



## Theodore "Ted" Bruce Kiper III

November 23, 1944 - October 30, 2025

Theodore Bruce Kiper III known by everyone as "Ted", age 80, of Crawfordville FL passed away peacefully at Margaret Z Dozier in Tallahassee FL, on October 30, 2025. Surrounded by his family.

Known by his insatiable curiosity, humor, and intellect, and work ethic, Ted live his life devoted to his family and friends and endless list of "projects".

Ted was born on November 23, 1944 to Theodore and Loretta Kiper in Graham, Texas. His brother James came along 1947. In 1951, the family moved to Tallahassee FL, where Ted became interested in boxcar racing and working on cars.

Ted started his schooling at Chaires Elementary School where he made lifelong friends that he still shared close relationships with and maintained throughout his life. Ted graduated from Leon High School in Tallahassee, Florida. While a student, he enjoyed and learned school photography, which became one of his early interests, and ended up working with his Dad in their own studio. Ted served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He attended Florida State University where he received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees. In his younger years, Ted was a professional Pilot and Flight Instructor. He received several advanced certifications in the aviation field including the Airframe and Power Plant Certification. This certification, issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) authorized him to perform annual inspections on airplanes and certify them as airworthy.

Ted had a lifelong interest in sailing and had a U.S. Coast Guard Master

Captain's License. He served for some years, on a part-time basis as an Assistant Professor in the Florida State University Physical Education Department. In the Physical Education Department, he taught Blue Water (offshore) Sailing. Sailing Florida's coast led him to an interest in coastal ocean currents and shoreline erosion and accretion. This led him to a career in coastal cartography. After joining the Florida Geological Survey (FGS), he piloted FGS boats along the entire coastline of Florida. Using the latest GPS technology and water depth measuring technology, a precise delineation of Florida's coastal shores was created. Ted was an excellent cartographer and updated all of Florida's hand drawn shoreline maps so they could be preserved in digital format.

After retirement, Ted met the love of his life, Evelyn Watt, who later became Evelyn Kiper. He especially enjoyed the company of Evelyn's two sons, James and Albert, who he treated as his own. He described his years with Evelyn as the happiest days of his life. Ted was preceded in death by his parents Theodore Bruce Kiper II and Loretta M. (Litchfield) Kiper, his brother James B. Kiper, and his late wife Dale L. (Wilson) Kiper.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn Kiper, his stepsons James Watt and Albert Watt, his beloved niece Melinda Kiper (Mike Cook), his nephew Rick Kiper (Judy Kiper), and other nieces Sherril Kiper Knight, Rena Kiper Gremillion and Jessica Kiper.

A Burial with Military Honors will be held at the National Cemetery in Tallahassee on November 21, 2025, at 12:00 P.M. A Celebration of Life will be held on November 29, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. at the Wakulla Community Center, 318 Shadeville Rd, Crawfordville, Florida.

Skip & Trey Young along with Heather and Amanda are assisting the family. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel.

# Cemetery Details

## Tallahassee National Cemetery

5015 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, FL 32311  
<http://www.cem.va.gov>

# Previous Events

## Military Honors

NOV **21**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Tallahassee National Cemetery  
5015 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, FL 32311  
<http://www.cem.va.gov>

## Celebration of Life

NOV **29**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wakulla County Community Center  
318 Shadeville Road  
Crawfordville, FL 32327

# Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Gremillion and Critelli Families! planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Theodore "Ted" Bruce Kiper III.*

**The Gremillion and Critelli Families!** - November 26, 2025 at 08:55 PM

TF

“ *The Gremillion and Critelli Families! purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Theodore "Ted" Bruce Kiper III.*



**The Gremillion and Critelli Families!** - November 26, 2025 at 08:55 PM

SH

“ *So very sorry for your loss. Ted was a kind, intelligent and caring man towards everyone. I so enjoyed his conversations. God Bless and may he RIP.*

**Sheila** - November 21, 2025 at 12:20 PM

RC

*I would love to hear one of Ted's stories right now - sure do miss talking to him ...*

**Rose Carpenter** - April 07 at 09:04 PM

RK

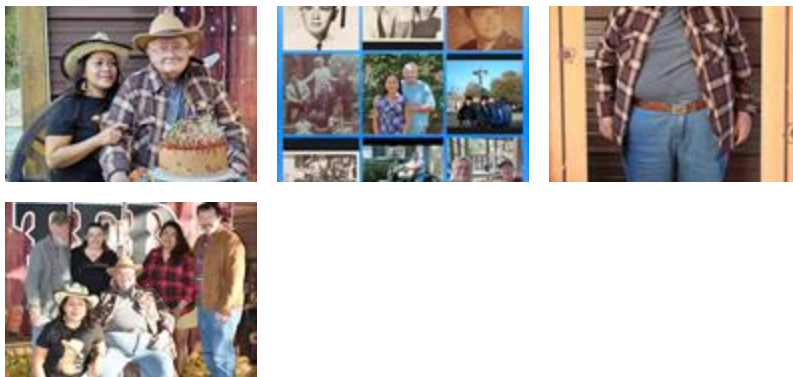
“ Uncle Ted, or “Tío Ted” as he is known in my family, was definitely a Jack-of-all-Trades. He could build or fix anything. He embodied the American ideals of self-reliance and personal responsibility. In many ways, I was closer to Uncle Ted than I was to my own father because we shared so many interests. He taught me many things about construction, engines, and firearms, and he was delighted when I joined the FBI. And after my father died in 2007, it was Uncle Ted who encouraged me to finish my dissertation. I will forever be grateful for his support and the example he set for my family.



Rick Kiper - November 20, 2025 at 09:49 PM

MK

“ 4 files added to the album Memories of Ted



Melinda Kiper - November 05, 2025 at 10:42 AM

MK

“ It was an honor and privilege to be Ted's niece. He stepped in as a surrogate dad to me when his brother, my dad, passed away almost 18 years ago. I am so glad he met and married Evelyn, his "angel" as he called her. Evelyn, you and the boys made his last few years a dream and the happiest he had ever been. As for Uncle Ted, may the wind be ever in your sails. You will forever be loved, remembered and missed. - Mel

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**Melinda Kiper** - November 05, 2025 at 09:54 AM

RO

Ted was a "Ride or Die" friend.  
I will miss him and will never forget his kind Spirit. Love from Rose ❤️

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**Rose** - November 06, 2025 at 10:54 PM