



Richard George Shaffer

July 22, 1939 - November 12, 2025

Lt. Colonel Richard G. Shaffer (US Army Retired) was born on July 22, 1939, in Torrance, California, to Eugene Robert Shaffer and Marion Famous Shaffer, originally from the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area. His family moved to American Fork, Utah, in 1945 when his father began work at the U.S. Steel Company's new Geneva Steel Mill. Richard ("Dick") graduated from American Fork High School in 1957. He attended the University of Utah, earning a degree in accounting and a commission through the Army ROTC unit as an Infantry Second Lieutenant in 1963. He completed the Infantry Officers Basic Course, Ranger, and Airborne training at Ft Benning, Georgia, in 1963. In 1975, he earned his MBA in Accounting from Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia.

Richard's first military assignment in 1964 was with the 6th Infantry, stationed in West Berlin, Germany. After two years of leading troops and doing Army Intelligence work in the Soviet sector of East Berlin, Dick Branch transferred to the Army Finance Corps and was assigned to the Berlin Brigade Finance Office. His next assignment in 1967 was that of Post Finance Officer at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona. In January 1968, Dick was sent to the Fifth Special Forces Group, Green Berets, in the Republic of Vietnam, where he was responsible for ensuring funding for all Special Forces missions in Vietnam. In February 1969, he was transferred to the US Army Finance School Staff and Faculty, Ft Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Indiana. After two years on the

faculty and one year of advanced education, he was transferred to Ft McPherson, Georgia, where he served in several different positions both on the post and at the Headquarters, U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM). Dick left active duty in 1978 after 15 years of service and joined the Army Reserve in East Point, Georgia. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in April 1988, after a total of 23 years of active duty and reserve military service, as well as two years in the Inactive Army Reserve.

In March 1978, after joining the Army Reserve, Dick began work as a Department of the Army Civilian at Ft McPherson's U.S. Army Forces Command Headquarters. Assignments over the ensuing years included that of Senior Supervisory Budget Analyst and Supervisory Accountant, and at the time of his retirement in 2000, he was a Senior Financial Analyst, Office of Resource Management/Comptroller. He completed a varied, highly responsible, and rewarding 37-year career serving his country in the Army and as a DA civilian. During that time, he earned numerous medals and awards, recognizing his outstanding service.

Dick served in many roles in both the Presbyterian and the United Methodist Church denominations. Music has played a large role in his volunteer life in recent years - both in the Cornerstone United Methodist Church Choir in Newnan and singing baritone in the Men of Cornerstone Southern Gospel Quartet, which traveled throughout the area.

Dick was a very active volunteer with Boy Scouts from Cub Scout through Boy Scout levels. He was an Assistant Scoutmaster for two years and a Scoutmaster for seven more years. He was the South Fulton District Advancement Chairman for eight years and a Unit Commissioner and Chairman of the South Fulton District for one year. In 1985, he worked on the National Boy Scout Jamboree staff. He served as an Assistant Council Commissioner for three years, covering South Fulton and Clayton County

Districts. He chaired the Atlanta Area Boy Scout Council's Train-the-Trainer program in 1988 and was a Scoutmaster for the Council's Junior Leader Training in 1989/1990. In 1996, he was asked to be the Atlanta Area Council Advancement Chairman, a position he held until moving to Newnan in 2004. He was awarded the Council Silver Beaver Award in recognition of his outstanding and dedicated service. After moving to Newnan, he served for several years on Eagle Scout Rank Boards of Review for Coweta District, Flint River Council.

Dick married Kay Nagel of Pleasant Grove, Utah, in 1959. He is survived by their daughter, Nina Shaffer Stubbs (Jay), and three grandchildren, Mitchell Stubbs, Jessica (Andrew) Flores and their child Arthur, and Ian Stubbs, and son, Scott Shaffer, of Johns Creek. Dick is also survived by his sister Carol Jean Leibr, of Palm Bay, Florida, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dick is preceded in death by his wife, Kay Laverne Shaffer, and his sister, Alma Connally.

The memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026, at 2:00 PM at Cornerstone United Methodist Church, 2956 Sharpsburg McCollum Road, Newnan, GA 30265, with Dr. Brian Germano officiating. The family will receive friends from 1:00 PM until service time.

Interment will take place at Georgia National Cemetery on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 11:30 AM with military funeral honors.

Those who wish may make contributions to their charity of choice in Dick's memory.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
2956 Sharpsburg McCollum Road
Newnan, GA 30265

Funeral Service

JAN 31. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
2956 Sharpsburg McCollum Road
Newnan, GA 30265

Graveside Service

FEB 2. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Georgia National Cemetery
1080 Scott Hudgens Drive
Canton, GA 30114

Tribute Wall

LG

“ Scott and Nina, We recently learned of your Dad's passing from Ed and Martha Nolan. It saddens us to know his light is not shining directly among us but his light endures through those who love him and have been so privileged to know him. Such a solid, giving person who knew how to laugh yet be serious about what matters. The photo you selected is joyful. We pray for your peace. - Gene and Laura Gettler



Laura Gettler - April 11 at 01:17 PM

MR

“ Dick was the best boss I ever had. We remained friends right up to the end. He was always cheerful and saw the best side. I will miss our periodic phone conversations. God bless the family, and all my old FORSCOM friends. We lost a good one, but heaven has gained one of the best!!!

maureen richardson - January 30 at 05:19 PM

MR

“ Maureen Richardson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard George Shaffer.

Maureen Richardson - January 30 at 05:13 PM

MR

“ *Maureen Richardson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Richard George Shaffer.*



Maureen Richardson - January 30 at 05:13 PM

KB

“ *Dick Shaffer was one of my favorite people in this world! He was always cheerful and had a smile on his face. Even in the worst of times. I will miss all of our conversations and all of the wonderful stories he had to share. He was a blessing to all of us that had the privilege to know him. He no doubt is now spending his time with his dear wife, Kay, and is happy they are finally re-united! My condolences to the family and to the many friends Dick Shaffer had!*

Kathy Blakeley - January 26 at 02:42 PM

EG

“ *Dick always had a smile on his face and something good to say. I would like to send my condolences to the family.*

Eileen Giffin - January 09 at 02:53 PM

FP

“ I was so sorry to hear of Dick's illness and subsequent passing. I began working for him in 1989 when he was head of Budget Formulation in Forces Command Headquarters. Dick was a jewel to work for, a true professional, a family man, and he gave me an opportunity to learn the budget lingo when I returned from a 3-year employment at USAREUR Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. For that, I am forever grateful to him. He opened the door for me to attend a major women's program that eventually led to me transferring to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA. Fond memories will remain in my heart. I thank God for having the opportunity to know and work for and with him. Fran Plunkett

Fran Plunkett - November 24, 2025 at 02:18 PM



“ I was so sorry to read about your Dad's passing. I remember first meeting him - and you - at Mountain Jubilee, and that was a long time ago! Later I found we also had a connection through preserving Scouting history. My sincere condolences to all your family.

Margaret Paschal - November 19, 2025 at 02:53 PM

SY

“ I've known Dick since 1945, grew up in the same church, he married one of my dear friends and sorority sister, and his parents are buried next to my parents in American Fork. We kept in touch all these years through email, phone and holiday cards. Loved Dick and Kay. Sarah Seibel Yates

Sarah Yates - November 18, 2025 at 09:36 AM

JR

“ Dick was a lifelong friend. We first meet in 1966 in Berlin Germany. Our families lived side-by-side while assigned to Ft Harrison, IN. Our last meeting was at the RAFINO reunion in Indianapolis. We talked at least once a month during the his last years. A wonderful friend who will be dearly missed. Jim & Kathie Rusk

Jim Rusk - November 16, 2025 at 04:37 PM