

TRIBUTE TO DANNY FROM A LOVING COUSIN

September 15, 2023

I am Linda Swafford from Tennessee. Danny Willoughby is my 1st cousin. We were very close growing up when he would get to come to Tennessee to visit.

We spent countless hours hunting, fishing, and just goofing off. Danny's Grandma Willoughby came one time with him to visit us. He would drive us to see Aunt Pauline Frank at Morris Chapel, TN. Danny would act like he was going to turn into every lefthand road. He would pretend to turn the wheel by sliding his hand over the wheel toward the left and she would have a fit. She would get on to him and he would just laugh & laugh. I can still hear him laugh. If you have heard him, you know what I mean.

Danny was drafted into the army during the Vietnam War. He had to go and fight in that worthless war. One night, when Aunt Lois (his Mom) was in Tennessee, she had to share my bed... Around 2 AM...the Lord woke Aunt Lois and me to pray for Danny. We prayed hard for him until we felt the burden left. I wrote him a letter the next day telling him about the ordeal. When I finally got a letter from him, he told me—at that time, day & hour—they were under heavy fire and about half his pontoon was wiped out. God delivered him! Our God is powerful!

After Danny got out of service, we were squirrel hunting close to Forked Deer river. It was swampy and he said it reminded him of [Vietnam]. A deer was walking in the wooded area and he push me to the ground and had his rifle scanning the area. He said Charlie is out there. In a minute, he was apologizing. He said he had a flashback of what he went through in Vietnam.

God delivered him from that when he received the Holy Ghost. He was a changed man. When the spirit of the Lord came into his heart. He started witnessing to people and bringing them to church. He helped so many people come to God. He helped people with encouragement, he prayed with them and helped a lot with finances. Some folks took advantage of him but it didn't stop him from helping when he could. Danny loved Jesus and the people that God wanted him to help. Danny would call and encourage me when I was sick or down & out.

He would tell so many stories of things that happened to him and that God delivered him out of. God healed him time after time. Danny had faith and he knew he served a powerful God!

We will miss Danny tremendously but Heaven will rejoice. He will be reunited with family and friends. I have 4 sisters, Mom, Dad, and a son that will welcome him...

Until we meet again, Danny, I love you!

Linda Swafford

