



John J. Dufreche

November 11, 1959 - March 31, 2020

John Joseph Dufreche died peacefully on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, after an illness with dementia. John was born on November 11, 1959, and was a life-long resident of Ponchatoula. After graduating from Ponchatoula High School, John enlisted into the United States Navy and completed Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School. He served a total of 24 years (8 years active duty and 16 years reserve) as a Naval Aviator flying the P-3 Orion maritime patrol aircraft. He proudly retired from the Navy in 2007 at the rank of Lt. Commander. John was hired as a pilot for Federal Express in 1994, where he remained an employee until his death. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church where he served as a Eucharistic minister and one term on the Parish Advisory Council. John was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed flying his 1943 Stearman Aircraft, golfing, fishing, and hunting. Above all else, John was a true family-man and enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, where he was always the life of the party.

John is survived by his devoted wife of 33 years, Michele Brock Dufreche, his beautiful daughter, Aimee Campo (Trey), and two amazing sons, Justin and Scott. John became a first-time grandfather on January 21, 2020, when his grandson, John Peter Campo, was born. John leaves behind brothers William "Billy" (Glenda), Danny, Tommy, and Scott (Katrina), along with his sister Patrica "Sissy" (Duke), as well as, loving father and mother-in-law Eric and Betty Jo Brock, brothers-in-law, Joe Brock (Barbara), Michael Brock (Lisa), Kevin Brock (Ana) and sisters-in-law, Angie Brock Cunningham (David) and Janet Dufreche, numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents Cyprian "Buddy" Dufreche and Patricia Perkins Dufreche, and brothers Lt. Edward Dufreche and former Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court Julian Dufreche.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Home at www.la.egov.com/dva/mfadonations to help with medical supplies in honor of Mr. John.

Due to the current order by Gov. Edwards, the family is not able to invite the public to a visitation or funeral services as intended. A memorial mass and celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

Comments



“ Michelle: I just saw John's passing in the newspaper. My husband, Raoul, always looked for John after 8:00 am Mass so they could talk Navy as my husband was also in the Navy. He enjoyed talking w/John. My sincere sympathy and prayers.
Carolyn Laurent

Carolyn Laurent - April 11, 2020 at 12:17 AM



“ John was one of my adopted bachelors when he served in the Navy with my husband. He was such a fun caring person. My heart goes out to his family that has lost a wonderful human being RIP our dear friend
Patti & Gene Picciano

patti PICCIANO - April 06, 2020 at 08:50 PM



“ I am so sad to hear this - John was one of my best friends at St.Joe and throughout High School - what a great person - my sincere condolences to the family - Rest in peace my friend - Bruce

Bruce Morris - April 04, 2020 at 07:10 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John J. Dufreche.



April 02, 2020 at 09:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Cindy Ryals - April 02, 2020 at 05:54 PM



“ Denham Family lit a candle in memory of John J. Dufreche



Denham Family - April 02, 2020 at 01:29 PM



“ We are so very sorry for your loss! May God give you the peace, comfort, and strength during this very trying time. We love your family and are in awe of your faith! The Denham Family

Denham Family - April 02, 2020 at 01:41 PM



“ So very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Nick, Cindy, Logan LaMarca - April 02, 2020 at 09:51 AM



“ We are sorry to hear of John's passing. Praying for Michelle and his family. I am thankful that John is at peace. I hope and pray that God gives Michelle and John's family peace, comfort, strength and understanding as only HE can. Thank you John and your Family for your service to your country. I know John's friends and classmates remember him fondly. Our prayers go out for John and his family. God Bless us all and His Will be done!

Vint Thibodaux

Vint Thibodaux - April 01, 2020 at 10:58 PM



“ Had the privilege of becoming friends with John through our mutual love for writing and surprising him with my interest in the Stearman aircraft. What a talented gentleman! Hope his book gets out there.

Kathryn J. Martin - April 01, 2020 at 10:20 PM



“ Got acquainted @ Carter Plantation. Prayed with him on a couple of occasions. So sorry to hear this news. Continued prayers for the family. En agape

Glynn Fendlason - April 01, 2020 at 08:16 PM



“ Michelle, so sorry to hear John passed. John, You & your children are in Mine and Cindy's prayers.



Jim and Cindy Beach - April 01, 2020 at 07:57 PM



“ Please accept my profound sorrow for your great loss...to his wife Michelle and Children as well as his siblings.

He was such a kind man and while after college I had less contact with him, I still remember clearly the excitement he felt as he told me about joining the Navy. He was like a kid in his excitement. It was clear he found his passion early in life and persued it with gusto....and it led him to his wife Michelle. She completed him and for that I am grateful.

I pray that the peace that surpasses all understanding fill his family as they process their grief. In Jesus name I pray, Amen

Gretchen M Twickler - April 01, 2020 at 07:45 PM



“ Our thoughts & prayers are with the Dufreche family.

Larry & Becky Roberts - April 01, 2020 at 08:52 PM



“ Many prayers of peace and comfort for his family. John and I attended PHS together and always remained friends thereafter. He was always so respectful of ladies and the elderly, always kind and sweet to all who knew him. Yes he was a bit of a character, a prankster loving to make people smile. He will be dearly missed, always remembered and I know you all will make sure his grandchildren feel they know the inspirational man personally that I had the privilege of calling my Friend

Shelly Watts Cummings - April 02, 2020 at 12:01 AM



“ Mrs. Dufreche and Family

Very sorry to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Gerald, Julie, and Shea Monteleone



Julie - April 01, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ Michelle, so sorry to hear John passed. John, You & your children are in my prayers.
Cheryl Tribou

Cheryl Tribou - April 01, 2020 at 02:46 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you.

Gordon Anderson - April 01, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear of John's passing. He was such a kind and gentle man. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family and along with you, we take solace in Jesus's assurance that John will be with Him forever.

Jack & Jerri Hinson - April 01, 2020 at 12:02 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear about John! Our thoughts and prayers are with all of his family! Heaven gained a great angel! Paul & Elaine Laurent

Paul & Elaine Laurent - April 01, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ I remember classroom jokes with John from Catholic school thru High School. Also the time he took me up in his airplane! He was an awesome pilot and friend!

Debra Costanza-Jones - April 01, 2020 at 11:02 AM