



## Richard Nolte Burton

November 4, 1933 - April 7, 2022

### BEARDLESS WANDERER SETTLES DOWN

Dick Burton was the 6th child born to Mabel and Henry Burton on November 4, 1933 in Devine, Texas and passed away on April 7, 2022. He was preceded in death by his wife (Sabina) of 53 years, his parents, and all of his four brothers and one sister. He is leaving behind two daughters, Elizabeth Zimmerman and Deborah Cope and one son, Richard Jr. This was pretty much a military family as between Dick and 3 brothers: they had a cumulative total of approximately 100 years of military service, which Dick had 24 years serving throughout the world with one combat tour in Korea in 1950-1951 and two combat tours in Vietnam between 1968 and 1972. He retired as a chief warrant officer in July 1977.

In the early 50's, Dick was known throughout Texas and Missouri as the beardless wanderer. At the age of 17, he was driving interstate trucks hauling everything from grain to watermelons for a firm in Joplin, Missouri until they learned his age, then he went to become a roughneck in the oil fields, again until they found out he had not yet reached his 18th birthday as they said it was too dangerous type of work for a kid. All of that after he had spent almost a year as a combat infantryman in Korea where he had been shot at and missed, then shot at and hit. Shortly after his 18th birthday, he returned to work in the oil fields and after a days work it was common to find Dick on the tennis courts at 2, 3, or 4 in the morning.

He was a disabled American veteran that had received a total of 27 military awards for his services which included: combat infantryman's badge, purple heart, two bronze star medals, one air medal, 2 awards of the cross of gallantry, 1 with bronze star with palm, three Vietnamese service medals, with silver star and 2 bronze stars, several meritorious service medals, 4 Army commendation medals, and numerous good conduct medals plus other service medals and certificates.

Our father, an officer and a gentleman, was greatly loved and will be forever missed.



# Cemetery

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## **Mountain View Memorial Park**

4100 Steilacoom Blvd. SW

Lakewood, WA, 98499

# Comments

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“ You are my Sunshine, my only Sunshine, you make me happy when skies are grey. You'll never know dear how much I love you, please don't take my sunshine away.

I love you daddy!



Debbie Cope - May 08 at 09:33 PM

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“ Hi Daddy ... you've have been in Heaven for a month yesterday: I still can't believe you're gone. I'm not able to get better - I'm still so sad and I still cry every day. Your eyes told me you weren't ready to go, but your body was in so much pain. I'm happy all that pain you felt is no longer there and you are with Mom and Sasha; However, my heart breaks knowing you're not here with us on earth (I know kinda selfish).

You are everything to me Dad. I LOVE YOU sooo much!!

Love, Hugs, & Kisses, Debbie



Debbie Cope - May 08 at 09:29 PM

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“ Debbie Cope lit a candle in memory of Richard Nolte Burton



Debbie Cope - April 21 at 05:22 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Liz Zimmerman - April 15 at 03:53 PM

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“ Debbie Cope lit a candle in memory of Richard Nolte Burton



Debbie Cope - April 13 at 03:50 PM



“ I miss you so much dad. There is not a day I don't think about you and already there have been times I've wanted to pick up the phone and tell you something. Bella sends her grandpa big stinky puppy kisses.

Debbie - April 13 at 03:54 PM

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“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



**Debbie Cope** - April 11 at 09:59 PM

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“ I will always cherish our one on one talks together talks. Whether it was about his work at Boeing or shooting the breeze about his Model A's or home projects, Dick always amazed me at his accomplishments through life. Thanks for all the wisdom Dick!! Much love your son-in-law Derek



**Derek Cope** - April 11 at 06:18 PM

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“ Debbie Cope lit a candle in memory of Richard Nolte Burton



**Debbie Cope** - April 11 at 04:20 PM



“ Dad, you will always be loved and missed.

**Debbie Cope** - April 11 at 04:21 PM