



Ronda Michelle Natera

October 9, 1962 - December 5, 2023

Ronda Michelle Natera, 61, of Temple, born Ronda Michelle Hitchcock on October 9, 1962, in Louisville, Kentucky, passed away on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, in Temple, Texas. She was a remarkable woman who left an indelible mark on the lives of those around her.

Ronda was a determined and goal-oriented individual. She possessed a resolute personality and always knew what she wanted. Her unwavering determination allowed her to overcome challenges and achieve great success throughout her life.

She began her educational journey at Butler High School in Louisville, where she graduated with distinction. Ronda's thirst for knowledge and personal growth led her to serve in the military. While serving her country, she pursued higher education and obtained a bachelor's degree. Ronda's commitment to self-improvement exemplified her dedication to continuous learning.

Entering into service on June 22, 1981, in Louisville, Kentucky, Ronda embarked on a distinguished military career. Throughout her 27 years of service, she earned numerous accolades and awards for her exceptional contributions.

Her notable achievements include receiving the Meritorious Service Medal

(3rd Award), Army Accommodation Medal (3rd Award), Joint Services Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (4th Award), Army Good Conduct Medal (9th Award), National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd Award), Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver-Wheeled Vehicles (S) Clasp/US ARMY RCTR BDG-GOLD W/ THREE SAPP ACH STARS.

Recognized for her outstanding service and dedication to duty through these extraordinary accomplishments.

Following an illustrious career in the military, Ronda retired on June 30, 2008. Her retirement marked the end of a chapter in which she undoubtedly left an indelible impact on the lives of her comrades and the nation she served.

Beyond her military duties, Ronda had a wide range of interests and hobbies. She was passionate about genealogy research, which led her to connect with her ancestral roots. Through platforms like Ancestry.com and 23andMe, she delved into her heritage, tracing her lineage back to the 1400s. Ronda's curiosity for history and love for discovering her familial origins fueled this fascinating hobby.

Moreover, Ronda possessed a remarkable talent for music. She was an avid collector of music and had an extraordinary ability to identify artists and the year in which a particular tune originated. Her keen ear served as a testament to her deep appreciation and knowledge of music.

Ronda also enjoyed spending time with her beloved pets. Her compassion extended not only to the animals in her life but also to the military family she had built throughout her career. She found joy in playing trivia games like "Name that Tune" with her military comrades, further strengthening their bonds of camaraderie.

Ronda's proudest accomplishment was undoubtedly her 27-year tenure in the military, during which she achieved the esteemed rank of Master Sergeant. Her dedication, perseverance, and exemplary service to her country serve as an enduring legacy that will continue to inspire others.

In addition to leaving behind a substantial professional legacy, Ronda forged meaningful connections with those closest to her heart. She is survived by her loving daughter, Sara Natera, who undoubtedly cherishes the memories they shared together.

Ronda is also survived by four brothers: Ronald David Hitchcock, Donald Glan Hitchcock, Jerry Bruce Hitchcock (alongside his wife Kathy), and Jeffery Karb. Additionally, she leaves behind four sisters: Sharon L. Boerste, Susan Elaine Hines, Wanda Lisa Hitchcock, Pamela K. Balcom (together with her husband Anthony). Ronda's siblings will forever treasure the bond they shared alongside their sister.

Moreover, Ronda was a devoted pet parent to two cherished dogs, Pierre and Rex. These loyal companions provided her with comfort and unwavering companionship throughout her life.

Ronda Michelle Natera was preceded in death by her father, Mr. Ronald Franklin Hitchcock, and her mother, Emma Lee (Aliger) Hitchcock; one son, baby Joseph Michael. Although she is no longer physically with us, Ronda's spirit will live on through the memories shared by all those fortunate enough to have known her.

Her family, friends, and military comrades mourn her loss deeply, but they will forever be inspired by her strength of character and unwavering

determination. Ronda's legacy of compassion, discipline, and love for family and country will continue to resonate in the lives of all who were touched by her remarkable presence.

May she rest in peace knowing that she made a profound impact on the lives she encountered.

Funeral services will be Monday December 18, 2023, at 2:00pm Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Highway with burial to follow Calvary Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 10:00-2:00pm at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

1600 Newburg Rd
Louisville, KY 40205
(502) 451-7710

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 18. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Owen Funeral Homes - Dixie Highway
5317 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 447-2600
<https://owenfuneralhome.com>

Service

DEC 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

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