



## Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr.

October 18, 1963 - February 13, 2021

Masks are required while in the building viewing, and for all funeral and graveside services. Please practice safe social distancing.

Here is link for the Carl Franks live stream. The live stream will start will start at the moment the service starts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CPRQPCwl4e4>

City of Birth: Ardmore, OK

Father: Carl Franks, Sr.

Mother: Eva Gaines

Sisters: Lor. Raine Samuels and Rita Allen

Brothers: Jody Franks, Ricky Franks, and Vince Franks

Spouse: Clinette Franks

Children: Shayla Franks, Jordan Franks, and Bethany Franks

Grandchildren: Shaun and Jimi

Occupation: Director of youth programs for the Oklahoma Military Department

Education: Ardmore High School

College and Beyond: Masters in Athletic Education - Oklahoma State University

Col. Franks was a devoted family man who loved to cook and BBQ with

friends. He also had a passion for golf.

# Previous Events

## Burial

MAR 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Dunbar Cemetery  
Marietta, OK 73448

# Tribute Wall

VB

“ *Veola Bray lit a candle in memory of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr.*



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**Veola Bray** - March 07, 2021 at 11:45 PM

JC

“ *Jeff Cooper purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



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**Jeff Cooper** - February 22, 2021 at 10:03 PM

KS

“ *Clinette,*

*There is no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal. Our prayers are with you and your entire family.*

*Keith Sr. & Terri Toles*

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**Keith Toles Sr.** - February 22, 2021 at 02:58 PM

LS

*Keith,  
Thank you for coming out to support our family. It was great to meet more of our family members from the Marietta area. We look forward to meeting your wife & family.*

*The family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 22, 2021 at 03:32 PM

AD

“ *Franks Family,*

*Sending my Heartfelt Condolences the family and prayers for God's mercy and grace during this difficult time.*

*God Bless,*

*Al Durr*

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**Alfranda Durr** - February 22, 2021 at 01:25 PM

LS

*Al,  
Thank foe for taking time to express condolences. Please keep the prayers coming. The days ahead will be tough.  
Be Blessed,  
The Family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 22, 2021 at 03:39 PM

KC

“ *The Franks family has blessed innumerable other families, students, and their community. I have so much love for you Clinette, and pray that you are held in God's grace in your sorrow.*

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**Katie Cortest** - February 22, 2021 at 01:09 PM

LS

*Katie,  
Thank you for your kind words. We have been blessed and honored to serve others. As we grieve our loss of Carl, we trust God will continue to lift our spirits, comfort, and give us hope through his grace.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 06, 2021 at 01:36 AM

MG

“ *Clinette,  
My deep sorrow in your family time of grief.  
May strength and peace fill you.*



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**Mrs. Gradnigo** - February 22, 2021 at 11:36 AM

GR

“ *Sorry to hear of passing of Colonel Franks. I served with him on the Director Army Nation Guard Equal Opportunity Committee. Wishing peace to the family and bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your heart. Love, my deepest sympathies.  
SGM (ret) Gary E. Robinson Sr.*

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**Gary robinson** - February 22, 2021 at 11:03 AM

LS

*Gary,  
We deeply appreciate you for taking time to share your relationship with Carl. He spoke fondly of the EOC committee. We love Carl and will miss him always. Yes, we are so blessed to have so many wonderful memories.  
Be Blessed,  
The Family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 22, 2021 at 04:00 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



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February 22, 2021 at 10:07 AM

RM

“ *Our sincere thoughts and prayers of comfort for the Franks family. Carl will be missed by his STARBASE family.*

Rita Miller - February 22, 2021 at 09:48 AM

LS

*Rita,  
Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during such a difficult time. Yes, Carl will be missed by so many folks. Please keep those prayers coming.  
Be Blessed,  
The Family of Carl Franks*

Lorraine Samuels - February 22, 2021 at 04:04 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



February 22, 2021 at 09:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



February 22, 2021 at 05:26 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear of Carl's passing. We will be praying for all of the family.*

