



1SG(RET) William "Bill" P. Hayden

October 31, 1946 - February 22, 2026

Bill, age 79, passed away on Sunday, February 22, 2026. He was a resident of Hammond, LA. Bill was a proud American Patriot who served his country for 25 years in the United States Army, retiring with the rank of First Sergeant. A devoted soldier, he completed two tours in the Vietnam War. Bill's military career was a source of immense pride, and he carried the values of duty and honor throughout his life. Beyond his service to his country, he was a member of Woodland Park Baptist Church as well as the Hammond/Ponchatoula Sunrisers Rotary Club. Bill enjoyed going fishing with his wife, Debbie. He could often be found happily working or riding on his tractor. Bill was a strong and honest man with a heart of gold. He leaves his family with countless wonderful memories and will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Debbie Hayden; daughter, Rebecca Briggs (James Easley); sons, William Hayden, Thomas Hayden (Lauren); 10 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and extended family, David Malbrough (Carolyn).

Bill is preceded in death by his parents, Desirie and Margaret Hayden; brothers, Thomas Hayden, Joseph Hayden; and sister, Willie Mae Hano. Pallbearers will be Ricky Malbrough, Damian LaFont, David Malbrough, Kelly Watts, James Easley, and Aaron Bailey. Honorary pallbearers will be Kevlin Braun and Stan Damerion.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the visitation at Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home at 1190 Hwy 51 N. Ponchatoula, LA 70454 on Friday, February 27, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Visitation will continue on Saturday, February 28, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. until the funeral service at 2:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Hungarian Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Albany Hungarian Presbyterian Church Cemetery

30767 Hungarian Presbyterian Church Road
Albany, LA

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 27. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Ponchatoula, LA
1190 Highway 51
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
(985) 370-9296

Visitation

FEB 28. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Ponchatoula, LA
1190 Highway 51
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
(985) 370-9296

Funeral Service

FEB **28**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Ponchatoula, LA
1190 Highway 51
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
(985) 370-9296

Tribute Wall



“ *Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of 1SG(RET) William "Bill" P. Hayden*



Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - February 26 at 10:23 AM



“ *Debbie Hayden lit a candle in memory of 1SG(RET) William "Bill" P. Hayden*



Debbie Hayden - April 05 at 06:04 PM

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“ Mr. Bill "Impact/more power", my heart is beyond broken. My "adopted grandfather" who filled a major void where I had no biological figure to look up to or seek out for life advice. My trusted advisor when it came to working in the yard, taking pride in our land and most importantly, our trees! The best neighbor anybody could ever ask for, hands down! I'll never forget the friendship, stories, laughter, cries and life lessons we experienced together. I'll forever miss hearing the lawnmower/tractor/power tools/generator noises through the trees and knowing that it's just you, so everything should be alright. But for sure keep a close ear/eye out in case he needed any assistance. I'll miss you walking through the tree line to bring an opinion or offer your expertise to get my job done right. (You always knew the best way to get anything accomplished.) And if it didn't work out like you thought it should, beat the hell out of it until it works. A true character in life with a no-nonsense approach to most everything! I'm beyond honored and fortunate to have known you in this life and share a tree line with you.

Rest well, "Army hardened Hayden"! Love you forever, your adopted granddaughter - Tiffany Yeargin

Tiffany Yeaeargin - February 23 at 03:16 PM