



## Randolph Louis "Lou" Tribble Jr.

October 26, 1947 - November 11, 2021

Randolph Louis Tribble, Jr., known to many as "Lou," of Blacksburg, Virginia, passed away on Veteran's Day, Thursday, November 11, 2021, at 74 years of age. A proud veteran himself, he was born into an Air Force family on October 26, 1947, in Berlin, Germany. After returning stateside, he grew up on the family farm on the North Fork of the Roanoke River, where he continued to live on Tribble Road until his death.

Lou is predeceased by his parents, Lt. Col. Randolph Louis Tribble, Sr. and Anna Laura Henderson Tribble, and his sisters, Phyllis Kyle Tribble Harmon and Beryl Catherine Tribble Ware. Left to cherish his memory are his beloved nieces, Paige Lauren Harmon Ward (Kristopher), of Lexington, and JoAnna Kyle Harmon Sparks (Josh), of Roanoke, and great nephews Landon Kyle Sparks and Caeden Eliah Sparks. Lou also leaves behind his former wife, Valerie Sellers, and her family, Vicki and Meagan Canipe, with whom he continued to spend his holidays. Special gratitude to longtime friend Rick Weaver for his care and assistance with transportation to medical appointments during Lou's final year. Additional thanks to Dr. Dominique Dempah and his staff at Lewis-Gale Medical Center, Salem, for their care.

Lou graduated from Blacksburg High School. After serving in the Air Force at McClellan AFB, California, Lou returned to the New River Valley where he completed a degree at Virginia Tech in Industrial Arts. After starting his career in the Roanoke City Public Schools and then PATS in Giles County, he spent most of his teaching years at Pulaski County High School.

Lou was a kind and giving soul who cared about everything and everyone around him and was particularly concerned about the less fortunate members of society. He was an avid believer in the conservation of the earth and his own farm land. He believed in the protection of endangered species, especially polar bears and other creatures impacted by climate change. He was passionate about art, good literature, politics, fine cuisine, and classic vinyl music. Bob Dylan has lost one of his greatest fans.

Lou was also a dedicated member of the Blacksburg and Virginia Tech communities. He was a Golden Hokie until he was offended by the ticket redistribution, and he was a member of the Blacksburg Lions Club where he led the Art in Schools project.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, November 20, 2021, from 1:00 – 2:00 PM at

the Roanoke Valley Presbyterian Church building, 1532 Catawba Road, Blacksburg, across from the Tribble family farm. If planning to attend, please wear a face mask, as requested by the congregation. Visitation will be followed by a service celebrating Lou's life at 2:00 PM with Rev. Terry Blevins and Dr. Charles Taylor officiating. At the conclusion of the service, a procession will take Lou to his final resting place in Sunset Cemetery, Christiansburg, Virginia, with military honors.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at <http://www.mccoynfuneralhome.com>. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Virginia Tech Lifelong Learning Institute (Virginia Tech Foundation, 902 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24061) or the Blacksburg Lions Club (220 Professional Park Drive SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060).

How many times must a man look up?

Before he can see the sky?

Yes, 'n' how many ears must one man have?

Before he can hear people cry?

Yes, 'n' how many deaths will it take til he knows?

That too many people have died?

The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind,

The answer is blowin' in the wind.

Blowin' In the Wind - Bob Dylan

# Cemetery

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**Sunset Cemetery**  
501 S. Franklin Street  
Christiansburg, VA,

# Events

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**NOV 20 Visitation 01:00PM - 02:00PM**  

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Roanoke Valley Presbyterian Church  
1532 Catawba Road, Blacksburg, VA, US, 24060

**NOV 20 Celebration of Life 02:00PM**  

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Roanoke Valley Presbyterian Church  
1532 Catawba Road, Blacksburg, VA, US, 24060

# Comments

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“ Lou was a friend to all. His students loved him. The world is a better place because of his well spent life.  
Elissa Steeves

Elissa Steeves - November 20, 2021 at 07:15 PM



“ Thank you, Elissa. You are absolutely right.  
-Paige (niece)

Paige - November 22, 2021 at 07:48 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Joan Kark - November 20, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ 1995

Joan - November 20, 2021 at 11:05 AM



“ Seeing all these photos from friends is so wonderful! Thank you for sharing. His Christmas parties were always for the adults when we were growing up, but we always wanted to sneak up to his house to see what it was like. :)  
-Paige (niece)

Paige - November 22, 2021 at 07:32 AM

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“ Worked with Lou at Pulaski Co High school . Lou was a true friend to me while at Pulaski Co high school. Lou had such a great sense of humor.

**calvin Andrews** - November 20, 2021 at 12:45 AM



“ Hi, Calvin. What a colleague to have! Louis had many interesting, funny, and wild stories of his years teaching. Glad you got to enjoy them along side of Lou.

Thank you for your message.

-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:47 AM

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“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the many friends and the family of Lou...  
The nicest and most kind person ever. Lou will be missed by many.

Those were the days my friends  
We thought they'd never end  
We'd sing and dance forever and a day



**Nancy T. Duncan** - November 19, 2021 at 04:37 PM



“ Hi, Nancy! It meant so much to meet you at the graveside service. Meeting many of his friends on Saturday, including you, showed me that he found friends that radiated the kindness he showed as well. What a treasure of fellowship you all had. Blessings to you and yes, those were the days.