*Reggie, Cornelia(Punkin), Max and Isabella Bass*

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**Cornelia Bass** - February 21, 2021 at 10:14 PM

LS

*Dear Bass,*

*Thank you for praying for our family. We have been blessed by your prayers.*

*The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:12 PM

SS

“ *Sincere condolences to Clinette and family. Carl was a friend a colleague. He was of the most hard-workibg and intelligent men I ever had the pleasure of working with. God Bless the entire family.*

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**Scott Swyden** - February 21, 2021 at 04:51 PM

LS

*Scott,*

*Thank you for your kind words. Yes, Carl was very passionate about his family, friends & the youth he mentored. I know he was pleased to work beside you as well.*

*The Family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 21, 2021 at 05:23 PM

KF

“ I am saddened to hear of Carl's passing. I remember Carl well from high school and from time serving in the 1345Th. Serving with him was an honor and I am thankful for his leadership during some difficult times. Carl was the kind of guy that made you want to give it your best. He wasn't just my commander. He was a friend and I am a better person for knowing him. God bless you Carl Franks!

*Kevin French*

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**Kevin E. French** - February 21, 2021 at 01:03 PM

LS

*Kevin,  
Thank you for your kind words and for sharing your memories. I know Carl was blessed and honored to serve with you as well.  
The Family of Col. Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 21, 2021 at 05:18 PM

LW

“ I was so sorry to hear of Carl's illness and passing. Carl and I worked around each other in the Guard for over twenty years, and very closely my last two years when he was our Director of Youth Programs. While I can't begin to understand your grief in losing a husband and father at such a young age, I can tell you that for his Oklahoma National Guard and Military Department family, he is irreplaceable. He has made a tremendous difference in the lives of his Soldiers as well as hundreds of young people in our Youth Programs, and this will be remembered forever. I know you know this, but Carl's whole life was his family. He loved you all dearly and was so proud. We miss him and will endeavor to live up to his example of servant leadership.

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**Louis Wilham** - February 20, 2021 at 06:35 PM

LS

*Louis,*

*Thank you for your kind words. Carl loved serving his family, country, soldiers, and helping any youth he met. We all miss him and he planted seeds in each of our hearts that will live on forever. We are blessed.  
The family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 21, 2021 at 05:29 PM

“ My sincere condolences to the Carl Franks family. Those of us who knew him and soldiered with him will miss him and he will always have our respect. But for his family that loved him dearly and that he loved even more, you will feel that this loss is almost unbearable. From experience, I know the hurt and that you will have to grieve for a season but with time this intense pain ease. Carl would not want you to dwell on this for too long, he would want you to live your lives to the fullest. Be thankful you had him in your lives, keep him alive in your hearts, remember the good times you shared with him and honor him by being the kind of person that would make him proud of and for you. Though he was taken home sooner than expected, I believe, based on some long talks we had during Desert Storm, he is in heaven today and living large. So let part of your grieving process be a celebration that this is not the end but just a new beginning where someday you will be together again.

*I was blessed to have Carl as my company commander during Desert Shield/Storm. He was one of the best officers I ever served with in the Guard. He was not only a good officer he was a good friend and confidante. We had several serious talks during our deployment discussing everything from our daily routines, upcoming missions, how to work with or around the chaos of our higher commands, how best to take care of the health and welfare of our company to our own personal fears, inadequacies and strengths; these conversations helped us both and created a bond that few people ever experience. Due in part to his leadership every soldier that left for Desert Storm with our unit came back home alive and by in large had been well cared for while they were deployed. After Carl left 1345 we didn't see or talk to each other very often, as often happens with true friend, but we always knew if either of us was in need, just a phone call and help would be on the way.*

*Carl was always a gentleman, true to his convictions and his word was his bond traits and attributes that would make our world a better place if more people would emulate. You will be missed sir and until we meet again, rest in peace.*

*Sincerely,*

*David A. Gaither  
MSG, OKARNG (Retired)*

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**David A Gaither** - February 20, 2021 at 04:04 PM

