



Ralph Eugene Eslinger

January 17, 1943 - July 14, 2023

Ralph "Gene" E. Eslinger, age 80, of Strawberry Plains, passed away Friday, July 14, 2023, at Jefferson Memorial Hospital.

Ralph was born January 17, 1943, in Jefferson County, son of Ralph T. Eslinger "Jack Rock" and Ruth Oakes Eslinger. He was married to the love of his life for 48 years, Anita Sue Alexander Eslinger. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force and a longtime member of Holston Baptist Church where he loved attending. Gene enjoyed reading his bible. Gene operated Roadside Market for 17 years and then worked for 33 years as a dispatcher for Walker Trucking. He also served as a Jefferson County commissioner for 8 years in the 6th district.

Preceded in death by his wife, Anita Sue Alexander Eslinger; parents, Jack Rock and Ruth Oakes Eslinger; siblings, Charles Eslinger, Sue Houser, James "Jady" Eslinger and Billy Eslinger.

He will be greatly missed by his son, Mark Eslinger; grandson, Dylan Eslinger; siblings, Betty Jo Heath, and Maxine Britt; sister-in-law, Shirley Eslinger.

The funeral will be held on Friday, July 21, 2023, at Holston Baptist Church 1012 Andrew Johnson Hwy, Strawberry Plains, TN 37871 at 7:00 pm with Pastor Toby Downey officiating. The family will receive friends prior to the

funeral from 5:00-7:00 pm. Family and friends will gather at Eastview Memorial Gardens on Saturday, July 22nd for an 11:00 am graveside service with military honors. Fielden Funeral Home is honored to serve the Eslinger family.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Holston Baptist Church
1012 Andrew Johnson Hwy
Strawberry Plains, TN 37871

Funeral

JUL 21. 7:00 PM (ET)

Holston Baptist Church
1012 Andrew Johnson Hwy
Strawberry Plains, TN 37871

Graveside

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Eastview Memorial Gardens
1320 Andrew Johnson Hwy
Strawberry Plains, TN 37871

Tribute Wall

Teresa
Wilhite

“ I remember as a child going into Roadside and listening to mam maw and pap paw talking to Nita and Gene..my whole childhood had memories of them...later we got rock from Gene and flowers from Nita....they were a big part of my family....you will be missed by plenty of people in the Strawberry Plains community...enjoy heaven you got this!

Teresa Wilhite - July 16, 2023 at 12:47 PM

S"

“ Gene was my first dispatcher at Walkers. Didn't think he liked me at first but we got close over the years. 1 favorite thing was when he had the pet chicken, he even had it a collar and would walk it. I took pictures and had them posted on our bulletin board at work. He was a good man, and will be missed

Sheila Bolden "Shakey" - July 16, 2023 at 10:06 AM

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“ I remember the pool tables and Anita running the grill and uncle Gene running the cash register and the beautiful flowers Anita made and uncle Gene off to delivering in the van and visiting Dad and uncle Gene at walkers. And the last one he pulled in my driveway in his truck and he remembered me but he wanted me to help him to find his brother, Billy driveway, Rest in peace Uncle Gene



Tammy Miles (Eslinger) - July 15, 2023 at 03:41 PM

EM

Gene was good man he was best dispatcher walkers had when I worked there he's going be missed for sure I'd get a kick out of him Anita pull up with his food I'd say gene your boss is here he'd jump up out the chair run out get his food

Ernie Moody - July 16, 2023 at 07:38 AM

JM

Gene really was a kind soul, he made coming in to work something to look forward to. Always had some good advice when I was a young truck driver with attitude problems. He made a difference in my life and changed our family's life for the better with his guidance. Rest in peace Mr. Eslinger.

James Martenet - July 16, 2023 at 08:09 AM