



Jack Merwin Sands

January 27, 1932 - February 14, 2019

Jack Merwin Sands, age 87, of Waldorf, Maryland, died on February 14, 2019.

He was born in Northville, NY on January 27, 1932. A 1950 graduate of Northville High School, Jack served in the U. S. Marine Corps for 9 years, and then had a career with the U. S. Park Police, retiring as a Major.

A life member of the DC Ramblers Motorcycle Club, he had ridden Harley's for more than 400,000 miles. For several years, Jack supported the Any Soldier online program by sending care packages to members of the Armed Forces, who were deployed overseas.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife Shirley, son Mark, grandsons Patrick and Jeffrey. Jack is survived by daughters Dawn Johnson (Ralph), Marjorie Brown (Jim) and William Rew; grandchildren Scott Johnson, Jimmy Brown, Crissy Rew, Tiffany Sands, and Justin Sands; ten great grandchildren and one great great grandson; siblings Betsy Saltsman and Edwin Knott.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 from 5PM to 8PM with Services at 7PM at Raymond Funeral Service, P.A., 5635 Washington Avenue, La Plata, Maryland 20646. Funeral Procession to leave the funeral home on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 10AM for 11AM Service and interment at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Any Soldier Inc., P.O. Box 715,
Waldorf, MD 20604 or online at www.anysoldier.com.

Previous Events

Friends Received

FEB 27. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Service

FEB 27. 7:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Interment

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

MD Veterans Cemetery - Cheltenham, MD
11301 Crain Highway
Cheltenham, MD 20623

Tribute Wall



“ *Jack Merwin Sands*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Jack Merwin Sands*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Dear Margie and all the Sand's family...Jack has been on my mind past few days w/Feb. 14, approaching. There's no finer family man, police officer/leader or human being I know of. God Bless each of you w/His Comfort, Peace and Love. Perhaps Valentine's Day is appropriate for your special memories. With our regards and thoughts, Dave&Shirlee*

David McAllister, uspp(ret) - February 11, 2020 at 02:58 PM

CK

“ During the 1980's I worked in DC for a company that operated the food and retail concessions for the National Park service. During the dedication service of the Vietnam Memorial I was in the Lincoln Memorial circle which was blocked off to traffic. I was looking for Sgt. Gussiato who commanded the War Wagon command post. I ran into an officer of the UPPP that I had previously not met. I asked him if Gussiato was in the War Wagon as I had coffee for him. The officer said that Gus was indeed in the command center. As I was leaving I read his name tag: SANDS. My mother and her 4 brothers were Sands from upstate New York and I almost asked him if there was a connection. I went on and thought nothing more about it. Fast forward 25 years and my mother had established a relationship with a cousin named Betsy from upstate New York whose family name was Sands and her brother named Jack who was a Major in the USPP in DC. When my mother told me about this I immediately saw the name tag "Sands" in my mind and kicked myself in the butt for not asking Jack about the family name 25 years ago. We emailed a few times and compared war stories about DC in the 80's. GREAT GUY.

Chuck Knight
Spring Hill, TN
cskiik2@gmail.com

Chuck Knight - April 14, 2019 at 12:48 PM

CS

“ Truly the most dedicated man for whom I ever worked. Only had accomplishment of the mission in mind.

Chip Smallwood

Chip Smallwood - March 05, 2019 at 08:25 AM

BF

“ I consider my association with members of the US Park Police one of my greatest honors especially the recruit class of 1963 of which Jack Sands was a member. Regardless of my fondness of all the members I think Jack was a head above the rest of us. His integrity was untouchable and his dedication to duty full time. Shirley (good wife) once told me after working his shift with the Park Police he would come home and work another 8 hours writing training bulletins and anything else that would make an officer's job easier. I never saw Jack lose his temper. He was the same man regardless of the situation, cool and collected ready to take on any task. I worked and socialized with Jack when he was in Seattle and I was on a 2 year assignment at Olympic National Park about 50 miles away. When visiting my wife and I I recall him sitting in our living room listing to my Floyd Cramer recordings saying this is the best music I've ever heard. Jack Sands should have been Chief of the US Park Police. There was never a man more qualified for the job. Rest in Peace my friend.

