



David Raymond Emery

August 21, 1945 - May 5, 2021

David R. Emery, 75, of Wilmington, NC, passed away on May 5, 2021 after a short battle with Pancreatic Cancer.

Dave was born on August 21, 1945 to Raymond and Ida in Trenton, NJ. After graduating from Allentown High School in New Jersey in 1963, he went on to study Biology at Wilmington College in North Carolina.

After graduation, he was drafted into the US Army and served two tours in Vietnam and Germany. After serving in the army, David enjoyed many occupations including blueberry farmer, pilot, college professor, landscaper and horticulturist.

In 1967 he met Donna Lester, and they wed in 1970, going on to have 2 children, Josh and Joel.

After retiring in 1999, Dave spent his time creating an arboretum and bird sanctuary on their property, fishing and listening to music which was a common thread throughout his life. Dave never met a stranger and treated all who met him as friends. David was fascinated with life and became a student of everything he encountered. Friends acknowledged his remarkable knowledge, patience and kindness. David had a variety of nicknames throughout his life. David's legacy are the many, many trees he has planted for all to enjoy for many years. David will be greatly missed as he was a remarkable individual.

Dave was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his wife Donna and his children, Josh (Olivia) and Joel (Jennifer), and his sister Clara (Bill).

Tribute Wall



“ So sorry for your loss. Dave was a special guy and he will be greatly missed

Cindy and Mike Milton - October 17, 2025 at 02:56 PM