

LITCHER, John Hannibal

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LITCHER WINSTON-SALEM John Hannibal Litcher Feb. 4th, 1939 - Feb. 22, 2014 My name is John Hannibal Litcher. I left my earthly home on February 22, 2014. I was 75 years old at the time of my death. I was born in Winona, Minnesota, on February 4th, 1939, to Hannibal and Helen (Ferguson) Litcher. I graduated from Lewiston High School (Minnesota) in 1957. I joined the United States Navy while in high school, and proudly served my country for three years of active duty and as a reservist until February 1963. I was a "tin can" sailor and my last destroyer was the U.S.S. Laffey (DD-724) whose final home is at the Patriot's Point Naval Museum in Charleston, SC. On June 4, 1960, while on leave from the Navy, I married my high school sweetheart, Ramona Ann Olstad of Rushford, Minnesota. We were married fifty three wonderful years and she survives me at our home in Lewisville, NC. She was truly the love of my life and we look forward to reuniting in the place that God has reserved for us. In addition to Ramona, I am survived by three very, very special "children" and their extraordinary spouses. They are: Jade John Litcher and wife Cathi of Raleigh, NC; Jeffrey Claire Litcher of Charlotte, NC; and Danta Ann Mills and husband Randy of Cary, NC. I have also been greatly blessed by four grandchildren. They are; Cameron Jaye Litcher and Shane Wilkinson Litcher of Raleigh and Jorie Kate Mills and Loren Anne Mills of Cary. My family knows that I love them with all my heart. In "real" life, I was a teacher/professor. My formal education comprised of a BS from Winona State University in 1964 and a MS and PhD from the University of Minnesota in 1970. Initially I taught at the Rochester Minnesota Public Schools and the University of Florida, followed by thirty two years at Wake Forest University. My tenure at Wake was a continued blessing and I have many special memories of the administration, the staff, and most importantly the delightful students. If I have one accomplishment that can be found at the top of my "achievement list," it was in my role of volunteer that I am most proud. I spent decades at Crisis Control Ministries and Youth Opportunities Homes, and over twenty five years at the organization that brought volumes of rewarding experiences to my life - The Lewisville Volunteer Fire Department. I served the Lewisville Fire Department through various roles as a Member of the Board of Directors and President of that Board for fifteen years, as a Support Team Member Firefighter and as a woodworker and painter for the many projects around the station. The members of the Department were, and are, my family away from home and I love each one of them as a brother or sister. I would be remiss not to thank Dr. David Hurd for his relentless determination and uncompromising friendship throughout the many years I have known him. I would like to recognize Dr. Hurd's staff at the Comprehensive Cancer Center of Wake Forest University for their dedication and sincere passion toward their patients. Additionally, I would like to thank the entire team from Hospice,

especially nurse Jenn Haag and Chaplain Meghan McSwain for their kind and compassionate care. I have asked for a Celebration of Life service to be held at Station #13 located at 9420 Shallowford Road, Lewisville, NC on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 2:00 pm. Please come to share some stories and be there with my family and friends. Should friends desire, memorials may be sent to Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home at 101 Hospice Lane, Winston-Salem NC 27103; Lewisville Fire Department at 9420 Shallowford Road, Lewisville NC 27023; or Rushford Lutheran Church at 101 South Mill Street (P.O. Box 399) Rushford, MN 55971, where a service will be held at a later date.