



## Mr. Mickey D. Massengale

November 15, 1947 - February 1, 2024

Mickey D. Massengale, 76, passed away on February 1, 2024 at Kindred Acute Long-Term Hospital in Melbourne. He was husband to Rosemary Nelson, and they shared 40 years of marriage together.

Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, he was the son of Arthur and Mildred Massengale. He joined the Army at age 17, celebrated his 18th birthday in Vietnam, and retired after 22 years as First Sergeant at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 1988. His career included field medic in Vietnam (2 tours) and Germany, License Practical Nurse in Hawaii, and senior Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) schools and assignments. He met Rosemary in El Paso, Texas, when she was at William Beaumont Army Medical Center, which is where they married in 1983. Mickey was a staunch NCO, focused on the mission and also able to enjoy a good laugh! Mickey retired in 1988, & as he said: "I am at the sunset of my career & Rosemary's career is just taking off"! Mickey followed Rosemary's Army career until she retired after 26th years in 2003.

Mickey was a member of the Savannahs Golf League, playing every Tuesday & Thursday, and when not golfing he was building golf clubs for himself and others. He will be remembered for enjoying the game of golf and the camaraderie, along with 19th hole gatherings after golf. He loved to fish and enjoy jaunts out on his pontoon boat.

He is survived by his spouse, Rosemary; brothers-in-law, Dennis & Kenneth Nelson; his sister, Phyllis Massengale-Baldwin; and his son John Massengale and wife Kathy. Uncle Mickey was fortunate to have nieces, great-nieces, nephews & great-nephews in both the Massengale and Nelson families.

A military memorial service will be held on May 10th at 1PM at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery 5525 US Highway 1, Mims, FL 32754, with interment to follow (family only).

A Celebration of Life gathering is planned directly after the memorial at the Savannahs Golf Course Club starting at 2/2:30PM.

Memorial donations/in lieu of flowers may be made in Mickey's name to Wounded Warrior Project ([www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)).

# Cemetery Details

## Cape Canaveral National Cemetery

5525 US-1  
Mims, FL 32754  
(321) 383-2638

# Previous Events

## Graveside

MAY 10. 1:00 PM (ET)

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery  
5525 US-1  
Mims, FL 32754  
(321) 383-2638

# Tribute Wall

KE

“ Karen E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Mickey D. Massengale.

Karen E. - May 08, 2024 at 10:17 AM

RH

“ Randy and Susan Hinton purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Mickey D. Massengale.



Randy and Susan Hinton - April 21, 2024 at 02:29 PM

RH

“ Randy and Susan Hinton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Mickey D. Massengale.

Randy and Susan Hinton - April 21, 2024 at 02:29 PM

BG

“ Rosemary,  
My sincere condolences on the passing of Mickey. Thoughts and prayers are with you during this time

Barbara Grugan - March 11, 2024 at 11:46 AM

DM

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



David and Monica - March 10, 2024 at 07:43 PM

HJ

So sad to learn of Mickey's passing. He was a great man and a great friend. Goodbye Mickey.

H. Gregory Jaranko - April 14, 2024 at 11:35 PM

GM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. He will be missed my so many. I will forever remember the good times we had together. He gave the best hugs. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers. Grace Martinez

Grace Martinez - March 10, 2024 at 01:03 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Mickey D. Massengale.



March 10, 2024 at 11:35 AM

CH

“ Curtis and Carolyn Herrin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Mickey D. Massengale.

Curtis and Carolyn Herrin - March 10, 2024 at 11:35 AM

DS

“ Mickey was a SFC when we met. I was a SP5 Army Reservist active duty. We were assigned to the 810th Station Hospital, NLR, AR, for approximately 2 yrs. He became like a big brother to me & I learned a lot from him as he was a medic. He introduced me to his older brother whom I later married & Mickey was our best man. Then a year later Mickey & Rosemary married in El Paso, TX. Ralph & I moved to Florida (Merritt Island) & lived there for 8 years. After Desert Storm/Desert Shield my grandmother had passed away & my dad was in bad health so I transferred back home. I was a Special Agent for the Dept of Defense & did background checks on both civilian & military. It was because of both Mickey & Ralph’s encouragement that I proceeded to even pursue such a task. After we moved back I only got to see Mickey & Rosemary on 3 occasions. The first assisting me doing a memorial to his brother/my beloved husband when cancer took him from us in Jan 2000. The second time was in May 2000, I flew to Hawaii & spent a few days with Rosemary & Mickey in Hawaii. The last time was in 2009, I was in Orlando for a conference & took some leave & went to visit with them. Bottom line wether we were working or being with family, Mickey had my back, I learned a lot from him, loved him like brother.



