



## Ret. MSGT David John Rulestead

December 16, 1964 - September 12, 2024

Funeral services for Ret. MSGT David John Rulestead, 59, of Overton, will be held at 2:00 PM on Friday, September 20, 2024, in the chapel at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home with Dylan Lee officiating. Interment with military honors will follow at Lakewood Memorial Park under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends from 12:00 PM until service time on Friday, September 20, at the funeral home.

Mr. Rulestead passed from this life on September 12, 2024, at his residence. He was born December 16, 1964, in Elkhorn, Wisconsin and was baptized into the Lutheran church. He has lived in Overton since 2019. After graduating from high school, Dave enlisted in the United States Air Force and served his country honorably for 20 years, retiring in 2003. He then transitioned into over the road truck driving and was currently working for Decker Truck Line.

Dave was an outdoorsman with an adventurous spirit. He loved to hunt and had no problem jumping out of an airplane to skydive. He was a kind spirit with a heart of gold that never met a stranger although he did enjoy picking at those he knew and loved. Mr. Rulestead was a family man. He loved his family dearly and adored his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Survivors include his wife Shanda Rulestead of Overton, children Matthew Davis, Markus Davis, and Sylvia Rodriguez and fiancé Alan North, daughter-in-law Abigail Rodriguez, all of Overton, Christina Gonzalez and husband Carlos of New Haven, Michigan, David Rulestead Jr. of Grand Rapids, Michigan; sister Michele Neisent and husband Mike, nephew Anthony Neisent, niece April Rose Arapahoe and spouse Justina, all of Rapid City, South Dakota, and grandchildren, Cataleya Davis, Ariel Davis, Romie Smith, Cashe Davis of Overton, and Luke David Gonzalez.

Pallbearers will be Matthew Davis, Mike Neisent, Alan North, Dylan Lee, Allen Lawhorn, and John Davis.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516 or online at <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Lakewood Memorial Park

Hwy 64 and 323  
Henderson, TX 75652

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 20. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

## Service

SEP 20. 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

# Tribute Wall



“ Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Ret. MSGT David John Rulestead



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - September 20, 2024 at 06:26 PM

LB

“ Totally shocked. I was thinking about him recently. I was dealing with a forklift at work & he is the one that taught me how to drive one when we worked together at Home Depot in Summerville, SC. Great sense of humor & we were always ribbing each other. He gave my husband & I a deer he shot because at the time we had 6 kids in the house. We got along great both us being retired Veterans him the Air Firce & me Navy. When our nasty manager at HD was going to throw his Air Force coat in the trash after letting him go, I took it to give back to him. He went to work at a gas station for a bit. I tied to get together with him to get his coat to him but he got into trucking & I never saw him again. Pretty sure I still have his coat. This sucks. Only one year older than me. Life is but a vapor. 🇺🇸 🇩🇪 🇨🇦



Lavada Blejski - September 24, 2024 at 11:54 AM



“ Uncle David. U were always my favorite uncle. I wish I would have kept in contact more. I know u are smiling at all of the people who cared about you. You were amazing I love you. April and Justina Arapahoe



April Rose - September 20, 2024 at 03:10 PM

S?

“ My first favorite memory is when you decided to not only be my mom’s husband but to be my dad. My dad who cared and loved me unconditional. My dad who supported all my good decisions and was there when the bad ones failed. Dad always had a shoulder to lean on, really tight hugs who made all the nightmares away, a hand to hold when I need, a proud father you are of my brothers and I. Mainly me lol.. jokes. But the man who chose us. Who chose the good and bad. Who taught me everything I know. Taught me how to cry when I needed to. Taught me that warm hugs weren’t just in frozen but in real life too, my literal hero who took under his wing. But I am forever thankful to call him dad. I love you dad! take care of my baby and Delilah until we meet again<3



Sylvia  - September 18, 2024 at 07:10 PM

AN

“ Thank you for all that you’ve done. In such little time you inspired me to one day become the kind of hard working, and loving father that you are. It’s hard to believe that I won’t be making any more memories with you but I will continue to cherish the ones that I do. Rest In Peace Father In Law



Alan North - September 18, 2024 at 06:13 PM

EL

“ Eddie and Tammy Lawhorn lit a candle in memory of Ret. MSGT David John Rulestead



Eddie and Tammy Lawhorn - September 18, 2024 at 05:21 PM

EL

“ Dave, from the moment I met you I know you were the man for my best Shanda. You brought her so much love, happiness, and laughs and for that I am forever thankful. You were a great dad, husband and friend my brother. So until we meet again my friend we will carry on till it is our turn to come that way and I know we will see you and your goofy grin again. You are dearly loved and missed my friend. Edward and Tammy Lawhorn



Eddie and Tammy Lawhorn - September 18, 2024 at 03:56 PM

AN

“ *Uncle David please play with Delilah and don't forget to watch the Green Bay Packers. I love you Anthony*



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**Anthony Neisent** - September 17, 2024 at 08:41 PM

MN

“ *Brother Dave we will miss you dearly! We love you more than our hearts can express. Please know that the football pool will not be the same without you! Hugs and kisses from one Packer family to another . RIP brother love you Mike and Michele Neisent South Dakota*



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**Mike & Michele Neisent** - September 17, 2024 at 08:39 PM