

# Bruce H. Boyle

(/obituaries/bruce-h-boyle)



## Bruce H. Boyle

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Suffolk , VA

06.26.1958 - 05.09.2020

**Served in the :** Navy

CAPT Bruce H. Boyle was born in Lexington, NE on June 26, 1958. He was called home unexpectedly by our Lord on May 9, 2020 in Suffolk, VA. He is survived by his beloved wife and best friend, Jane, who were blessed by 38 years of marriage. Bruce was preceded in death by his father, Dale Franklin Boyle, and mother, Harriet Cleland Boyle.

Bruce was a graduate of the University of Nebraska, North American Baptist Seminary, and Princeton Theological Seminary. He was ordained a minister by the Baptist General Conference on December 10, 1989.

CAPT Boyle served God and Country 34 years as a United States Military Chaplain; 1986-1991 in the U.S. Army Reserve and Nebraska Army National Guard. In September 1991 Bruce was commissioned into the United States Navy (USN) as an active duty Chaplain. As a Navy Chaplain, CAPT Boyle served aboard ships, overseas, and at various Naval installations. Additionally, as a USN Chaplain, Bruce served the United States Marine Corps and United States Coast Guard. Most notably, CAPT Boyle was a combat veteran, having served as the Command Chaplain for Marine Aircraft Group - 40 in Afghanistan from April 2009-May 2010. His last tour of duty was as the Atlantic Area Chaplain for the United States Coast Guard. In this capacity, Bruce served as the Senior Supervisory Chaplain for 2/3rds of all the personnel in the United States Coast Guard.

CAPT Boyle's personal military awards include the Legion of Merit (Two Gold Stars), Meritorious Service Medal (Two Gold Stars), Navy Commendation Medal (Three Gold Stars), Navy Achievement Medal (One Gold Star), Army Achievement Medal, as well as numerous campaign medals and unit ribbons.

Bruce loved riding his Harleys, all things NASCAR, and helping others. Most of all, his favorite pastime was just spending time with Ms. Jane, the love of his life. CAPT Boyle leaves a lasting legacy of service to others. Bruce always put others first, serving as a mentor to countless young Chaplains, touching the lives of 1,000's of Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guard personnel. In essence, Bruce changed our world for the better. He will be missed!

A funeral service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 3 PM. Baker-Foster Funeral Home, 5685 Lee Farm Lane, Suffolk is serving the family. Condolences may be registered at [RWBakerFH.com](http://RWBakerFH.com). In lieu of flowers, you may donate to some of Bruce's passions: "Gimme Shelter" (supports rescued animals) [www.gimmeshelterofsmithfield.com](http://www.gimmeshelterofsmithfield.com) (<http://www.gimmeshelterofsmithfield.com>); Shriners Hospital for Children [www.donate.lovetotherescue.org](http://www.donate.lovetotherescue.org) (<http://www.donate.lovetotherescue.org>); Vetshouse, Inc. (serving homeless veterans in Hampton Roads, VA) [www.vetshouseinc.org](http://www.vetshouseinc.org) (<http://www.vetshouseinc.org>)

### **Cemetery**

**Start Time:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 - 03:00pm

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA 22211

United States

### **Google Maps Link**

Directions to Arlington National Cemetery

(<https://www.google.com/maps/search/Arlington+National+Cemetery,+Arlington+National+Cemetery,+Arlington,+VA+22211,+US/@17z>)

## **Guestbook**

**Frank and Terri Johnson**  
**CDR, CHC, USN**

**Wed, 05/20/2020 -**  
**09:17am**

Dear Jane and family,  
Terri and I were shocked and dismayed to see of Bruce's passing. We remember fondly both of you and I enjoyed and respected working with Bruce as a colleague in the sea services. I am sure there are countless Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard personnel and their families whose lives were impacted greatly by his sacrificial ministry. May our Lord bring you comfort and peace in the memories you made together and in the promises God provides.

Frank and Terri Johnson

Frank and Terri Johnson CDR, CHC, USN

**Shelley (Boyle) Swan**

**Sat, 05/23/2020 -**  
**10:17am**

I was saddened to learn of my cousin's passing! I had just started a FB relationship with his wife, Jane, and was hopeful to reconnect with Bruce after many years of separate lives and having lost contact! I will only have our memories of family gatherings at our Grandpa & Grandma Boyle's farm in Nebraska along with our Aunt Maxine(Boyle) Hill & Uncle Bill's farm, and remember the fun on the homestead farm our grandfather created for us all! God bless you, Bruce. We will all be reunited one day with our Lord in Heaven, cousin! You served our God & country WELL!

Shelley (Boyle) Swan

**Reverend Dennis**  
**Beckmann**

**Mon, 06/15/2020 -**  
**01:04pm**

Bruce was one of my closest friends throughout High School. I spent many a time playing pickup basketball, going to movies just hanging at his house. He was a kind young man and a great friend to have during my school years. Blessings and condolences to his wife, Jane.

Reverend Dennis Beckmann

**Darlene Pickel Merrill**

**Mon, 06/15/2020 -  
02:15pm**

Bruce was a great classmate in high school. I want to thank you for the service he gave to all of us from his military service. Thoughts and prayers are with all of his loved ones.

Darlene Merrill

Darlene Pickel Merrill

**Marsha Larson  
Pennington**

**Mon, 06/15/2020 -  
09:22pm**

I am so very sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. He was a wonderful friend in high school. I often thought about him. Thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.

Marsha Larson Pennington

**A. Marine**

**Sat, 08/15/2020 -  
11:43am**

Semper Fi Marine, and fair winds Coastie, Rip.

A. Marine



**R.W. Baker & Company**  
Funeral Home and Crematory