



James R. Giffin (Dick)

March 20, 2023

James R. Giffin, Dick as he was known, unexpectedly passed away on March 20, 2023.

He was predeceased by his parents James W. and Irene Giffin and his two sisters, Marianna Cyphers and Patricia Giffin. He is survived by his wife Marilou, daughter Amanda Stutzman (Chad) and 2 granddaughters Mackenzie and Courtney Stutzman.

Dick was born in Troy, Ohio and graduated from Fairmont High School in Kettering, Ohio. Following graduation he enlisted in the United States Air Force where he was trained as a Jet Engine Mechanic. His 4 years of service included 1 year in Vietnam. After his military service he continued his technical education at Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology in Tulsa, Oklahoma, graduating as a licensed Jet Engine Mechanic and also an Electronic Technician.

Upon returning to his hometown, Dayton, Ohio, he soon met and married his wife Marilou. Within the first year of their marriage they moved to Sarasota and made it their forever home.

Dick's career was always in 2-way communications, with private businesses as well as the FHP and Sarasota County Sheriff's Office. He retired from the

Sheriff's Office with 23 years of service. He was fondly remembered by the agency as a pioneer who helped the Sheriff's Office into the 21st century with their communication systems.

Retirement brought much happiness to Dick, whether he was enjoying a game of golf, a monthly poker game or tackling the endless Honey Do List (or ignoring that list). Dick was easy-going and a man of few words, but when he did chime in he would have everyone laughing. He had the ability to fix anything and the perseverance to figure out a solution when there didn't seem to be one. The most important thing to him was his family and time with his granddaughters brought him endless joy.

His service will be held April 17, 12:30 pm, at Sarasota National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Tunnel to Towers, St. Jude's Children Hospital or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 17. 12:30 PM (ET)

Sarasota National Cemetery
9810 State Rd 72
Sarasota, FL 34241
(941) 922-7200

Tribute Wall

BR

“ Dick was my neighbor for 14 years and we always had a good time whether golfing, playing seven card holdem or just socializing out to different restaurants. They had Kentucky Derby parties and they were great. Frozen bourbon was my favorite. One of the funniest times I remember with him was we were playing golf at the old Sarasota Golf Club and I was and still am known as a ball hawk as I would always search for golf balls. This particular day it was a day in dry season and the lakes were down low so I saw a bunch of balls so naturally I said I'm going to get them. However unbeknown to me when I started walking in I quickly sank to my knees in the mud. Never reached the golf balls but we had a great laugh as I tried to get the mud off my legs and shoes. I also remember how neat and organized Dick was. Everything was labeled and perfectly stored in his garage. I'm only sorry we lost contact after we moved to Venice. I miss the good times we had.

Bob Rosenthal - March 30, 2023 at 10:31 AM