I just read the obituary and watched the tribute video. It sounds and looks like she had a very fulfilling life and beautiful family. I must say, I'm so very proud and thankful to her for her service to our country as an Airman and as a Nurse. I married an Airman who was a Medic and who taught me a few tricks of the trade to become a Nurse which was, also, my career for 40 years.
Rhonda will be missed by many, I'm sure. Gone too soon.*

Alice Rathbone Roberts - November 26, 2024 at 01:37 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 25, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ I am so very sad to learn of Rhonda’s passing tonight. I worked with her when she was a Nursing Supervisor . She was an excellent caring nurse and supervisor. Always beautiful inside and out.Her love of her children and grandchildren was unsurpassed .I loved her positive attitude though all and that beautiful smile.
Mary Alice Bozeman

Mary Alice Bozeman - November 21, 2024 at 08:24 PM



“ Donna, I am so very sorry for your pain right now. Your sister fought this for a long time. Praying for your comfort today and in the times to come. Deepest sympathy. Nancy Lafond Swanger

Nancy Swanger - November 21, 2024 at 07:08 AM



“ Donna, we’re so sorry to hear about the loss of your sister. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Tracy & Rick Valentine

Tracy Valentine - November 20, 2024 at 08:18 PM

RC

“ Karen and Donna, I'm so sorry for your loss, Rhonda was so sweet my love and prayers for you both.

Robin Coakley - November 20, 2024 at 08:06 PM

TB

“ Praying for the family. Rhonda was a beautiful person. Knew her at Ellsworth and always enjoyed being with her.

Tracy Bates - November 20, 2024 at 07:02 PM

AB

“ Karen and Donna, so very sorry to hear of Rhonda's passing... Prayers for you/entire family and community of friends... 🙏

Abby Balch - November 20, 2024 at 06:56 PM

AM

“ I last saw Rhonda at the 25th Black Hills Bandits Reunion. She was always so friendly and helpful, such a fantastic person. All us Bandits are heartbroken at her passing so young.

Art Marquardt - November 20, 2024 at 04:21 PM

MC

“ Marty Coakley lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Ottinger



Marty Coakley - November 20, 2024 at 03:42 PM

MS

“ Donna, I'm am so sorry to hear of the passing of Rhonda. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Melanie Strickler - November 20, 2024 at 11:16 AM

FV

“ Donna and family, I'm so sorry for the loss of your precious sister. I'm praying for you that God will comfort you at this most difficult time. With love and sympathy, Faye Valentine

Faye Valentine - November 20, 2024 at 10:29 AM

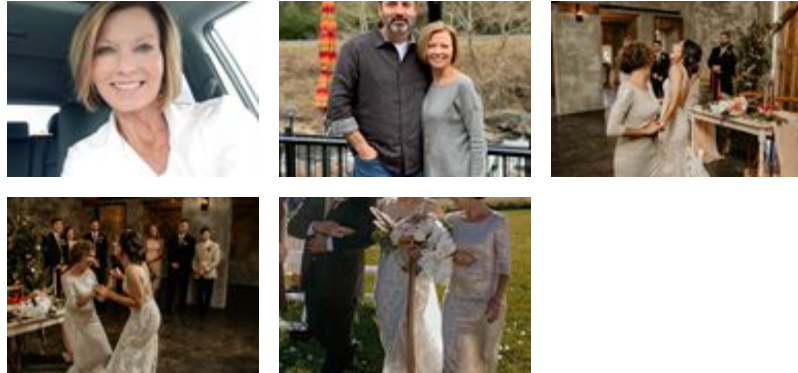
RJ

“ I met Rhonda in the late 70's. She arrived at Ellsworth AFB as a young airman, just graduating from technical training. The odds of her succeeding in the missile maintenance career field were stacked against her. It was tough work made even more difficult by extremely long hours in the missile field (over 5000 square miles), and extremes in weather that can only be imagined if experienced in person. Our equipment was bulky and heavy. A lot of folks just couldn't cut it. Rhonda was different. She was determined to make a go of it and it frustrated her when others would try to make it easy for her because she was female and oh, by the way, attractive. She overcame all obstacles and excelled splendidly. It didn't take long for her achievements to get noticed and she was selected to be a maintenance evaluator and later a training instructor. Instructing others was her forte. I believe it would be safe to say I was one of her mentors, yet she managed to teach me a thing or two. Perhaps my biggest take-aways were her positive attitude and ability to stay composed even under the most dire circumstances. We were co-workers and most importantly, good friends. Rhonda was a huge part of our missile maintenance family. Our military reunions were not complete unless she was there. The news of her cancer hit us all hard and her passing has yet to sink in. She fought it bravely and at times, it appeared she had it beat. Her faith in God never wavered. Through the many conversations she and I had, I never heard her complain or utter "why me?" I cherish the fact that Rhonda was one of my dearest friends--I already miss her terribly. We are told that God has a plan. My only guess is that he needed the best angel he could possibly hope for. Rest in peace my dear friend--you have earned your eternal wings!!

