



## Wilfred Joseph "Buddy" Provost

July 6, 1945 - June 4, 2022

Wilfred Joseph Provost ("Buddy"), 76, of St. Augustine, passed away on June 4, 2022, with his wife and family by his side. He was born in Tallahassee to the late Maurice and Olivine Provost and grew up in Vero Beach. He attended Vero Beach High School where he formed and maintained life-long friendships.

Following high school, he joined and served his country for 27 years in both the United States Air Force and Florida National Guard. His time in the service led to deployments in England, Italy, Germany and Saudi Arabia. Further, his travels in the service brought him great pride and provided him an opportunity to design and build infrastructure for schools in underprivileged areas throughout Central and South America. Following his retirement from the U.S. Air Force, Buddy continued his career as a civil engineer for the State of Florida Department of Transportation. He would later retire from the DOT and close out his career at EC Driver where he retired in 2006. His time spent as the starting catcher for 5+ years on the EC Driver softball team and participating in weekend fishing tournaments brought him considerable joy and lasting friends.

Buddy moved to Tallahassee in 1977 with his wife, Frances, and then three children (Tammy, Rick, Paul); the two would complete their family with the birth of Scott and Chad. Buddy spent 40 years in Tallahassee raising his

family, which included endless baseball games, soccer matches, graduations and active volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America. He utilized his personal experiences in the military and Eagle Scout knowledge to teach his sons and others in Troop 109 the fundamentals of camping, fishing, and hiking through areas including the Appalachians and Atikaki Provincial Park Canada.

In 2007 he moved to the Sea Pines Community of St. Augustine with Frances. He spent his final 15 years forming a new set of friendships, fishing in the intercoastal, taking drives through the national forest, and being better known as “Pops” by his grandkids. He was loved by all.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Frances Provost; children, Tammy Kozacko (Mark), Rick Kelly (Dana), Paul Wilfred Provost (Libby), Scott Provost and Chad Provost (Kate); sisters, Susan Lee, Mary Whitaker(Dave), Martha Provost; 13 grandchildren; very close cousins, Clifford and Susan Cloutier and TJ Provost; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 3:00pm on Saturday, June 11, 2022 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home with Father Ken Herzog officiating. Buddy will be laid to rest at Tallahassee National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu flowers the family request you make donations by clicking here (<https://onrealm.org/trinity-sta/-/form/give/now>) to Trinity Parish Church, or by choosing the charity of your choice.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 11. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

ST JOHNS FAMILY FUNERAL HOME  
385 State Rd 207  
St. Augustine, FL 32084

# Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Wilfred Joseph "Buddy" Provost*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - June 10, 2022 at 01:35 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memorial Service*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - January 30, 2025 at 09:42 AM

BB

“ I met Buddy in the summer of 2007, just after we moved here from Maryland to Sea Pines. Buddy stopped by one morning as I was out in the yard and introduced himself as being here from Tallahassee. From that and over the years, we spent a lot of time together, mainly doing "ride about", as Buddy called them. We would get into his pickup, jeep, or any vehicle and ride about over the town, counties or throughout the state, visiting lots of places in which Buddy was familiar. Old stores, lakes, back roads, and fishing places were just a few of our excursions. And all gave us time to share our stories about our past growing up. Intertwined in all of this were of our families and friends. We never got to Sanibel or Captiva, but I heard about Buddy living there as a kid and about the "Mosquito nWars" in which his Dad was involved. Through the years I got to know of his love of fishing (we did a lot of that too), his years in the service and our shared experiences as Eagle Scouts. He made the best sausage gravy and biscuits to get us to Gainesville and the Gator football games. As, I know reflect on his passing, I will always cherish and remember Buddy and I am lucky to have had him as a friend.

**BRUCE BAGGETT**

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**Bruce Baggett** - June 11, 2022 at 02:17 PM

PF

*Thank you Bruce. You were a true friend to him to the end.*

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**Provost Frances** - June 18, 2022 at 11:30 AM



“ 55 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**St. Johns Family Funeral Home** - June 10, 2022 at 01:35 PM

BG

“ *Rest In Peace Buddy! I'll never forget our time together in the Vero Beach Jaycees and the contribution's you made to our success! Number one club in our division Florida Jaycees!*

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**Bob Grice** - June 10, 2022 at 09:57 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Wilfred Joseph "Buddy" Provost.*



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June 09, 2022 at 03:22 PM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wilfred Joseph "Buddy" Provost.*



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June 08, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Buddy Provost was a key member of the 919th CES at Duke Field. Throughout many years of demanding deployments and complex training exercises we could always count on his productive engagement and consistent encouragement. I am thankful to have known and served with Buddy and am particularly pleased to know that he has now met Jesus face-to-face.*

*All of his fellow members of the 919th CES extend our condolences and best wishes to his wife, Frances, and his entire family.*

*Les Coggins*



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**Les Coggins** - June 08, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *Buddy was like the big brother I always wanted to have. I was very blessed to have been able to call a very close friend. Tom Payne*

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**Tom Payne** - June 07, 2022 at 02:06 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wilfred Joseph "Buddy" Provost.*



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June 07, 2022 at 12:32 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Wilfred Joseph "Buddy" Provost.

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June 07, 2022 at 12:29 PM