



# Rodger Orval Woltjer

AUG 26, 1941 - NOV 8, 2019



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## Rodger Orval Woltjer

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**F**ERNANDINA BEACH, FL –

Rodger Orval Woltjer, 78, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, November 8, 2019, after complications from open heart surgery last week. A Funeral Mass will be Celebrated on Friday, November 15, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kathleen, Georgia. Visitation will be held at the church at 10:00 a.m., one hour prior to the service. Interment with full military honors will also be held on Friday, November 15, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. at the Pavilion in Andersonville National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial contributions to Folds of Honor at [www.foldsofhonor.org](http://www.foldsofhonor.org), Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation at [www.tunnel2towers.org](http://www.tunnel2towers.org), or the donor's favorite military charity.

Rodger was born in Alexandria, Louisiana, to the late Edward and Doris Rohen Woltjer. His family moved to Grand Rapids when Rodger was an infant, where he lived until 2001. A graduate of Rogers High School, he attended Grand Rapids Community College, earned a Bachelor's Degree at Calvin College, and went on to earn a Master's Degree from Michigan State University. Rodger proudly joined the Michigan National Guard in 1966, served sixteen years then joined the U.S. Army Reserves. After having proudly and honorably served his country for another sixteen years, he retired as a Colonel. During his thirty-two years in the military, Rodger worked as a Chemist and a Science Teacher. Upon retirement, he authored several books on military history, including Military History of the United States and several books detailing the various Army Support Services during the American Civil War. Rodger and his wife spent five years living in Perry, Georgia, near their youngest daughter, and were active in St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kathleen. For the past two years, they have lived in Fernandina Beach, Florida, enjoying the year-round warm weather. A dear husband, loving father, and wonderful grandfather, he will be greatly missed by all those who had the pleasure of knowing him.



## Obituary

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Left to cherish the memories they made with Rodger are his loving and devoted wife of 54 years, Katherine Woltjer of Fernandina Beach, FL; his daughters and sons-in-law, Michelle and Jim Liggett of Allegan, MI, Susan and Bryan Darrah of Lexington, KY, and Jennifer and Mike Lewis of Hawkinsville, GA; three grandchildren, Austin Darrah and Tyler Darrah of Lexington, KY, and Madison “Mattie Jo” Lewis of Hawkinsville, GA; his siblings, David Woltjer (Nancy) of Hastings, MI, Lois Ann Woltjer of Dorr, MI, Norman Woltjer (Jan) of Jenison, MI, and Kathy Laukert (George) of Kalamazoo, MI; and several nieces and nephews.

Condolences for the family may be left in the online guestbook at [www.watsonhunt.com](http://www.watsonhunt.com). Watson-Hunt Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.



# Events

**Rodger Orval Woltjer**

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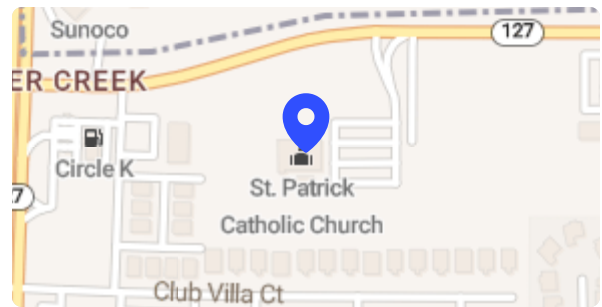
## Visitation

- Friday**, November 15, 2019
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
- St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
2410 GA Hwy 127, Kathleen GA 31047



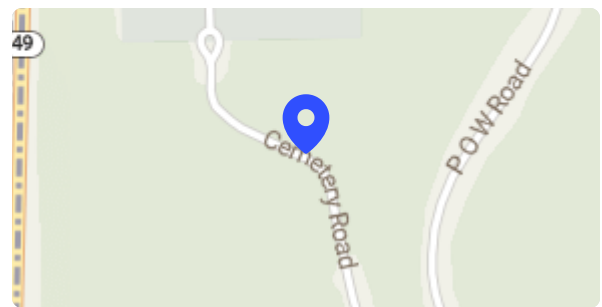
## Funeral

- Friday**, November 15, 2019
- 11:00 AM ET
- St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
2410 GA Hwy 127, Kathleen GA 31047



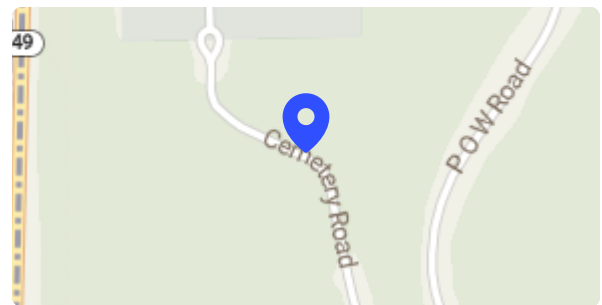
## Graveside Service

- Friday**, November 15, 2019
- 2:00 PM ET
- Andersonville National Cemetery**  
496 Cemetery Road, Andersonville GA 31711



## Cemetery Details

- Andersonville National Cemetery**  
496 Cemetery Road, Andersonville GA 31711





## Tribute Wall

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**Jan And Dave Lang** posted:

Dear Kathy and family, So sorry to hear about Rodger. We're sending our deepest sympathy wishes and prayers. Love, Jan and Dave Lang

November 15 at 2:30 PM



**Jane Chandler** posted:

Norm, Lois Ann, Kathy, David, Katherine and families please accept our heartfelt condolences in the sudden loss of Rodger. You are in our prayers Jane Chandler and Deb Schuitema

November 14 at 5:54 PM



**Ray Bok** posted:

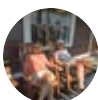
Dave and Nancy I am so sorry to here about Rogers passing. Would you pass on my condolence to your brothers and sisters and Rogers wife and children. God Bless Ray Bok

November 14 at 1:37 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Healing Tears - Blue and White to the Woltjer family.

November 14 at 6:42 AM



**Lynn Rhodes-Miller** lit a candle in honor of Rodger.

Sue, Bryan and family, I am so very sorry for the loss of your father. I know how much you love him. He will be with you forever. Prayers for strength and peace.  
Lynn Miller

November 14 at 12:51 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Love's Embrace Roses - White to the Woltjer family.

November 13 at 3:06 PM





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**Kay Dawson** posted:

Jennifer, I am so sorry to hear about your Dad. Dads are special men given to girls so they will know what to look for in a good husband. From what I have seen you had and have two great ones. Love y'all bunches. Hug Mattie for me.

November 13 at 6:11 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Red, White & Blue Sympathy Floor Basket to the Woltjer family.

November 12 at 8:17 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Peach, Orange & White Mixed Fireside Basket to the Woltjer family.

November 12 at 7:49 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Classic Sympathy Dish Garden to the Woltjer family.

November 12 at 2:31 PM



**Doug & Jo Ellen Byrd** lit a candle in honor of Rodger.

November 12 at 1:29 PM



**DB** **Doug & Jo Ellen Byrd** November 12 at 1:38 PM

So sorry Jennifer for the loss of your Father. We had such a nice conversation at one of the Christmas parties. Could tell his family was so special to him



## Tribute Wall

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**Dianna Woltjer And Family** sent a Love's Embrace Roses – Purple to the Woltjer family.



November 12 at 8:37 AM



**Lois Ann Woltjer** posted:

So sorry Kathy & the their girls & Grand kids.

November 12 at 7:40 AM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Rodger by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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