



John Bruce Nanny

January 11, 1942 - January 9, 2022

John Bruce Nanny, 79, of Wheeling, WV died Sunday, January 9, 2022.

He was born January 11, 1942 in Bluefield, WV; the son of the late Ralph and Thora Lorene Honaker Nanney.

John enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1961 to 1965, attained the rank of Corporal. He belonged to the Marine Corps League, served as chairman of Hershel "Woody" Williams Scholarship Foundation, was member and past Commander Wheeling Post 1, American Legion and member of VFW Post 4442.

John was Director of Attendance and Social Services for Ohio County Schools 1973-2003; co-founded Youth Services, Inc. in Wheeling, founding member of National Youth Advocate Program and Youth Advocate Program International Board of Trustees; past president of St. John's Children's Home and Big Brother/Big Sister of Wheeling.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Carolyn Edwards.

Survivors include his brother, Pete Nanney, two daughters, Beth Ann Gerken of Columbus, Ohio, Susan (Robert) Paul of Anthem, AZ; two stepchildren, Jeff Yoakum, Kelly (Mike) Wilson and 8 grandchildren.

Family will receive friends on Friday, January 14th, 2022 from 4-8pm and on Saturday, January 15th, 2022 from 11:00am until time of service at 12 noon at Grisell Funeral Home and Crematory, 1 Ridgecrest Rd. Wheeling/Bethlehem with Minister Spencer Curry officiating, followed by military honors with the Moundsville Honor Guard.

Private interment will be held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the

Marine Corp League of Wheeling www.mcleague771.org/Donations.html or the Woody Williams Gold Star Family Memorial Fund <https://hwwmohf.kindful.com/?campaign=32720>

Cemetery

Events

Grisell Crematory

Moundsville, WV,

**JAN
14**

Visitation

04:00PM - 08:00PM

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road, Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV, US, 26003

**JAN
15**

Visitation

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road, Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV, US, 26003

**JAN
15**

Funeral Service

12:00PM

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem
1 Ridgecrest Road, Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV, US, 26003

Comments



“ My sincere condolences to the family and friends of John.

Sharon Gwennap - January 16 at 09:53 AM



“ Lorri Snyder lit a candle in memory of John Bruce Nanny



Lorri Snyder - January 15 at 11:09 AM



“ I am going to miss you Uncle John. Love your Niece Lorri Snyder.

Lorri Snyder - January 15 at 11:07 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Beth and the family.



Jeff & Shelley Howell - January 14 at 11:56 PM



“ Barb lit a candle in memory of John Bruce Nanny



barb - January 14 at 07:34 PM



“ Michelle Jarrett: OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

Michael jarrett - January 14 at 05:54 PM



“ Remember John at Wheeling High School==followed his career in Wheeling and was pleased. Always had a smile and hello to ALL



BARBARA (jasko) LOHR - January 14 at 04:18 PM



“ 137 files added to the album LifeTributes



Grisell Funeral Homes - January 14 at 01:46 PM



“ 154 files added to the album LifeTributes

Grisell Funeral Homes - January 14 at 01:10 PM



“ I loved John nanny so much hey is family to me every year on thanksgiving I got to see him and we would talk about everything the one thing I know is that i will miss our talks and seeing you and I will always call you my family I will always miss you everyday and I love you so very much and I want to make a promise to you is that I will always be there and look out and take care of beth and Susan and my uncle Jeff and aunt Kelly and our family the one thing I know is that family is everything family means everything you will always have a special place in my heart I love you

collin clarke - January 13 at 01:55 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Bruce Nanny.



January 13 at 12:04 PM



“ Scott Carter and Karen Clarke purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of John Bruce Nanny.



Scott Carter and Karen Clarke - January 13 at 10:11 AM



“ This wonderful man I was so glad to have known.
His advice and and kindness I always will admire.
The countless young youths that he helped and guided on the right paths of making
wonderful lives for themselves.
Sending my heartfelt sympathy for the families.
You made it John your first heavenly birthday.
Your home now
The lord has blessed you so.
R.I.P.
(Hoppie) Laura Carenbauer Stanton

Laura - January 12 at 05:57 PM



“ National Youth Advocate Program purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the
family of John Bruce Nanny.



