Hoyt Edward Tilley

Hoyt Edward Tilley (72), passed from this earth on May 1, 2021, at his home in Cross Hill, SC.  He was preceded in death by his wife, Lu Ann Tilley; his son, Jeffrey Spencer Tilley; his mother, Virginia Gregory; and his brother, Spencer Tilley.  
He is survived by his daughter, Jennifer Tilley Messervy (Ward); his sisters, Virginia Purser (Jimmy), Louise Owens (Pat), and Jean Banks (Tony); grandchildren, Hannah Elise Tilley, Emma Claire Messervy, Rileigh Baker Messervy, Ayden Banes Tilley, Michael Anthony Cothran; Bryson Glenn Nelson and Shelby Leann Nelson; as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews.  
“Papi” was a decorated, Combat Veteran, that proudly served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy.  While assigned to USMC, he served with VM02 at Da Nang Vietnam.  During his service with the USN, he was a Naval Air Crewman and Instructor, flying in the S-3A, S-3B Viking and P-3C Orion Aircraft.  During his tenure as a Viking crewman, Papi was in a class very few could claim, he was a triple centurion, accumulating over 300 carrier arrested landings onboard the USS John F Kennedy (CV-67).  He achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer (AWC) and proudly carried out his assigned duties and responsibilities.   
Eddie was deeply loved and will be fondly remembered and missed by his many friends and family.