LS

*David,  
Thank you for sharing your friendship with Carl. He was a soldier ready to serve his country, lead his soldiers, complete the mission, and bring his troops home. Carl loved his family and friends. He was blessed to call you friend. We are celebrating Carl's life and saying "see you over yonder" to him.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 06, 2021 at 01:51 AM

DC

“ *We Rev.Eugene Bellard ,Pastor of the Nazarene Baptist Church Dunbar,Okla send our sincere condolence to the family of Col.Carl Frank's Jr. We will continually pray for the entire May God bless each and everyone of you family .*

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**Debra Gaines/Nazarene Baptist Church** - February 20, 2021 at 01:46 PM

LS

*Nazarene Family,  
Thank you for your condolences and continued prayers.  
We know you deeply feel our loss.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 06, 2021 at 01:26 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



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February 20, 2021 at 01:29 AM

LH

“ My sincere condolences to Carl’s family and those who knew him. I addressed him as Carl although I deeply respect his rank and his career accomplishments however; he was so much more than that to me as a friend, mentor and leader. He was the CO of the 1345th Transportation Company when I deployed with him as a Lt to Desert Storm. I know that in private we were both really nervous about going to war but his steadfast, sincere concern for all of us drove him to being an outstanding and respected leader. He stood his ground and fought for his soldiers to be the best and respected by others. I remember one night about midnight on highway (about a 100 miles west of Dammam, Saudi Arabia, and the location of our unit headquarters) that all of our trucks were parking to spend the night. I was in charge of the company convoy as I was arguing with a CPT and MAJ of the battalion that we hauling equipment for. They wanted us to drive on through the night and I assured them we were spending the night right there. Carl showed up out of nowhere and said, “What’s going on?” I told him what the argument was about and he pointed at me and said, “Yeah, what he said.” End of discussion and we went to bed. We didn’t know he was coming out to find us but he drove all the way out there just to check on us. He was much quicker than we realized. One day in Kobar Towers (our unit housing near the port of Dammam when we were not out on the road) 1LTs Les Bussell, John Roberts, and myself thought together we could take him. We jumped in and he grabbed my arm so quickly he almost dislocated my arm and scared the other 2 LTs so much they jumped back as he body slammed me and nearly broke my shoulder. Those stupid ideas ended quickly but he was still fun to mess with.

One day after I returned from long grueling mission on the road, I went in the unit command tent at the port of Dammam. Carl was there at his desk and the first thing he said was “ Welcome back Holland. I know you’ve been on the road and you like to blow things up but I’ve got this letter from Army Headquarters and if you’ve got any explosives; you better give them to me or put them in the amnesty box outside” We had a short discussion about the last mission and the next mission. I went outside to my vehicle and got

*out the last hand grenade I had found and had not blown up yet. I walked back in and rolled it across his desk (still safety wired of course) and said "There you go"! He almost fell out of his chair as I grabbed it and got rid of it.*

*In all seriousness he was pleasure to know and serve with. He will be greatly missed. My prayers are with the family; may you have peace and comfort knowing he is loved by so many that are better people for knowing him.*

*CPT Lonnie Holland, USA, retired*

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**Lonnie Holland** - February 20, 2021 at 12:17 AM

LS

*CPT Holland,*

*Thank you for sharing those great stories. The military family of the deployed soldiers pray that all of our men complete their mission and return home. It good to hear the lighter side and the great relationships built. Carl was definitely Army Strong and built to lead.*

*The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 06, 2021 at 01:11 AM

DW

“ I first knew COL Franks in Ardmores, where he was from. In 1990 he was a 1LT in 1345 Transportation Company and the Commander to both of my sons. I was the CSM for the 245 Transportation Battalion, the higher headquarters for 1345. My two sons were going off to war in the care of 1LT Carl Franks. The men and women of 1345 couldn't have been in better hands. They shipped out Christmas Eve 1990. Commander Franks provided caring, proficient and sound leadership.

I had a chance to visit with COL Franks at the casing of the Colors of 1345 Trans Co in September 2018. He asked about my sons and we reminisced about our days with 1345.

