



# Dennis Jay Helms

SEP 11, 1946 - MAY 8, 2022



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Hamlin & Hilbish  
Funeral Directors

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# Dennis Jay Helms

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**D**ennis Jay Helms, 75, of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, with his family and loved ones by his side, went to be with the Lord Jesus Christ, after a long, hard, and bravely fought battle with leukemia on May 8, 2022.

Dennis was born in Greenville, Ohio, on September 11, 1946, and moved with his parents and four siblings to Eustis, Florida in 1961. He graduated from Eustis High School in 1964 and married his wife, Linda Toole Helms, that same year. Later, Dennis graduated from Florida State University in 1968 with a degree in Accounting and Finance. In 2004, he received a degree in Theology from the University of the South, School of Theology-Sewanee.

During his lifetime, he became a Certified Public Accountant, the City Clerk of Eustis, and later opened his own C.P.A. practice. His first job out of college was at HW Shepherd & Company, an accounting firm in Eustis. Later, they moved to Miami where he worked at Arthur Young & Company. He worked at Youth for Christ as comptroller and was a lifelong volunteer helping with church finances, Sunday school, and served as a church board member. Dennis also taught finance at Lake Sumter State College and spoke with various student groups about career planning. He later worked at Plymouth Citrus Products Co-op, and then on to Citrosuco North America, formally known as Juice Farms, as Chief Financial Officer where he retired in 2011.

Dennis greatly enjoyed hiking through the mountains, playing tennis, golfing, kayaking, fly fishing, pheasant hunting with friends in Kansas, running in marathons, and all things FSU. He loved to travel in their RV where they drove across the United States to Alaska. Over the years, he ran the Marine Corps Marathon as well as multiple Disney Half Marathons. He enjoyed spending time with his friends and family, especially his grandchildren. His sense of humor, quick wit, compassion, and kind heart is what we will miss most about him.

Dennis was survived by his wife, Linda Toole Helms; his son Michael David Helms and daughter Michele Helms Beckner; his daughter-in-law Silvana Reino Helms; his son-in-law Tom Beckner; and his four grandchildren Isabella Rebekah Helms, Gabriella Nicole Helms, and Amanda Lynne



## Obituary

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and Emma Beth Beckner. He was also survived by his mother, Freda Violet Helms; his four siblings Duane Helms (wife Emily), Joyce Sutton (husband Diteous), Richard Helms (wife Chris), and Karen Horsley; and his nieces and nephews Marvin, Stephanie, Alicia, Natalie, Julie, Deanna, Richard, and many great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins.

He was reunited with his father, Forest Joe Helms (deceased 3/31/22), in Heaven.

His memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 21 at 2:00PM, at  
Hamlin & Hilbish Funeral Home

326 E. Orange Ave

Eustis, FL 32726

To watch the memorial service, click the link below at service time or anytime thereafter:

<https://webcast.funeralvue.com/events/viewer/73552>

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in honor of Dennis Helms to the SECU Family House in Winston Salem, NC. The SECU Family House provides safe and comfortable lodging, as well as meals, for patients and their families while they are undergoing medical treatment. Linda and Dennis stayed there regularly during his cancer treatment at the Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center.

<https://www.familyhousews.org/donate/>




Condolences, memories and photos may be shared on the tribute wall.

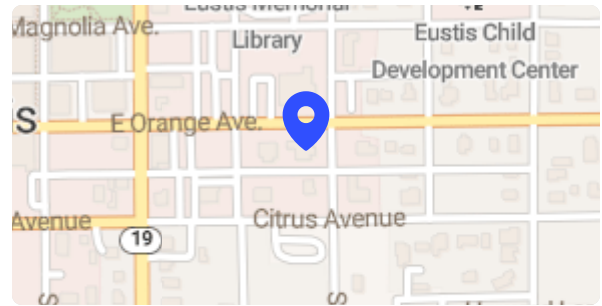


# Events

**Dennis Jay Helms**  
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## Memorial Service

-  **Saturday**, May 21, 2022
-  2:00 PM ET
-  **Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel**  
326 E. Orange Avenue, Eustis FL 32726





# Tribute Wall

**Dennis Jay Helms**

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**Mike Dubrul** posted:

Our loss is Heaven's gain. Good husband Good father Good grandfather Good co-worker Good friend Good bye Dennis Mike DuBrul

May 21 at 3:45 PM



**Fischer Family And Fischer Group** posted:

We are very sorry to hear about Dennis' death. During 30 years the Fischer Group could count on him as Financial Director and esteemed friend. Unfortunately we are not able to attend the funeral ceremony but our thoughts and prayers are with the family on this sad moment. Please accept the deepest condolences from the Fischer Family and the Board of Directors. Bianca Fischer de Moraes & Ricardo Moraes Ana Luisa Fischer Ferraz Alessandra Fischer Santos & Guilherme Santos Renata Fischer Fernandes & Eduardo Fernandes

May 18 at 9:59 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White to the Helms family.



May 16 at 3:08 PM



**Rabun Reynolds** posted:

The loss of Dennis to the Panther Nation has left a void that will be difficult to fill. He was a Panther that exemplified the qualities of what it meant to belong to a group that loved their school and his beloved Eustis. He had a caring heart that was felt by others. He loved his God and his Family. He walked the talk, he lived a life that was pleasing to Our Heavenly Father. May Our Heavenly Father welcome his servant, Dennis home and when Christ met him at the Heavenly Gate he said to Dennis: "Well done my good and Faithful Servant." We ask Christ to be with Linda and the Families to give them comfort and peace in knowing that Dennis is Home. Amen, :latin\_cross::innocent::pray: Rabun Reynolds

May 13 at 9:03 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Nancy Morgan** posted:

I loved Dennis Jay Helms! He and Linda were such a great complement to each other. He, with is delicious sense of humor and irony, and his great love for his wife and family, she, with grace and love for their family. He was one of my favorite people of all time ever since we first met at EHS...he always made me laugh...and and he brought so much joy and laughter to my life over the years, that I couldn't help but love him. He and Linda were not only great friends to me over the years, but also classmates. I send all my love, thoughts, and prayers to Linda and all the Helms' Family. He was a unique person, and I'll never see the likes of DJH again in my lifetime. With great sympathy and love, Nancy D. Morgan, Ocala, FL

May 12 at 2:48 PM



**Carol Bozeman** sent a virtual gift in honor of Dennis.

Dennis has always been one of the finest men I know! His sense of humor, his kindness, his loyalty, and his integrity are some of the things I admired about him, but just him being Dennis and my friend for seventy years is creating a very large hole in my life. Dennis, I am going to miss you so much!



May 12 at 9:05 AM

**BD** **Bill Dean** May 14 at 12:19 PM

I will miss Dennis's friendship, his smiling face, his wit and his genuine warmth. A gutsy track athlete, we logged many miles together around the EHS oval, which back then consisted of a chalk line over sandspurs. I'll never forget the many fond memories of our passage through high school. He left us too soon, but he ran a great race. My deepest sympathies to Linda and his family. Bill Dean

**BG** **Barbara Groves** May 12 at 3:38 PM

God Bless Linda & her family. Dennis was a great man & fought bravely.



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Dennis by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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