



## Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired

July 4, 1940 - July 28, 2021

### WILLIAM JOSEPH LEON CRISP

William Joseph Leon Crisp was born in Raleigh, NC on July 4, 1940. Bill (Billy Joe to his family) grew up primarily in Baltimore, MD and spent most summers in Raleigh and Glen Alpine, NC. Bill entered the United States Army in 1960 in Baltimore. He served in an Infantry Rifle Company in Korea, the I Corps Ceremonial Honor Guard, Korea and the United States Army Infantry Center Honor Guard, Fort Benning, GA. Bill steadily advanced in rank and progressive assignments, which included instructor duty in a Noncommissioned Officer Academy and as an administrative assistant, Reserve Officer Training Corps, at Pennsylvania State University.

He served in Vietnam and was twice awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Additional assignments included postings with the John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance (Airborne) Fort Bragg, and almost five years in the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, where he attended the University of Maryland, European Division. He is a graduate of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. Bill served at the highest level in the military with the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (Plans and Policy) in the Pentagon. Bill retired from active service in the rank of Command Sergeant Major and is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations, which include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious

Service Medal, Army Commendation Medals, the Expert Infantry Badge and the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, to name but a few.

Upon retirement from the armed services, Bill spent twenty years in the Automotive industry as an Inventory and lot manager. He was well respected and trained numerous people who went on to have successful careers in the field.

Throughout his life, Bill has spoken extensively throughout Europe and the United States and has extensive experience speaking in churches and to civic groups. While in Germany, he spoke frequently during Black ' History Months and one of his speeches was broadcast by Armed Forces Radio Network to service members throughout all Of Europe and the Mediterranean. He is very proud to have delivered the Baccalaureate Address to his twins' graduating class in 1985 at the American High School in Mannheim, Germany.

Bill was a member of the Prince Hall masonic fraternity. Bill achieved the rank Of Sovereign Grand Inspector General. While in Belgium, he worked tirelessly to financially support a home and school for the blind and was instrumental in purchasing a "seeing-eye dog" that enabled a disabled person to become gainfully employed. He has received numerous awards and citations for community service and is a recipient of the Governor's Citation for community involvement from the Governor of Maryland. There exists a Lodge in the Caribbean that bears his name.

Bill was elected to his first term on the Fayetteville City Council as District 6 representative on November 6, 2007. He served consecutive terms. Upon his retirement from the City Council, he was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest civilian honor in the state of North Carolina. Bill worked tirelessly to have a senior center built in Western Fayetteville. It is scheduled to be completed by Apri1,2022 and it will bear his name.

Bill is survived by his childhood sweetheart, and wife of 61 years, Joan Sevilla (Boyd) Crisp, two sons, William L. Crisp and Winston B. Crisp, two daughters, Sylvia D. Crisp-Williams, and Sonja E. Crisp- Chaplin, two sons-in-law, Steven K. Chaplin and Willie C. Williams, Jr. In addition, Bill leaves behind numerous “adopted” sons, daughters, and grandchildren, many of whom called him “Dad”, and a host of friends scattered all over the World. His capacity to love was bottomless and he was always ready to welcome one more person into the Crisp family.

Lieu of flowers please consider a charitable donation to The Children's Coat Drive care of Cumberland county Citizens United. Address 3804 Sun Chase Dr. Fayetteville 28306

# Cemetery Details

## Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery

8220 Bragg Blvd  
Spring Lake, NC 28390

# Previous Events

## Viewing

AUG 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel  
2010 Murchison Road  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

## Service

AUG 7. 2:30 PM (ET)

Galatia Presbyterian  
8800 Galatia Church Rd  
Fayetteville, NC 28304

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ Jeffrey Crisp lit a candle in memory of  
Command Sergeant Major William Crisp  
Retired



Jeffrey Crisp - August 07, 2021 at 01:54 PM

MH

“ Thinking of memories of you , your bothers David, and Floyd there  
in Baltimore on the corner of Riggs Ave and Appleton St singing  
Doowap, also on your way overseas to Belgium and you and the  
family spent time at our home in New York between flights  
Rest in Peace

Merlin Hawkins - August 06, 2021 at 07:06 PM

RC

“ Ronald E And Juanita L. Clarke lit a candle in  
memory of Command Sergeant Major William  
Crisp Retired



Ronald E and Juanita L. Clarke - August 06, 2021 at 10:27 AM

RA

“ Robert M.L. Walker State Grand Assembly lit  
a candle in memory of Command Sergeant  
Major William Crisp Retired



Robert M.L. Walker State Grand Assembly - August 05, 2021 at 06:04 PM

AV

“ *Angela Vann sent a virtual gift in memory of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired*



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**Angela Vann** - August 05, 2021 at 11:37 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired.*



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August 04, 2021 at 06:56 PM

FF

“ *From Calvin, Sandra Morman & Family purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired.*



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**From Calvin, Sandra Morman & Family** - August 03, 2021 at 05:07 PM

EF

“ *Eula Crisp Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired.*



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**Eula Crisp Family** - August 03, 2021 at 04:16 PM

AM

“ *Afcent Benelux Reunion Members. purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired.*



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**Afcent Benelux Reunion Members.** - August 03, 2021 at 10:53 AM

RM

“ *Roger/Edna McKoy lit a candle in memory of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired*



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**Roger/Edna McKoy** - August 03, 2021 at 06:22 AM

KW

“ Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn life around.

God looked around his garden and he found an empty place, He then looked down upon the earth and saw the giant of a man William Crisp, he put his arm around him and lifted him up to rest. For God only add the best to his garden.

Life is but a stopping place, A pause in what's to be, A resting place along the road to sweet eternity, We all have different journeys, Different paths along the way, We all were meant to learn some things, But never meant to stay. Our destination is a place far greater than we know, For some, the journey's quicker, For some, the journey's slow and when the Journey finally ends, We'll claim a great reward and find an everlasting peace, Together with the Lord.

May God keep, bless and watch over the family during this trying time.

Ken Washington

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**Kenneth H. Washington** - August 02, 2021 at 09:06 PM

HB

“ Henry Britton lit a candle in memory of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired



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**Henry Britton** - July 31, 2021 at 10:20 PM

DF

“ *Sending prayers to the family.*”



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**Dr. Barbara Feemster** - July 31, 2021 at 10:17 PM

RN

“ *Roger And Edna McKoy, Fayetteville NC lit a candle in memory of Command Sergeant Major William Crisp Retired*”



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**Roger and Edna McKoy, Fayetteville NC** - July 31, 2021 at 08:03 AM