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**Doris E. Massengale, former sisterinlaw** - March 09, 2024 at 12:02 PM

GA

“ Mickey was so much fun to be with. He could always make me laugh and he was definitely one of the “good ones”. Dave and I miss him.

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**Gail** - March 09, 2024 at 11:12 AM

LC

“ Mickey could always make me laugh, he had a way that could easily bring that out. Jokerster aside, he was caring and always gave good advice. The best memory of Mickey is how much he loved Rosemary, one of my oldest friends. He was her rudder to her sailboat of life.

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**Lisa Vaccara Cowne** - March 08, 2024 at 10:54 AM

NY

“ Uncle Mickey was always there. He was there for a good talk, to share his wisdom, many days of fishing, many days at the ball field cheering his nephew on, and always enjoying his family even if it meant going to NFJ.  
We will forever miss you Uncle Mickey.  
We hope in heaven the fishing is great and the courses are beautiful!



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**Niki Nelson Young** - March 07, 2024 at 10:26 PM

DN

“ Uncle Mickey was one of the most inspirational people in my life. I wouldn't be where I am today, if it's wasn't for his support and guidance through various stages of my life. His absence is felt by all that have met him.

*Until we meet again. -- Shark Bait*



**DJ Nelson** - March 07, 2024 at 05:27 PM

DF

*We considered Mickey a great friend. Gave great hugs. Loved talking about some of his adventures. He was a very special man and loved Rosemary and family to pieces. We enjoyed every minute we were all together. Donna and Lee*

**Donna Stamatakis and Lee Fink** - March 08, 2024 at 11:52 AM

DF

*Special man*

**Donna Stamatakis and Lee Fink** - March 08, 2024 at 11:53 AM

MF

*He will be missed.*

**maralyn fowler** - March 09, 2024 at 07:36 AM

CM

*Mickey - a man who enjoyed life. He will be missed.  
Cathy Madigan*

**Cathy Madigan** - March 10, 2024 at 02:19 PM

DM

*Will always have great memories of Sarge!  
He was so happy when we encouraged Rosemary to start playing golf.  
He did give great hugs! He will be missed.*

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**David and Monica** - March 10, 2024 at 07:29 PM

CH

*When I first received this from Rosemary, I cried every time I tried to write something but, now with fondness, I can. We met them at Cocoa Beach country club on the tee box. They made the mistake of asking us if we wanted to join them. The rest is history. Many Brats, ribs, gatherings, trips and of course, golf fueled a lasting friendship. Mickie used the "Nike" method of golf; just do it. He would get up to the ball and without preamble hit it. It was usually a good ball. I can't say the same for me! This always impressed me. He always had the hot tub primed if we wanted to come over and relieve sore muscles and backs. Covid came and we found a way to stay in touch and still stay safe. He drove the boat over to our dock and while they stayed in the boat, Curt and I sat on the dock and we shared cocktails and enjoyed just being out in open air. He was devoted to Rosemary. When she got sick, he shared his anguish. He loved her and it was so obvious. The last trip we took with him was rough on him due to high altitude but he only mentioned briefly. That trip was memorable because we weren't sure if we were going to lose both of them. While the rest of us were upstairs on the porch, Mickie and Rosemary were getting their fishing gear ready. A huge (did I say huge?) black bear decided to take stroll less than 30 yards(according to Curt) from them. We got their attention to alert them and they continued to work. Later, Mickie laughed and said he looked around to decide where to go if the bear took an interest and the only place he figured would be safe was the car so voila, keep going. So did the bear. Many memories. Not enough time. We love and miss you Mickie.*

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**carolyn herrin** - April 15, 2024 at 12:40 PM

CH

*"Would you like to join us?" That's how it started around 2013. Yes, it was 18 holes of golf. Whatever we did got us another and another and yet another invite. We had a lot of commonalities. Strong independent wives, military, fishing and so on. OR maybe he just liked making snide remarks about the Air Force. He had to agree our chow hall was better and not to mention my living quarters, as a young GI of only two to a room. It so out did the Army.*

*As time passed we adjusted to each others strengths. I could wear pink, him, NO. If we teamed up we might be able to overrule the wives. We could laugh at our own jokes even with the silence that sometimes followed from the ladies. If the stars aligned there were trips together and memories were made. When that wild Huge black bear walked within 50 feet of him and RoseMary, he mentioned to me later, his first thought was he couldn't run faster than her and he knew the bear would take the larger food source. Memories.*

*When the time comes we will toast a shot of scotch and relive 10 years of memories.*

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**CURTIS HERRIN** - May 08, 2024 at 02:24 PM