National Youth Advocate Program - January 12 at 03:12 PM



“ I'm so terribly sorry for the loss of John...I worked as a student at the Ohio County
Board of Education in 1987 with he & Dr. Jones....it was such a joy working with
them! I saw John years later out & went & hugged him & my then husband asked
why I was hugging the school police....I never knew John had actually went to his
house & got him up & took him to school.....he genuinely cared for kids & had a huge
heart! He will truly be missed....love & prayers through this difficult time

Kim (Rowe) Brown - January 12 at 10:29 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Bruce Nanny.



January 12 at 07:22 AM



“ May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of John Bruce Nanny, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete.
I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be
forgotten.

My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Marine Veteran, John Bruce Nanny, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - January 12 at 05:11 AM



“ I was lucky to work with John in many of the roles he assumed through the years. In the early years of the Roy Chambers Foundation, he was a tremendous resource for me. He knew nearly every family in town and could quickly answer questions about the number of children in the family and their need for services. On the rare occasions when he didn't have an answer, he was quick to find one. He identified girls who had been asked to the Homecoming dance or the prom, but wouldn't be able to go unless someone provided a dress. He took kids shopping for school clothes and shoes. He tried to lend a hand up to all in need. He was instrumental in getting Youth Services Systems up and running and he remained a loyal advocate until his final days.

John was proud to be a Marine and brought respect to all branches of the Armed Services in the state of West Virginia. I couldn't think of the Marines without John's name coming to mind. There haven't been many pictures of events honoring veterans in our local newspapers that didn't feature John front and center.

John was the very definition of the word servant. He gave unselfishly to anyone who needed help, fighting through a number of medical conditions that would have held back a less tenacious man

The Ohio Valley owes him a debt of gratitude. I know I do too.

I will miss him as a man of integrity. I will miss him as one of "the helpers". Most of all, I

will miss him as a friend.

It'll be a long day without you my friend, but I'll tell you all about it when I see you again.

Linda Bordas

Linda Bordas - January 12 at 01:52 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Bruce Nanny.



January 11 at 09:03 PM



“ John was a great man and will be missed. Condolence to the family.

Jerry and Janet Nixon - January 11 at 09:02 PM



“ My sincere and humble condolences to the family and friends of John. I grew up just a few doors away from the Nanny residence. John had a wealth of influence serving the youth, Veterans, local organizations, non-profit groups, fund raising groups, not only locally but on a statewide level. He touched the lives of hundreds and hundreds of people in his lifetime in a positive and helpful way, totally unselfish toward others. I humbly regret that I will not be able to be at the funeral home as I am having surgery Friday morning. But, my prayers will be for John, his family, and everyone that he served in a humble and unselfish manner. Sincerely, Denny Albaugh.

Dennis R. Albaugh - January 11 at 07:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Bruce Nanny.



January 11 at 05:27 PM



“ Janie W. purchased the Pretty Please for the family of John Bruce Nanny.



Janie W. - January 11 at 04:44 PM



“ Beth, Susan & Families,

I was shocked and saddened to learn of your father's passing. He was such a good person. Many, many years ago when my late mother was active in PTA, she met your father, and they worked together on education issues. Over the years I have seen him from time to time. One such occasion was his involvement in Boy's State.

Again, this past summer I thought I recognized him at a gas station, I said, excuse me, are you John, and the answer was yes. I told him, who I was and we had a nice chat. Before we left he gave me a Gold Star Family pin and a couple of others.

No words are enough when someone loses a parent. One thing I can say is that this world is a better place for John Nanny having been here.

May his name always be for a blessing.

Stuart Pavilack
Wheeling

Stuart Pavilack - January 11 at 01:32 PM



“ I was taken aback when I heard of John's passing. This City, no the world lost one of the most incredible persons I have ever had the privilege to know. I got to know John when he was teaching at Washington school in north wheeling in the early 70s. All thru the years he was always there to help. He made this world a better place. He will be greatly missed. RIP my friend

Elaine Roskovich - January 11 at 06:43 PM



“ Semper fi dear John. You will be deeply missed. You always had a smile for everyone you met.