I pray that our Lord and Savior grant the family the strength to bear this loss and give you His peace. Carl Franks, a truly good human being.

CSM David J Willingham, USA, Retired



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David Willingham - February 19, 2021 at 04:47 PM

LS

CSM Willingham,  
Thank you for your kind prayers. Carl was honored to serve his country. He was proud to lead men like your sons. Thank you for sharing. Carl's legacy will continue and grow through all the seeds he planted with purpose. He believed in paying it forward and investing in our future leaders. For this reason, his legacy will continue.  
The Franks Family

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Lor.Raine Samuels - March 06, 2021 at 01:23 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..



February 19, 2021 at 04:39 PM



“ Angie, Emily, and Sara purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..



Angie, Emily, and Sara - February 19, 2021 at 04:23 PM



“ My condolence to the family from the late Willy Gaines Family. (Pamela and the boys)



PAMELA LEWIS GAINES - February 19, 2021 at 02:05 PM



Pam & Boys,  
Thank you for your condolences. We miss you guys.  
The Franks Family

Lor.Raine Samuels - March 06, 2021 at 12:44 AM

KT

“ Words can't express the sorrow felt. Carl was a GREAT MAN!!!! I will miss this GREAT FRIEND.. Praying that God will comfort you for now and evermore... ❤️ Love Always.  
Karen Tucker and Family



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**Karen Tucker** - February 19, 2021 at 01:40 PM

LS

*Karen and Family,  
Thank you for praying for our family. Please know, we are blessed and comforted by your prayers.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:47 PM

DH

“ *Rest in Peasce Brother. All the Way, Airborne!*

*1SG (R) James D. Howard and Family*

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**David Howard** - February 19, 2021 at 11:31 AM

LS

*David,  
Carl loved parachute training. He shared so many stories about his jumps. He always wanted to be stunt man.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 06, 2021 at 12:56 AM

LD

“ Colonel Franks was an amazing man and I am glad that I had the privilege to know him from years of mentoring with Thunderbird Youth Academy. His love and dedication for all of the youth in the program was very admirable and he will definitely be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, coworkers and every one that had the opportunity to know him. I attached a picture from the Oklahoma Mentor Day 2019 when I got to have a wonderful talk with Mr. Franks after I received my award for being Mentor of the Year.



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**Lauren Dewey** - February 19, 2021 at 11:27 AM

LS

*Lauren,  
Thank you for sharing this photo. Yes, he loved the young folks at the Academy. Carl shared so many wonderful success stories. He was very proud of students. We know his memory will live on through mentors like yourself.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:54 PM

KJ

“ There are no words to express what Carl Franks meant to so many people. I have known Carl since he worked with my dad, CSM(ret) Darrell Robinson, with the National Guard. Then, I was blessed to work with Carl myself as a state employee at the Oklahoma Military Department. Carl was not a only a family friend, he was a mentor and upheld the epitome of what it means to be a leader. I saw Carl every day and he always had a smile on his face, time to chat, and was always able to get in a fun quip since I am a Sooners fan. I will miss Carl more than words can say. My sincerest and deepest condolences and prayers are with Carl’s precious family now and always.

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**Kendra Jones** - February 19, 2021 at 10:18 AM

LS

Hi Kendra,  
Thanks for sharing your memories of Carl. We appreciate your prayers and kind words. He loved mentoring and you were a blessing. Carl's purpose was to serve others. He believed in paying it forward. We miss Carl.  
The Franks Family- Go Pokes

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..



