



John Harer

May 14, 1947 - February 16, 2020

John Harer, age 72, of Kankakee, died on Sunday, February 16, 2020 at Brookdale Senior Living in Carmel, IN. John was born on May 14, 1947 to George and Alveta (Hansen) Harer in Kankakee, IL. He proudly served in the United States Army. He worked as an engineer for Norfolk Southern for 36 years before retiring in 2001. He was a member of Open Bible Church in Kankakee. John was also an Eagle Scout. He enjoyed boating, water activities, horses and dancing.

John is survived by his daughter, Erin (Patrick) Jemar of Aroma Park, IL; three grandchildren, Sonny Parks, Jonah Harer and Zoey Harer; one great-grandchild, Mia Dralle; two sisters, Susan (Walter) Schaltenbrand of Morganton, NC and Linda (Rick) Pippin of Bourbonnais, IL and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A graveside service will take place on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at Mound Grove Gardens of Memory in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Cemetery Details

Mound Grove Gardens of Memory

1000 N Greenwood
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB 24. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mound Grove Gardens of Memory
1000 N Greenwood
Kankakee, IL 60901

Tribute Wall



“ *John Harer*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *It was only recently that I learned of John's passing, not having seen him since our H.S. days in Kankakee. He was a nice kid, eager, smiled a lot, had no shortage of friends. I seem to recall that he played basketball (for some reason I picture him in shorts and a jersey).*

To his family I offer my sincere condolence.

Terry Flood 02/08/2021

Terrence E Flood - February 08, 2021 at 01:14 PM



“ *I was sad to hear that my Vietnam buddy, John Harer had moved on to his heavenly home. John was always a good soldier that did his job without hesitation & was always kind & friendly to everyone. We all realized after we got to Vietnam that our president & government had no intention of winning that war. The only only thing we soldiers could do was to protect ourselves & our buddies & hope to survive. This created a strong bond that has lasted a lifetime. My condolences to John's family & all who knew him. John's buddy, Carroll Walker*

Carroll Walker - March 31, 2020 at 12:12 PM

GM

I agree with Carroll about the lasting bond that develops between those who have served together in the military, especially when they're in a war zone, and even more especially when they've hunkered down together in the darkness of a bunker during a mortar or rocket attack, as Carroll, John, and I did on more than one occasion in Vietnam. The fellow soldiers you experience that with are your buddies for life, no matter that you maybe live in distant parts of the country and are not in touch very often. You still feel that bond, and it never goes away. And so even though John has passed from this earth, Carroll and I hold close our memories of him and what we once went through together, day after day, month after month, during our youth, when life was still largely ahead of us.

Gary McClellan - March 31, 2020 at 02:00 PM

SS

Thank you so much for sharing this info. John very rarely talked about Vietnam so it is good to know that buddies of so long ago still care and feel love from those bygone days .

Susan Schaltenbrand - April 11, 2020 at 11:00 AM

GM

“ I was deeply saddened a few days ago when I learned that my buddy from our days together in the Army has passed away. John and I went through AIT together at Fort Gordon, Georgia, were together in Vietnam, met up at Fort Dix NJ after that and flew to Germany on the same flight in September of '68. Over the following years we talked with each other on the phone. He was a great guy with whom I had many laughs and long conversations, especially in Vietnam. One of my most special memories of him was when we left Vietnam in August of '68. It was late at night. We flew out of Cam Ranh Bay. As the plane roared down the runway for takeoff (we were sitting together), John gazed out into the midnight darkness and said, "Mac, there goes a year of our lives out there." And now my friend with whom I shared so many memories of a special time in our lives is gone, "out there" where I can never again laugh with him. But the memories linger. RIP, old buddy.

Gary McClellan - March 30, 2020 at 10:06 AM

SS

“ My dear brother would have been deeply touched by the many extended family members and friends attending his interment ceremony. The military service with gun salute, the soldier playing taps and the presentation of the flag to the family was so exemplary of John's honor and loyalty to God and to country. No matter what life handed him, he held his head high, kept giving and was always optimistic in moving forward.

RIP sweet brother. You are always in my heart.

Your loving sister, Susan

Susan Schaltenbrand - March 05, 2020 at 10:17 AM

SO

“ John was dear to our family as my mom's brother and uncle to us 3 girls. He spent a lot of time with us when we lived on the farm in Indiana and had all the horses. He always loved us and came to family events, was quiet and supportive of everything we did. We were proud of him for being a soldier in Vietnam and working hard for the railroad. He went through some rough times with some cruel people, and thank God there were angels along the way to save him so he could live his final years in peace and simplicity. We love you and will miss you Uncle John. Rest in Peace. Love, The Schaltenbrand girls (Stephanie, Sonia and Shauna) ❤️

Sonia - February 24, 2020 at 08:19 PM

JB

“ Gosh Darnit, John needs at least one condolence message, disappointed I am the first. I know he had some life challenges like all of us, came from a nice family/sisters Sue & Linda, hadn't talked with him in 30-40 yrs but will always consider him a friend, he was a good guy & sorry we have lost him.

Jerry the Mailman

jerry bjick - February 22, 2020 at 11:03 AM