Rick Johnson - November 20, 2024 at 10:13 AM



“ 105 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - November 20, 2024 at 09:42 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 20, 2024 at 08:19 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

November 20, 2024 at 08:19 AM



“ *Dear Donna,
Condolences to you and all who loved Rhonda. May her joyful memories be happy hugs from Heaven for all.
Love, Joey & Diana*

Diana McGaha - November 20, 2024 at 07:12 AM

DM

“ *Diana McGaha lit a candle in memory of Rhonda Ottinger*



Diana McGaha - November 20, 2024 at 07:09 AM

DF

“ *Prayers for family. Rhonda was always so nice and friendly. I'm sorry for your loss.*

Dottie Ford - November 19, 2024 at 09:10 PM

MW

“ *We will always cherish the fond memories and great times we shared together. Love you*
❤️



Michael & April Weems - November 19, 2024 at 09:09 PM

JS

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy to the family.*
Doug & Joyce Shoemaker

Joyce Shoemaker - November 19, 2024 at 07:56 PM

LJ

“ Love from Aunt Joan purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



Love from Aunt Joan - November 19, 2024 at 05:51 PM

LD

“ Prayers and condolences to Rhonda's family and friends. Donna and Karen, I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers during this sad time and in the days ahead.



Matthew 5:4

Linda Dawson

Linda & Bud Dawson - November 19, 2024 at 03:39 PM

DG

“ Deepest Condolences to All of the family and friends 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️



Debra A Gann - November 19, 2024 at 03:07 PM

KK

“ Kelii K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

Kelii K. - November 19, 2024 at 02:54 PM

MC

“ Mark & Gina Colby planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

Mark & Gina Colby - November 19, 2024 at 02:10 PM

MC

“ Mark & Gina Colby purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



Mark & Gina Colby - November 19, 2024 at 02:10 PM

SM

“ When Rhonda and I were in the Minuteman III tech school she owned a Subaru Brat and her and I and a couple others would drive around the base and be goofy. She was such a beautiful and godly woman. We kept in touch through FB. I will miss you my sister in Christ.

Sue Meyers - November 19, 2024 at 12:31 PM

YC

“ Your Friends at Ready Computing purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



Your Friends at Ready Computing - November 19, 2024 at 11:46 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

November 19, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

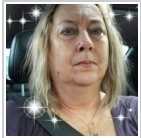


November 19, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ Thoughts & prayers for all the family.

Brenda Fancher - November 19, 2024 at 11:38 AM



“ So Sorry For Your Loss



Karen L Black - November 19, 2024 at 11:22 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 19, 2024 at 11:16 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 19, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

November 19, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

November 19, 2024 at 10:01 AM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 19, 2024 at 10:01 AM



“ I'm sorry for your loss. She did her duty on earth. Now it's time for her to receive her rewards from God.

Betsy - November 19, 2024 at 09:53 AM

LM

“ We are very sorry for your loss! We will be praying for her family and friends!

Rob and Lisa Myers



Lisa Myers - November 19, 2024 at 09:40 AM

TP

“ Karen and Donna I am so sorry for the loss of your sister. Sending my condolences to the family.

Teresa Wright Pierce - November 19, 2024 at 09:34 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 19, 2024 at 09:18 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



November 19, 2024 at 09:14 AM

WL

“ Donna, I am so sorry for the loss of your sister. I know how you feel. You are in my prayers.

Love, Waynella Ivy Large

Waynella Ivy Large - November 18, 2024 at 11:04 PM

LH

“ LHeim planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.

LHeim - November 18, 2024 at 08:28 PM

LH

“ LHeim purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.



LHeim - November 18, 2024 at 08:28 PM

MS

“ I am so saddened to see of Rhonda passing . She was the sweetest person & had a smile even through pain or grief. She is now free from pain & reunited with her soul mate. Prayers for her family & all who love her. RIP SWEET GIRL

Marilyn Shelton-Jones - November 18, 2024 at 07:02 PM

SS

“ Rhonda was one of the sweetest people I've ever met. Bryce and I loved her so much and are truly sorry for your loss.

Sherry& Bryce Strange - November 18, 2024 at 05:20 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rhonda Davis Ottinger.*



November 18, 2024 at 04:52 PM



“ *Karen and Donna we are so sorry
Rhonda was such a sweet Christian lady
Will never forget growing up with you when you came to your
mamaw Peral*

Rhonda Henderson - November 18, 2024 at 02:18 PM