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February 19, 2021 at 10:15 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



February 19, 2021 at 09:13 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..*



February 19, 2021 at 09:05 AM



“ *Carl was a very kind and caring person. I am thankful for his mentorship, friendship and having the opportunity to work with him. My thoughts and prayers continue to be with the family during this difficult time.*

**Shay Varner** - February 19, 2021 at 08:58 AM



*Shay,  
Thank you for sharing your friendship. We know Carl was blessed to mentor you because that was his purpose work. Please keep the prayers coming.  
The Franks Family*

**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:42 PM

PW

“ *My deepest condolences to the Franks family. Carl was close friends with my late husband Reginald Allen who past away 10 years ago...May God comfort you as you go through this very difficult time. You are in my prayers.*



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**Phyllis Williams** - February 19, 2021 at 07:15 AM

LS

*Phyllis,  
Thank you for your kind words. Yes, Carl was friends with Reggie. We all grew up together in Ardmore. We miss Carl. He left us all with a many special memories.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:07 PM

JR

“ *Col. Franks was our (1345th TC Oklahoma Army National Guard) Company Commander during Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He also was our Company Commander for a period of time at our Company's armory in Ardmore, Oklahoma. It was an honor to serve under Col. Franks during that time. A good officer and a good man.*

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**Jim Garner, SFC retired** - February 18, 2021 at 09:56 PM

LS

*Mr. Garner,  
Thank you for your service. Carl loved serving our country. He was honored to work with great soldiers like yourself. Thank you for honoring Carl by sharing your relationship and experience with him. Carl will be missed.  
The Family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 19, 2021 at 12:35 AM



“ *I worked with Carl in Moore Public Schools. He was a kind man.  
Condolences to the family.*

**Vicki Brickman** - February 18, 2021 at 09:01 PM

LS

*Ms. Brickman,  
Thank you so much for expressing condolences. We will all miss Carl.  
The Franks Family*

**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 10:01 PM

JG

“ *Praying for the Franks family may God continue to bless you with  
your needs during this difficult time.*

**Joyce Gaines Gooden** - February 18, 2021 at 08:34 AM

LS

*Joyce,  
Thank you for praying for our family during this very difficult time.  
Please know your prayers were felt. We are so blessed to have you  
and so many other prayer warriors.  
The Family of Carl Franks*

**Lorraine Samuels** - February 19, 2021 at 12:30 AM

TS

“ *I am praying for the family. Thesis R. Franks, Sr.*

**Thesis R. Franks, Sr.** - February 18, 2021 at 06:36 AM

LS

*Uncle Thesis,  
Thank you so much for your guidance and continued prayers and  
support.  
Love,  
The Franks Family*

**Lorraine Samuels** - February 19, 2021 at 12:25 AM

TW

“ Terricita Williams purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Col. Carl Lambers Franks, Jr..



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**Terricita Williams** - February 18, 2021 at 06:29 AM

CU

“ A kind man dedicated to the success of others. I am thankful for his mentorship, friendship and having the opportunity to serve with him.

*God Bless*

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**Curtis** - February 17, 2021 at 06:18 PM

LS

*Curtis,  
Thank you so much for your kind words. Carl loved mentoring and I know he was honored to serve with you as well. Thank you for taking time to share your friendship with our family.  
The family of Carl Franks*

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**Lorraine Samuels** - February 19, 2021 at 12:23 AM

GB

*Glenn Brooks (CW2). Retired*

*The many travel trips in State and out of State, will always be a memory with me, of Col. Frsnks and team teaching EEO courses. He was a leader and A friend to many soldiers. My prayers are with HIS family.*

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**Glenn Brooks** - February 19, 2021 at 12:57 AM

DR

*What an incredible loss we have to endure. There are not many that come along in your life that their impact not only affects you , but your child. Carl and I go back to "early days" in the Guard. Carl was someone that was above all "larger than life". There are not enough words to accurately describe Carl because he would have exceeded every one of them. Our life has been enriched and blessed just by his friendship. Our deepest sympathy to his entire family both at home and work. Prayers are with you all.*

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**Darrell Robinson** - February 19, 2021 at 10:21 AM

LS

*Darrell,  
Thank you for your kind words and for sharing your memories. Carl truly loved folks. I know he was blessed through your friendship.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 05, 2021 at 09:57 PM

LS

*Glenn,  
Thank you for sharing your memories. We appreciate you for praying for our family.  
The Franks Family*

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**Lor.Raine Samuels** - March 06, 2021 at 01:00 AM