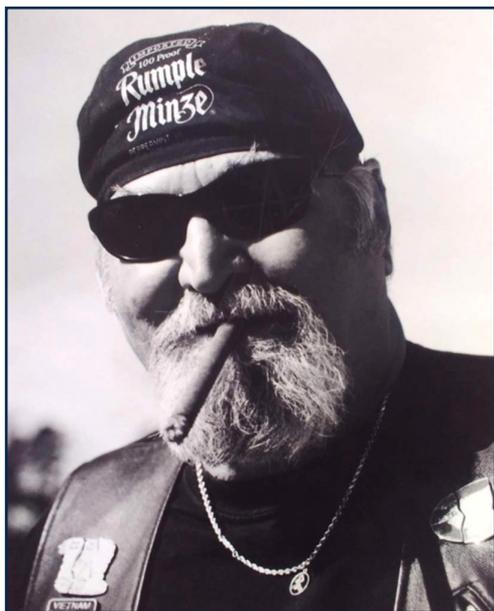
A close-up photograph of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The flag is draped and slightly wrinkled, creating a sense of depth and texture. The colors are vibrant and the lighting is soft, highlighting the fabric's details.

IN LOVING MEMORY

**REUBEN "SMOKEY" HARRY COLWELL JR.**  
**GUNNERY SERGEANT, USMC RETIRED**

MARCH 26, 1938 - MARCH 13, 2025



### FUNERAL SERVICE

11 a.m., Saturday, March 29, 2025  
Munden Funeral Home, Havelock, NC  
Officiated by Rev. Johnny B. Thompson

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Welcome

Prayer

“Marine Hymn”

Scripture, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Psalm 46: 1-3

“Dancin', Shaggin' on the Boulevard”

Reading of the Obituary

Time of Remembrance

“Lady Soul”

Message, Psalm 23

The Lord's Prayer

### COMMITTAL SERVICE

Forest Oaks Memorial Gardens, Havelock, NC

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Scripture, 1 Corinthians 15: 51-58

Prayer

Military Honors

# REUBEN "SMOKEY" HARRY COLWELL JR. GUNNERY SERGEANT, USMC RETIRED

MARCH 26, 1938 - MARCH 13, 2025

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GySgt. Reuben "Smokey" Harry Colwell Jr. (USMC Retired), 86, of Newport, North Carolina, passed away on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at Carolina East Medical Center.

Born on March 26, 1938, in San Diego, California, Smokey was the son of the late Reuben and Alice Colwell. He honorably served his country in the United States Marine Corps, retiring as a Gunnery Sergeant after a distinguished career that included serving as a Vietnam Veteran. His patriotic spirit and dedication to his country were evident throughout his life. After his military service, Smokey devoted 20 years of his career to Civil Service at Cherry Point with Fleet Readiness Center East.

A valued member of the community, Smokey was active in organizations such as VFW Post 7315 and The Military Order of the Cootie. He also served as the past president of the Concerned Biker's Association, reflecting his passion for motorcycle riding.

Well known and deeply appreciated for his unique personality, Smokey was well-loved for his warm personality and his willingness to lend a helping hand to others. Known for his culinary talents, he participated in the Newport Pig Cookin' Contest and proudly won the State Champion Chili Cook-Off, later having the honor of serving as a judge for the Chili Festival.

Those remaining to cherish his memory are his son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Kerrie Colwell of Youngsville, NC; brother, John Colwell (Renette) of Prescott, AZ; along with four grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; and his sidekick, his dog, Joey.

In addition to his parents, Reuben was preceded in death by his precious wife of 64 years, Rosalie "Mama Lee" Colwell, who passed away in 2023; and his sister, Norma Lynn Colwell.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

Family and friends are welcome to submit online condolences at [www.mundenfuneralhome.net](http://www.mundenfuneralhome.net).

ARRANGEMENTS BY MUNDEN FUNERAL HOME, HAVELOCK, NC



## TAPS

Day is done, gone the sun,  
from the hills, from the lake, from the skies.  
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Go to sleep, peaceful sleep,  
may the soldier or sailor, God keep.  
On the land or the deep, Safe in sleep.

Love, good night, must thou go,  
when the day, and the night need thee so?  
All is well. Speedeth all To their rest.

Fades the light; and afar goeth day,  
and the stars Shineth bright,  
fare thee well; day has gone, night is on.

Thanks and praise, for our days,  
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky,  
as we go, this we know, God is nigh.



**MUNDEN**  
FUNERAL HOME  
*Family Owned & Operated Since 1955*