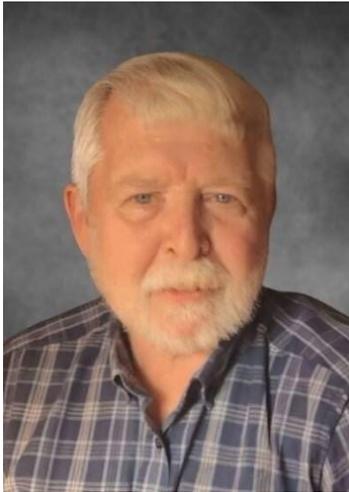


Tommy W. Drake



Tommy Drake served in the 1st Platoon of the 101st RRC in 1971.

Born in 1951, he passed away in 2025 at age 73.

Tommy Drake Obituary

Tommy "Pap" Willis Drake, 73, of New Castle, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at Henry County Community Health. Born on September 6, 1951, in Albany, Kentucky, he was the son of the late William Chester and Bonnie Mell (Wallace) Drake.

A proud graduate of Knightstown High School in 1969, Pap went on to serve his country with honor in the United States Army during the Vietnam War, completing three years of active duty and serving a total of seven additional years in the reserves and National Guard.

Known lovingly as "Pap," he was nothing short of invincible in the eyes of his grandchildren. He was a devoted family man, and his love for his wife, Jayan, and his family was unwavering. Pap found joy in life's simple pleasures – fishing trips with Jayan, so she could fish, country music, and Western TV shows, especially those featuring his favorite cowboy, John Wayne.

A true fighter, Pap battled through nearly every form of cancer with the strength and grit that defined his character. His resilience and deep love for his family will be remembered always.

Pap is survived by his wife of 51 years, Jayan Drake; children, Liz Douglas and Jeremy (Heather) Drake; grandchildren, Maddison Smith, Morgan Douglas, Lilli Drake and Bentley Drake; sisters, Patty Ripberger, Connie Brown, Neenah Spiker and Beverly Groce; many nieces and nephews.