Gretchen Kraatz Dahl - January 11 at 11:46 AM



“ John’s tireless leadership, generosity and commitment in supporting veterans and youth in our community was an example to us all. It was an honor to know him. my love and prayers to him family.
Boatsie & Jim Van Vranken

boatsie van vranken - January 11 at 08:51 AM



“ Prayers & sympathy for the family’s with their loss. John befriended my aunt and uncle when their son/my cousin was killed in Iraq in 2011. They always appreciated his support and kind words. He also helped us with the Captain David VanCamp Memorial scholarship for several years and was also eager to help
Thank you Mr Nanny for your service.

Hope Romshak - January 11 at 08:33 AM



“ John's Family,

I had the pleasure to work closely with John when he was at the OCS Central Office. he was always the advocate for the kids who rarely had advocates. He would intervene on their behalf and ensure the system was providing all the assistance it could, and then he would use his connections in the community to find assistance beyond the capabilities of the school system. He was a champion of youth. We all share in your loss.

H. Lawrence (Larry) Jones, Ed.D.

Lawrence Jones - January 11 at 06:13 AM



“ I met John back in 1992 at a meeting of American Legion Post 1. He and Larry Shrive convinced me to join the Marine Corps League. In 1996 I quit the League due to financial hardship, and having started a new job with scheduling that caused me to stay away for about 8 years. In 2004, John contacted me out of the blue needing assistance with his "new" computer that Jim Cohen had given him. We got it working and set up so John could use it without further assistance. John also convinced me to rejoin the League and paid my dues to re-enter. Since then I've become a life member and I don't regret it. Thanks John for being a friend and a guiding light. GOD Bless you in the resurrection.

Steven Swenton.

Steven Swenton - January 11 at 12:50 AM



“ John was an outstanding person who served the youth of the community. He helped me form an Archery class while I was employed with YSS.
Rest In Peace you will missed.

Mark Postle - January 10 at 08:35 PM



“ A man who ALWAYS placed others especially children first. Prayers to all his family.

May he Rest in Peace

Jim Murray

JIM MURRAY - January 10 at 05:46 PM



“ John was a man of character whom I had the pleasure of knowing. And being the chaplain of the Marine Corp Leauge.he will be missed. He touched so many lives.

Spencer Curry - January 10 at 07:36 PM



“ A great man and his love for family, friends and children was one that touched many lives including mine and my children.. his compassion for others will never be forgotten. He was one of a kind, he drove my family to cedar point when my daughter got her first job, cause he knew I would not have been able to drive back thru the tears. He was a great friend and will be missed by everyone who knew him. RIP John, prayers for his many friends and family

Pamela Pettit Leifheit - January 10 at 08:12 PM



“ On behalf of the Board and the staff of the National Youth Advocate Program, we send our condolences to John's family and loved ones. John was one of our Board members in the early, formative years of the organization. He was a special friend and advocate for youth and families involved in the child welfare system. He always did his best to make a positive difference. We're grateful for his life of service.

Marvena Twigg - January 10 at 09:07 PM



“ My father worked with Mr. Nanny throughout their careers in education and he had the highest level of respect for Mr. Nanny. I had the pleasure to get to know Mr. Nanny when selected to be a representative for Mountaineer Boys' State in 1994. From that point, I had a connection with Mr. Nanny. I saw the pride, care and love that he had for kids and veterans. He always wanted nothing but the best for children and was a proud veteran.

Thank you for all that you did for the kids, schools, veterans and serving our nation, we are all better for knowing you.

I hope you and my dad are catching up and exchanging some good stories.

Sean Dei

Sean Dei - January 11 at 11:35 AM



“ I knew John all the way back to the high school years. He was a real gentleman, a true patriot, a proud veteran, and a wonderful helper to youth. Sincere condolences to Pete and all of John's family and friends.

Paul Garvin

Paul Garvin - January 11 at 11:49 AM



“ I worked with John through the county PTA and later at the Board of Education Office. He truly was a great friend to all kids in Ohio County. Rest In Peace.

Barbara Phillips Brassington - January 11 at 07:19 PM



“ Through the school system and my father John and I became good friends. We both had a love and concern for children,,but he went above and beyond everyday. He always found a way to help a boy or girl who was in trouble or in need. John put his whole heart in everything he did and was successful in completing his mission. We have lost a friend and true humanitarian. God bless dear friend. Ruth Ann scherich

Ruth Ann Scherich. - January 12 at 10:40 AM