



## Mr. Walter D. Nelson

June 7, 1926 - October 23, 2015

Walter Darke Nelson, 89, died on October 23 at Trinity View Assisted Living in Arden.

Born in Fall River, MA, Mr. Nelson was a career Army veteran, serving in World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. He moved his family to Asheville after his retirement from the service and worked at Three Mountaineers for 15 years and later at Taylor Instrument. He served as a volunteer in the Heart Path program at Mission Hospital for over 19 years. In addition, he was an active volunteer at The Billy Graham Training Center (The Cove) until 2008.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine Sawyer Nelson; six children, two step-children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held for Walter in mid-November at First Presbyterian Church of Weaverville. Reverend Skip Gillikan and Rev. Rick Sawyer will officiate.

# Cemetery Details

## Western Carolina State Veteran's Cemetery

Old US Hwy. 70  
Black Mountain, NC 28711

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

NOV **14**. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Weaverville  
30 Alabama Ave.  
Weaverville, NC 28787

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Walter D. Nelson*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *I just found out that my friend and co-worker at The Cove has been " Promoted " as The Salvation Army describes their workers who have gone to heaven. I met Walt back in 1999 when we worked together at The Gate house. He helped train me in the new work I was to do as a Greeter to the Billy Graham conference center. Walt had high standards and was so thorough in all his work. I always said He was the standard we all had to measure up to!! He followed all the requirements of the work we did to minute detail He invited me to sing at the nursing home just a few days before his first wife died. He enjoyed the hymn "Beulah Land " by Squire Parsons. He was indeed a great man. I enjoyed the stories he told of his military life and his civilian life. It was a joy to see him at the Gate house when we worked together as a team. I felt at ease when he was there and he lifted my fears when we shared the task of directing several hundred people at check-in times to The Cove. We would love to talk when it calmed down and would get a break. When Walt made the rounds to lock up the bldgs at night , you could rest assured it was secure!! He kept detail notes and very legible names, dates and the times for that which was required. I will miss Walt till the day I see him again in glory. Interesting to me was that Walt died on the very same "Day and Month" that my dad died, Oct 23rd (1989) which was 26 years ago in 2015. If he and my dad have not met by this time, I will ask The Lord to introduce him to my dad and mother who are already there. Thank-you Walt for the great blessing you were to me and so many, many other people. May God bless you his family and give you peace and comfort during this time. Tim Gibson, Parrottsville, TN*

Tim Gibson - February 10, 2016 at 08:41 PM

JD

“ *My memory of Walt was what a good neighbor he was when we both lived at Oak Terrace Townhomes. He will really be missed!!!!  
Love, Janet David*

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**Janet David** - October 28, 2015 at 09:24 AM

KR

“ *The legacy of Walt Nelson is far reaching. He has touched lives throughout the world through his military service, his daily life, his greeting of many at the Billy Graham cove.  
My joy has been to know him as member and officer of the G&W Investment Club and prior to that having met him at Heart Path and also shared membership with him in the former Downtown Club.  
I wish for his family God's blessings as you continue to embrace Walt's life as a part of your very own self. As John Donne stated, "No man is an island".*

*Love in grace to all,  
Ken Richards*

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**Kenneth Richards** - October 28, 2015 at 09:12 AM