



Monda Susan Wade

May 17, 1940 - July 28, 2015

Monda Susan Wade, age 75, passed away peacefully on July 28, 2015. She was born in Kansas City, MO on May 17, 1940 to Clifford and Adaline Wade. Monda attended both Emory University in Atlanta, and later graduated from Wittenberg.

Monda proudly served her country in the US ARMY as a nurse, earning several medals of honor for service in the Vietnam War. She was in the ARMY Reserves for more than 28 years, retiring as a Colonel. She continued her nursing work at Toledo Hospital until retirement to care for her Mother.

She is survived by her cousins John (Ann) Benson of Littleton, CO and Tom (Kathie) Benson of Charlotte, NC and her five nephews Clifford Jr., Christopher, Charles, Carl and Curtis Wade.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Clifford.

Coyle Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Monda wishes to thank "Friends of the Family" Home Health Care, especially her angel caregivers Jill Pelleteri, Betty Hernandez and Solomon Lafontaine for their loving care and kindness. Monda would also like to thank the caregivers of Southern Care Hospice.

There will be no services. Burial will be in the Highland Park cemetery in Kansas City, KS. Please view our online registry at CoyleFuneralHome.com. Memorial donations may be given to support the Veterans of Hero's in Action, P.O. Box 352046 Toledo, OH 43635-2046.

Tribute Wall

“ *Monda Wade (1940 - 2015)*

(News Article) Monda S. Wade, an Army nurse who provided medical care to soldiers in Vietnam, died Tuesday at her home in Toledo. She was 75. Ms. Wade died of a heart attack secondary to Alzheimer's disease, said Jill Pelleteri, Ms. Wade's caregiver for three years through Friends of the Family Home Health Care. "She was a very kind, caring person, right to the end," Ms. Pelleteri said.

Ms. Wade enlisted in 1967 and served for one year in the preoperative and recovery ward of the 24th Evacuation Hospital at Long Binh, a large Army base about 30 miles outside of Ho Chi Minh City, which was then known as Saigon.

In 1981, Ms. Wade spoke at length to The Blade about her service. She said the work included tending to battle wounds and amputations. Twelve-hour shifts were common during especially difficult periods.

Ms. Wade said she joined the effort to give back to members of the armed forces and that "patriotism was still alive." But it was the country's lack of appreciation for those who served in combat and the government's conclusion to the Vietnam War that upset her years later. "We just walked out. ... All those lives and deaths for naught ... 55,000 dead, and the innumerable young men, who will never be the young men they used to be," she said. Ms. Wade said she understood why some soldiers struggled upon returning home. She remained grateful for her role of assistance and relative safety that may have prevented similar problems. "I can't give you a reason why it didn't. ... Time has been very gracious to me," she said.

Ms. Wade was born May 17, 1940, in Kansas City to Clifford and Adaline Wade. She graduated from DeVilbiss High School in 1958, later attending Emory University in Atlanta and Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. Ms. Wade spent 28 years in the Army Reserve and retired at the rank of colonel. She was head nurse at St. Luke's Hospital before enlisting, and she later worked at Toledo Hospital.

Ms. Wade always had a smile on her face and did not speak

unkindly of others, Ms. Pelleteri said. Her life was dedicated to helping others through nursing and the army. That care for others in the military continued long after she returned as she followed news closely from overseas.

Ms. Pelleteri said she grew close to Ms. Wade during their time together. She was pleased to help honor two of Ms. Wade's wishes - to live the remainder of her life at home and to be cremated in her military uniform.

"We fought tooth and nail to keep her in that house, no matter the circumstances," she said.

There were no immediate survivors.

There will be no services. Tributes are suggested for Heroes in Action, Toledo.

Contact Blade Staff Writer Ryan Dunn at: rdunn@theblade.com, 419-724-6095, or on Twitter @rdunnblade. Published in Toledo Blade on Aug. 3, 2015

Blade - August 03, 2015 at 02:01 PM

SM

“ *I remember Monda Sue Wade from her nursing career at The Toledo Hospital. Sue was a very dedicated, compassionate and knowledgeable RN who excelled in her work in the ICU. My sincere condolences go to her family. Sue Maltman.*

Sue Maltman - July 30, 2015 at 03:47 PM

CN

“ I first met Sue when I joined the 350th Evacuation Hospital Detachment #1 Toledo, Ohio. My first memory of Sue was formed during the first 2 week annual training that I attended. We were out in the field and Sue had her blouse sleeves rolled up to the elbows. She always stood with her hands on her hips and always ended up with the only sunned burned elbows in the unit. This was Sue's standard pose at all the field exercises we attended. All with the same results - sun burned elbows. Sue was an excellent nurse and soldier and it was a pleasure working with Sue. My condolences to her family. Sincerely; Major Carolyn Nagy

Carolyn Nagy - July 30, 2015 at 03:44 PM

BH

“ You were such a beautiful, loving, caring person inside and out. Gosh i'm going to miss you 😭

Betty Hernandez - July 29, 2015 at 09:20 PM

JP

“ I am going to miss you. First we were friends and then we became family. Enjoy your new life with Mom, Dad and Brother. Love You, Jill

Jill Pelleteri - July 29, 2015 at 04:55 PM