



## John R. Ferris

August 16, 1935 - March 5, 2018

John R. Ferris, 82, of Sarasota, Florida and formerly of Strongsville, Ohio passed away March 5, 2018. John was born August 16, 1935 in Rochester, NY, the son of the late Fred and Angie (Mastrella) Ferris.

Survived by his wife Debbie of 31 years, his daughter Tracy (Ferris) Bucher and her husband Rick, daughters Joan Ferris and Kathy Ferris, grandson Joe Bucher and granddaughter Liz Bucher, sister Jackie Brietenbach of Port St. Lucie Florida. He attended Aquinas Institute of Rochester, New York and graduated from the University of Dayton with a bachelor of science in business administration.

Upon graduating from high school, he entered the US Army and was stationed in Korea. During his tour in Korea, John was one of 159 persons aboard a Globe-master transport that crashed on an island in the Han River. John told his parents he was "all right but a little shaken up". This plane crash limited his desire to fly. After an honorable discharge from the US Army, John took on careers. He was a salesman for Shell Oil Company, owned and operated Shell Gas Stations in Dayton, Ohio, and owned and operated Frogs Lounge in Dayton, Ohio. After selling Frogs in 1990, he worked for the Montgomery County Sheriff Office and then found his love as a substitute teacher in Dayton, Ohio, Strongsville, Ohio, Westfield, New York, and Sarasota Florida. John had an outgoing personality, was a very active individual and loved his life. He cherished his many, many friendships. John did not meet a person who chose not to be his friend. He was very involved in the National Police

Softball Tournament in Dayton, Ohio where he again acquired so many long and lasting friendships of police officers from New York City, Michigan, Illinois, and Washington DC. John was a high school football and lacrosse referee in Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania. He currently enjoyed working everyday as a substitute teacher for the Sarasota County School District. He loved working with students in middle school and high school where again he developed many friendships. The students either loved him or loathed him. A visitation will be held on Monday, March 12, 2018, from 4:00pm til 8:00pm, at Toale Brothers Funeral Home, Gulf Gate Chapel, 6903 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34231. A funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 9:30am, at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 2506 Gulf Gate Drive, Sarasota, FL 34231. Burial will follow at 12:30pm, at Sarasota National Cemetery, 9810 State Road 72, Sarasota, FL 34241. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ I just heard of John's passing and wanted to offer my sincere condolences. Many fond memories of John from Frogs.

Mark Smith - May 31, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Debbie, Tracy, friends and family...

I just learned of John's passing. You have my deepest condolences for your loss. I have to wonder if John and Jim will meet in Heaven. That might have actually happened the day the winds blew through town! May he R.I.P.

Renee Drumm - April 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I just heard of John's passing today. I am so sorry I wasn't able to say goodbye in person to him. The man was an absolute riot and I adored him. He was fresh, told dirty jokes, but he was also so kind, thoughtful and a friend not only to me but to my daughter Sam. He will always hold a special place in my heart.

Diane Gentile - March 14, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Debbie so sorry for your loss. I have special memories of John going back numerous years even before you joined the board.



Jeff Hoy - March 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ John was an honorary member of the Strongsville Math Department. His booming, infectious laugh will always be remembered fondly. Lots of love and support to the Ferris family from SHS.

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**Kim Scott** - March 10, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ to a long time good friend, he called me every year and wished me a happy birthday on the Marine Corps birthday. A good man. OH and Hey John if your reading this, we had a few good laugh's over the years didn't we ? All my love SKI

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March 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ I am so sorry for your loss. John was a special person who always Lit up the room. A lot of great memories in Dayton with The Ferris Family.

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**Jim Waldron** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Tracy...Just read about your father's passing. I fondly remember him from the SO. My deepest sympathy is extended to you & your family...Patti Swisher, retired Admin. Asst. MCSO, Dayton OH

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**Patti Swisher** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ John will surely be missed greatly! He always had a smile and a joke or comment for me as I came by with my little friend every morning, or as I walked by on break. The children loved him! We all did! He will be remembered.

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**Kathy Rosales** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Words can't explain the feelings I have for John. He was a man that would light up the room every time he would enter and bring a smile to my face no matter how tough the day had been. I have nothing but the fondest memories and greatest respect for him. Thank you for being a friend and bringing joy to all those around you. May you rest in paradise my friend.

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**Mark Butch Wade** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ He will be missed. The children were always happy to see him. We hope to see Debbie she is missed to in our classroom. Hugs from all the children and us.

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**Claudia Bowen** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ John will truly be missed. He had a sense of humor that kept us all on our toes. I'm sure you will bring a little excitement to Heaven. Rest in Peace.  
Patti K. RHS

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**Patti Karabatsos** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ John was a bright spot in my day whenever I saw him. Always enjoyed giving each other a hard time about work. He will be missed.

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**Travis Smith** - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ John was always happy and joking around. Always a bright spot in my morning. My dreams told me John was at peace. We will keep Debbie close and busy. And pray for her peace and strength.

Nikki Brock - March 07, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ God bless you John Ferris, you will be missed. Your larger than life personality has left a big void here on earth. But, there are many great memories of you and stories to be told. We will take care of Debbie. Until we meet again.

Terri & Charlie Kean - March 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ I have very fond memories of my uncle as a child, he was larger than life! He will be missed immensely. My sincere condolences Debbie, Joni, and Ron, you all are in thoughts and prayers

Renee Breitenbach - March 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Rest In Peace to my beloved brother. Will always love you

Jackie Breitenach - March 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Jeff and Debbie Green, Children, Jessica, Jonathan and Nicholas! He will missed for sure Our prayers and condolences go out to his Loving wife Debbie, Children, Grandchildren as well as Family and Friends!  
Till we meet again, RIP Frog!  
We Love you!

Jeff and Debbie Green - March 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM