



Colonel Richard A. Fink

October 21, 1929 - October 1, 2024

Richard A. Fink of Sarasota passed away on October 1, 2024. He was born in Hasbrouck Heights, NJ and graduated from the University of Vermont in 1951, at which he was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and the track team. He worked for Metropolitan Life Insurance for 32 years as a Group Insurance Account Sales Executive.

Upon retirement, he moved to Sarasota where he was a resident for 35 years. Colonel Fink was an active member of St. Boniface Episcopal Church on Siesta Key and an avid golfer and tennis player, playing tennis into his 88th year. He and his wife traveled extensively during their retirement years.

Following graduation from the University of Vermont and ROTC, he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served in combat as an infantry rifle platoon leader in the Korean War on Heartbreak Ridge with the 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. Following the war he became a member of the active U.S. Army Re-serves, retiring after 30 years of combined active army and active reserve duty as a full Colonel commanding the 2nd Brigade, 78th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, NJ active re-serves. During his service, he was decorated with the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge and many other medals for active and active reserve duty service. Colonel Fink attended several senior reserve officer schools during his military career.

His devoted wife Claire of nearly 69 years predeceased him earlier this year. He leaves a daughter Susan Hillel (Pavel) of Osprey, FL, a son Donald (Melanie) of Wolfeboro, NH, a daughter Linda Campbell (Edmund) of Treasure Island, FL and grandsons Daniel and David (Gina) Michalak of NJ.

His funeral service will be held at Bay Village at 10 am on November 14. Burial will follow at the Sarasota National Cemetery at 1 pm.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV **14**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Bay Village
8400 Vamo Rd
Sarasota, FL 34231
<https://bayvillage.org/>

Burial

NOV **14**. 1:00 PM (ET)

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