



## MARTIN "VAN" VAN BUREN CHAMPION JR.

April 10, 2022

Martin Van Buren Champion "Van", 74, of Woodstock, AL, was born in Tuscaloosa, AL, raised in Pleasant Grove, AL and spent most of adult life in Woodstock. He died peacefully at home on Sunday April 10, 2022 after a short battle with cancer. He attended Hueytown High School. He joined the Navy in 1965 and served 4 tours in Vietnam. He received an Associate degree in law enforcement from Jefferson State while working as a Police Officer in Bessemer, Alabama. Later switched careers to be an Owner Operator of Champco Trucking until he retired.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Martin and Geneva Champion of Gordo, AL; sister Sharon Lynell Champion of Gordo, AL; and granddaughter Kendal Denise Champion of Woodstock, AL. He is survived by wife of 52 years, Becky Mason Champion; son Greg Champion (Donna) of Woodstock, AL; daughter Amy Kilgore (Scott) of Arley, AL; grandchildren Mason Ellard, Alexandria Ellard Bowlen, Madeline Kilgore, Kaci Champion, Jackson Champion, and Carson Champion; great grandchildren Braxton Bowlen, David Bowlen; brother Hal

Champion (Sandra) Hendersonville, TN; and several nieces and nephews.

The visitation will be from 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM, Thursday, April 14, 2022, at Peoples Chapel Funeral Home. The funeral service will be at 10:00 AM at the Funeral Home. Burial will follow at 12:30 PM at Alabama National Cemetery, Montevallo, AL.

In lieu Of flowers the family request that you hug your loved ones tight and consider donating to the St Jude Hospital.