-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:36 AM

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“ I was blessed to get to know Lou some years ago through Valerie and her family and through his occasional visits to Morganton and Burke County, NC, and to the First Baptist Church, Morganton, where I serve as Pastor. Lou was always very easy to talk to, very kind and positive. I never wearied of talking with him about ACC football, especially his beloved Hokies and my beloved Demon Deacons of Wake Forest! I extend my deepest sympathy, and the assurance of my prayers, to his family and to his friends. Tom Bland, Jr., Morganton, NC

**Tom Bland, Jr.** - November 17, 2021 at 01:18 PM



“ Thank you, Tom. Sounds like you had some colorful conversations. What fond memories.  
-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:43 AM

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“ We are so sorry to hear of Lou's passing. He was a great guy - we knew him almost 50 years. Please accept our sincere condolences.

Karen and Kimball Liskey

**K Liskey** - November 17, 2021 at 10:47 AM



“ What a gift to have a friendship of 50 years. Thank you so much.  
-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:44 AM

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“ Sorry for your loss. Even though Louis and I were cousins and neighbors it was later in life before we actually met. The talks we had were rememberable and it makes me think I wish our paths would have crossed sooner.

My Condolences to the family.

**Greg Henderson** - November 16, 2021 at 03:30 PM



“ Thank you, Greg. Louis definitely enjoyed chatting with you. I wish there were so many more years ahead with him in all our lives.  
-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:38 AM

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“ We are deeply sorry to hear about the passing of Lou. Such a nice gentleman. We thought the world of Lou. May God comfort each of you during this very difficult time.

**Micheal (Epperley Excavating) & Family** - November 15, 2021 at 05:30 PM



“ We already miss him terribly. Thank you for your message.  
-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:45 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Randolph Louis "Lou" Tribble Jr..



November 15, 2021 at 04:17 PM

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“ Lou was the kindest, most gentle person I have ever known. One of the best of friends I've ever had. Now I start thinking about the memories. From working on a construction project together to hauling hay at the family farm.

Condolences to the family. Rest in Peace, Lou.

Patrick Garrett

**Petrik Gman** - November 15, 2021 at 01:56 PM



“ Patrick, thank you. So you got to do some hay work too? That's awesome! Seems like a lot of Louis' friends ended up in Granddaddy's barns somehow. Louis was the kindest and he loved working hard, so it makes sense he'd get everyone involved in the farm chores. So sorry for the loss of one of your best friends.

-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 22, 2021 at 07:41 AM

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“ Please accept my most sincere condolences and wishes that the family can find some comfort as you are dealing with the loss of Louis. I am a 2nd cousin to Louis on Dickerson side. Louis was in the class of 66-were are Indians from BHS.

We will be praying for all of you in this time. God Bless!

Sincerely  
Toni Dickerson Fain  
and James R. Fain

**Toni Fain** - November 15, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ Hi, Toni. Thank you for your message. He loved his family tree and all the memories with all of you.

-Paige (niece-Phyllis' daughter)

**Paige** - November 16, 2021 at 08:52 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Thomas Bube** - November 15, 2021 at 12:07 PM



“ Robin Boucher - Delbert Jones mutual birthday party, date unknown, Lou on the left.

**Thomas Bube** - November 15, 2021 at 01:07 PM



“ This is fantastic. Thank you for sharing.

-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 16, 2021 at 08:47 AM

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“ Lou was one of my VERY BEST friends. He had one of the kindest hearts that I have ever known. He shared his house in the front of his farm with me two times with no rent. We had a great garden, delicious Indian dinners, and fun volleyball games there. He and I and other friends regularly went to 117 and enjoyed great bands and friendship.

I will never forget you, Lou, and you will live in all our hearts forever.



**STEPHEN HALL** - November 14, 2021 at 07:18 PM



“ Steve, please make contact. [gpetrikgman@hotmail.com](mailto:gpetrikgman@hotmail.com). Pat Garrett

**Petrik** - November 15, 2021 at 01:58 PM



“ This is beautiful, Stephen. That little house holds many memories. You were all so lucky to have each other.

-Paige (niece)

**Paige** - November 16, 2021 at 08:50 AM



“ Treasured as a friend. Lou always had time to visit and be interested in your life. No one kinder, as has been said by many. Nancy and I always enjoyed the Underground on Friday and remember when we and Lou designed our house addition on a napkin over drinks. One should be careful of the company you keep sometime. It can be costly. Lou was one of the very good ones. Live gently.

Nancy and Charlie Maus

**Charles and Nancy Maus** - November 16, 2021 at 11:33 AM

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“ I'm a class mate Of Louis Dribble. He was a wonderful man very smart person I want to give condolence to his family and friends We will miss him. Our thoughts and prayer are with you and family. Mary Sult McMahan Class of 1966.

**Shela M Estes** - November 14, 2021 at 07:09 PM

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“ Shela M Estes lit a candle in memory of Randolph Louis "Lou" Tribble Jr.



**Shela M Estes** - November 14, 2021 at 06:57 PM