



John Mathew Orkish

February 24, 1938 - December 2, 2020

GySgt John Matthew Orkish, USMC (Ret.) age 82, of St. Clairsville OH, formerly of Fountain Valley, CA, passed away Wednesday, December 2, 2020, in Wheeling Hospital Wheeling, WV.

He was born February 24, 1938 in Harmarville, PA, a son of the late John Martin and Helen Putorak Orkish.

John was a 20 year veteran of U.S. Marine Corp, having served 3 tours in Vietnam and 2 atomic tests. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service and was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church St. Clairsville, OH, and was a life member of the American Legion and VFW. John was involved in all veteran organizations, while he was proud of his service and country.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by wife, Loretta McCoy Orkish; a son, Kenneth Orkish; step daughter, Rhonda Macy; a brother, Thomas Orkish and his longtime friend, BJ Carl.

Survivors include his wife of 9 and a half years, Patricia Ryncarz Smigill-Orkish; a son, John M. (Michelle) Orkish of Rancho Santa Fe, CA; a daughter, Vicki (Rick) Joines of Cranberry Township, PA; three step children, Shelli (Jeff) Swaim of Paso Robles, CA, Joe (Stephanie) Smigill of Clarington, OH and Terry (Chuck) Brown of Barnesville, OH; a sister, Sylvia (Paul) McKee of Farmington Hills, MI; 3 grandchildren, 8 step grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and 7 step great grandchildren.

Private services will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital 501 St.

Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105 or Helping Heroes Inc. 256 Jefferson Ave.
Moundsville, WV 26041.

Arrangements entrusted to Grisell Funeral Home Clarington, OH.

Tribute Wall



“ John was an amazing man and neighbor. He was always kind to my family and me. He was super generous as well. He was a blessing to this world and my family especially. I was sad to hear about his passing, but I pray he is in a better place. We love you John.

*With Love and Sadness,
Cody Grudt*

Cody Grudt - December 19, 2020 at 07:33 PM

CG

“ Cecelia Gritz lit a candle in memory of John Mathew Orkish



Cecelia Gritz - December 05, 2020 at 09:55 PM

CG

“ Although we never met, John called my husband every time you were here from California. John and Ed went to school together, and met a couple of times for lunch while he was in the area. They often talked about all of us getting together for dinner some time. Unfortunately, Ed passed away Feb. 13, 2018. I know he would have wanted to leave you a message.
I am so sorry for your loss
Cecelia Gritz

Cecelia Gritz - December 05, 2020 at 09:54 PM

BI

“ Our sympathy goes out to John’s family at this sad time. We have fond memories of dinners at the Kennedy dining room where we all sat at the same table. Conversation about many subjects made the time more pleasant. We will miss John very much. Al and Betty

Betty Isaly - December 05, 2020 at 12:13 PM



“ 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 GySgt John Matthew Orkish, 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, GySgt John Matthew Orkish, 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 - December 05, 2020 at 10:50 AM