



William "Sam" Burnley III, of King George passed peacefully, surrounded by family on Saturday, December 15, 2007 at 4:48pm at Mary Washington Hospital after a valiant battle with MS.

Sam, 59, was born in Charlottesville, Va to the late William S and Virginia Burnley Jr. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Robin Leigh Burnley. He is survived by his loving wife of 40 years, Gloria Burnley; his devoted son, William S. Burnley IV of the home; three devoted daughters and their husbands, Charlotte & Scott Moore of Stafford, Catherine & James Hansen of Stafford, and Rose & Donald Gallitz of Triangle;

6 grandchildren, Cameron and Samantha Moore and Julia, Jacqueline, Clara and Caitlyn Hansen; one sister, Marie Barton of Ripley, Md; Mother-in-law, Olga DeYuliis of Waldorf, Md and numerous family members from around the states.

A 1966 graduate of Lackey High School, Indian Head, Md, Sam earned a BSME in 1970 at Va Tech in Blacksburg, Va. At the end of his 10 yrs of service to the Maryland National Guard, he had become the Commander of the La Plata armory. After 33 yrs of service to NSWC, Dahlgren he retired as a Mechanical Engineer where he received many awards including the Distinguished Community Service Award. Sam was instrumental in many Navy programs such as Hi-Frag, SMAW & the USS Iowa turret explosion investigation. He served Boy Scouting as a Den Leader and Scoutmaster for 10 years and achieved OA Brotherhood. He is a Past President of the Dahlgren Lions Club, a member of the Hudson-Morris Masonic Lodge and served the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Sam has a gentle soul and was a mentor and inspiration to all who knew him.

The family will receive friends from 3-5pm and 6:30-8pm at Nash and Slaw Funeral Home in King George, VA Dec 19th. The funeral will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in King George at 10am on Dec 20th followed by interment at Trinity Memorial Gardens in Waldorf, MD with a reception at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Please visit the guestbook at www.caringbridge.com samburnley

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, King George, VA or the King George Rescue Squad.