



Murray W. Massel

January 19, 1953 - September 8, 2018

Murray W. Massel

Murray, age 65, unexpectedly passed away on Saturday, September 8, 2018. He was a native of Kenner and a 32-year resident of Ponchatoula. Murray served four years in the United States Marine Corps, having honorably defended his country during the Vietnam War. He also proudly served as a Kenner Police Officer for many years, and later became one of the best safety supervisors in his company. Murray was an avid deer hunter and would usually be found dressed in camo. He was a well-liked and loved baseball coach and umpire, who helped revive and reestablish the Dixie Youth, Minors, and Majors Program in Ponchatoula. Murray adored his family more than anything and always made sure to say 'I love you' before he left for work, no matter the time or place. He was an honorable and kind family man that is already deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Murray leaves behind his loving wife of 37 years, Margaret "Mardi" Massel; children, Will Massel and wife Tina, Christian Massel, Casey Massel and wife Brooke, Brandy Lynn Massel Gumela and husband Donnie, Tommy Massel and wife Danyell, and Hunter Massel; grandchildren, Sadie-Lynn 'Bug' Gumela, Mia Massel, Donald 'Joseph' Gumela Jr, Vincent Massel, Ariadne Massel, Adrianna Massel, Charleigh Gumela, Lincoln Massel, Hunter Massel Jr, London Massel, Brennan Matecun, and Alyssa Matecun; siblings, Merle

Massel Mulkey and husband Shelton Jr, Cheryl Massel Kibat and husband Michael, Artie Massel, Lorraine Massel Dendinger and husband Joe, and Michael Massel and wife Pam; godchildren, Cheli Gavitt and Tyler Smith; mother-in-law, Myrtle Adams of Morganza; and his yellow lab, Murray's Cajun Buddy.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Florence and Merlin Massel; and his father-in-law, Ralph Adams of Morganza.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Ponchatoula Police Department to help the cost of their vests and safety equipment.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the visitation from the chapel of Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, Ponchatoula, Saturday, September 15, 2018, 10:00 a.m. until the Memorial Service at 1:00 p.m.

Condolences and other information can be found at www.thompsoncares.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **15**. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home - Ponchatoula, LA
1190 Highway 51
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
(985) 370-9296

Memorial Service

SEP **15**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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1190 Highway 51
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(985) 370-9296

Tribute Wall

RD

“ Murray I still miss you and the fact of your death is still surreal to me. You were a great big brother and I have fond memories of growing up together even though there was a time when we fought a lot in our youth. You became my closest sibling and I know you watched out for me. I'm so sorry for your tragic death and I pray for the repose of your soul. I'm so sorry I did not stay in closer contact with you and your family. But I'm thankful for the family gatherings we had. Reading the comments that have been posted here, I see so much how you were loved by so many others besides your family. And the smile in your picture here is a true reflection of your personality. One consolation I have is that because you were going out of town on an extended work assignment, you had the opportunity to say goodbye to all your children and grandchildren. I know you are also popping your buttons over your great grandchild, Oakley. Anyway, I love you and I'm blessed to have had you as a big brother for the time that God allowed. Your baby sister, Rani



Rani Dendinger - November 25, 2024 at 03:10 AM

AK

“ I know Merle Mulkey, Mr. Massel's sister from work where she teaches sewing lessons. I want to express my condolences even though I never met Mr. Massel, but heard lovely things about him from Merle. Thank you for your service to you country in a terrible war that we were not winning. My thoughts and prayers for the family and my sincere condolences.
Adele Knauer

Adele Knauer - September 16, 2018 at 10:00 PM

AM

“ Murray was a great person and a great little brother and a fantastic Marine Corps brother. How comforting it was when we were both sent to the jungles of SE Asia to have my own brother there with me. It made a very scary place so much easier to endure. He could have gotten reassigned to a much better and safer place because we were both assigned to the same combat area because and the fact that he had a small child at home. He chose to stay in that hell hole with his big brother based on the fact that we had another little brother, Michael, at home. Since we were in 2 different units and had a soul surviving son, my other little brother, at home our superiors agreed and Murray stayed.

What a great brother and great father and a great husband to Mardi!

Artie Massel - September 15, 2018 at 06:27 AM

AM

Still thinking, loving and missing you every second of my life.

Arthur massel - September 09, 2022 at 09:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Murray W. Massel.



September 14, 2018 at 07:11 PM

KO

“ Murray and I were Marines together (along with his brother Artie) in North Carolina. Murray was a fine Marine and great guy to talk to and have as a friend. He played on our squadron's football team and we also played basketball at lunch in the hangar bay. Murray was a competitive son of a gun. I recall fondly a football game we played in a downpour. Murray was a running back and when he was tackled, he came out of the pile and his glasses were full of mud. He could not see a damn thing, but he was grinning from ear to ear. Murray and I talked on the phone only a few weeks before this tragic accident. He was so excited that he may be coming to Philadelphia for his job. Where he was going was only about 20 minutes from my house and I was also excited to see him. Unfortunately, the work assignment changed and he was going to Montana. When we talked, he always, and I mean always, told me what a wonderful family he had and he was just so proud of them. I had not seen Murray since 1973, but when we talked on the phone, it was as if we were together the previous day. I always followed his Facebook page and he loved to post photos of his family. I can only imagine your pain in losing Murray. I will never forget him.

Knox Owsley

Knox Owsley - September 13, 2018 at 10:02 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Murray W. Massel.



September 12, 2018 at 06:52 PM

AS

“ Arthur Segari lit a candle in memory of Murray W. Massel



Arthur Segari - September 11, 2018 at 08:34 AM

CD

“ Mardi, I just heard the news of your great loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May you all find comfort in your memories, and may God hold you all close to His Sacred Heart.

Cathy P Dugas - September 10, 2018 at 08:02 PM

LB

“ I remember when my son Jeremy was playing baseball,he was calling his game ,and you all know how loud moms can get at ball games ,he call him out with the last pitch.And yes I did yell at him do you need glasses ? and he turned around and said ,well no mam I do not, theses work just fine...lol... He was a good man always had a smile on his face and spoke to me and my husband every time we saw him... My thoughts and prayers are with the family.....

Lisa Barnett - September 10, 2018 at 02:14 PM

MM

Thank you so much for sharing that story.

Mike Massel

Mike Massel - September 11, 2018 at 08:55 AM

ES

“ Dear Margaret and family,

Please know that all generations of your family of Pinkerton Cousins are heartbroken at the loss of your wonderful Murray. He was a sweet, kind, lovable, funny man, and we all adored him. I feel certain that Roy welcomed him and they are sitting somewhere beautiful swapping stories and laughing. I'm sending you all much love, hugs, and prayers for your comfort and peace.

Emily

Emily Pinkerton Saile - September 09, 2018 at 03:53 PM