



John Sullivan

August 22, 1940 - May 25, 2020

USAF Chief Master Sergeant (Ret.) John Sullivan, age 79, of Nashua NH passed away peacefully in his sleep on May 25, 2020 at home surrounded by family. He was born August 22, 1940 in Chester, PA, the son of Greek immigrants, Peter and Matina Sullivan (Serras). He married Toulia Germei of Patras, Greece in 1964.

John was pre-deceased by his brothers, Jerry and Nonda Sullivan of Brookhaven, PA. He is survived by his former wife, Toulia Sullivan, and their three daughters: Tina Serras of Nashua, NH; Nika Serras, her husband Dennis, and their children Maia and Jacobi of Los Angeles, CA; and Pamela Aughey and her husband David of Nashua, NH. He is also survived by his brother George Serras and wife Carol of Prattsville, NY; his sister Stella Poulis and husband George of Garnet Valley, PA; and many beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

John graduated from Chester High School in 1958 and joined the United States Air Force. He was a Military Police Officer with a deployment to Vietnam during the war, as well as assignments in the Middle East, Europe, and Asia. He became the Security Program Director at NASA Dryden Space Center where he safeguarded the first space shuttle; was the Air Force supervisor at NASA Mission Control Center during test shuttle landings; orchestrated the defense of NATO installations in Europe; and developed training scenarios for ground troops. He received two Meritorious Services Medals, five Air Force Command Medals, the Air Force Outstanding Airman Ribbon, and 27 other decorations. He earned degrees from Troy State University, Southwest Texas University, and the University of Southern California.

Retiring from the U.S.A.F. in 1982, John spent his remaining work years as a security consultant, including time in Zambia, Tanzania, Turkey, and Greece. He also contracted time under the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of Midland, MI and Seabrook, NH power generation plants, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Army Intelligence & Security Command. Additionally, he worked at Raytheon in support of the U.S. Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). By 1999, John began publishing magazine articles

and wrote two books which have been used for college curriculums. He was a longtime volunteer at the St. Philip Greek Orthodox Church and AHEPA in Nashua, President for the New Hampshire Chapter of the American Society for Industry Security International (ASIS), a board member for the Nashua C.E.R.T. program, and was a Master Mason at the Joseph Worsely Lodge in Lincoln, MA.

John loved to throw celebrations - from family reunions, to annual police pig roasts, to a thirty-thousand-person event on the Mojave Desert lakebed so Americans could witness the first space shuttle landing. He encouraged others to be their best and treat failures as opportunities, to not take themselves too seriously, and to always be up for adventure.

Due to pandemic protocols, the funeral service will be privately held for a select few only at St. Philip Greek Orthodox Church in Nashua, NH at 9:45am on Monday, June 1. We invite you to join us in the church parking lot at 10:15am to witness the pallbearers transfer the casket to the hearse, and follow the procession from the church, past the house, and to the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscaawen. Attendees other than the select few will be required to remain in their cars and witness the burial with military honors at a distance. There will be no reception. A celebration of life will be planned for next year after pandemic protocols are lifted. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in John's name to St. Philip Greek Orthodox Church <http://www.stphilipnh.org/donate/> or to the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery <https://nhvca.org/>

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Worshipful Master - May 29 at 02:25 PM



“ Brother John Sullivant

Born: August 2, 1940
Initiated: February 29, 2000
Passed: March 28, 2000
Raised: June 22, 2000
Departed: May 25, 2020

You will be acknowledged and honored in necrology at Joseph Warren-Soley Masonic Lodge in Lincoln, Massachusetts on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. So Mote It Be.

Masonic Wages

Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in silver or gold will be disappointed. The wages of a mason are earned and paid in their dealings with one another; sympathy begets sympathy; kindness begets kindness; helpfulness begets helpfulness; and these are the wages of a Mason.

Bro. Benjamin Franklin
Grand Master of Pennsylvania 1790

<http://jwsoley.weebly.com/>



Worshipful Master - May 29 at 02:09 PM



“ And Now We Say Goodbye

Great sadness fills our hearts today
as pipes and drums, in slow march play
A comrade's fallen by the way,
And now we say goodbye.

This hero to the very end
Was more than just a casual friend,
Who would a stranger's life defend,
And now we say goodbye.

But we shall cherish, all our days,
The character this life portrayed
With sacrifice so freely made,
And now we say goodbye.

The hand salute, o'er Stars and Stripes,
And distant skirl of highland pipes,
Give last farewell with hero's rights,
And now we say goodbye.

While here on Earth, you gave your best.
Now in the Master's arms you rest.
T'is by your memory we are blessed.
And now we say goodbye.

Howard Garrison Yates
@ July 2006