Bill Frazier

Bill and Faye Frazier - March 01, 2019 at 11:19 PM

MR

“ As part of Jack's first rookie class, I have so many great memories - flag detail at the Monument, Statue of Liberty assignment - that had a positive influence throughout my life. Having no military background, marching was new to me, but Sgt. Sands overcame my two left feet by making me carry a brick in my left hand. He never forgot us, for he continued to send us fond memories and vintage photographs in his Christmas cards. To this day, whenever I see a brick, I want to pick it up. (By the way, I was his favorite.) Well done, "Sarge"! Thanks for everything.

Mike & Paula Kirby

Mike Kirby, USPP Retired - February 28, 2019 at 09:59 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Jack Merwin Sands.*



February 27, 2019 at 09:45 AM



“ *Dear family of Jack Sands:*

When I learned of Jack's death I was completely stunned and saddened and knew that I had lost a dear friend. I first met Jack in the summer of 1963 when we were Correctional Officers at the D.C. Lorton Reformatory. Later, we both became members of the 1963 Recruit Class of the U. S. Park Police and, the rest is history. Jack was a wonderful friend to me and I will sincerely miss him. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Sincerely,

*Bobby W. and Mary Lou Huffman, Sr.
Retired U. S. Park Police*

Bobby W. Huffman - February 26, 2019 at 10:02 PM

NM

“ I met Jack during the Ms. Harley Davidson contest in 1985-86. I was the 1st runner up. I had lived in Mayfield, NY at the time and knew his brother Ed. Through my eventual business as publisher of “Green Energy Times,” I re-met Ed which started a connection with Jack who sent me pics from 85-86. He was very supportive of that and also of the military parts of my own family that included my brother who died in a plane crash en route to Vietnam and my father's past in the marines. He was a very honest, loyal person and very proud of both his involvement with Harley Davidson and his military past. He will be missed.

Nancy Rae Mallery - February 24, 2019 at 07:52 PM

MH

“ He was Commander of my Park Police rookie class in 1970, and we stayed in touch since then. There are lots of memories. I especially enjoyed taking him out on the Marine Unit boat in New York in the early 1980's. Rest In Peace. Mike Healy and Donna

Michael and Donna Healy - February 23, 2019 at 04:30 PM

JM

“ I was honored to meet your dad as a member of the first rookie school he conducted on Haines Point in 1969. We took the flags down at the Washington Monument in the evening under his direction. He was a true Patriot. I will miss his e-mails on special days such as the Marine Corps birthday, the aforementioned anniversaries of the flag details. I began a regular e-mail regiment with him and began to know him as the true man he was. He kept me abreast of what was happening in the D.C. area as I live in Georgia. I can picture him now on the Marine Corps birthday marching proudly with his brothers. Our prayers go with you and family at this time. time.

Jack and Dianne Monbouquette - February 22, 2019 at 04:49 PM

PB

“ I will miss Jack. He was such a patriot and he loved his family. I will miss our conversations about motorcycles, politics, and military service.

He was a man of integrity who served his country proudly.
Enjoy heaven my friend!

Patrick Bujarski - February 22, 2019 at 04:09 PM

JW

“ Memories are very private things a personal Storehouse of Treasures and Sorrows. I will Never forget the many days you called on the Phone talking to Jim and I when I felt my world Was falling into pieces when I had to face the Fact Jim was going to be with God. My heart is Is filled with Gratitude to you Jack. I find the Things we talked about made me stronger to Deal with my pain. We experience life in so Many ways at times it challenges us with Unexpected difficulties but you were right We become stronger and more self sufficient We learn how to depend on ourselves we Really have no other choice..
I whisper to your ear....Thank you my Friend For checking on me every two weeks and sharing Laughs with me last week....I will miss your Different stories and your crew cut...like Jim s You both were amazing men....Your Wife and I hit the STARS with you two.....miss you both.
June Woolfenden

June Woolfenden - February 21, 2019 at 10:45 PM

JS

“ Jack's death has come too soon. We all knew Jack as a dedicated member of the U.S. Park Police and a caring family member whom I first met through his loving wife Shirley. It was a very sad day when my "adopted sister" Shirley left us and, now, we are saddened by the loss of Jack with whom many of us shared experiences, memories, and photos. I knew Jack as both a dedicated Marine and proud Park Police Officer. He knew me as a Marine Corps "brat", born in Parris Island to a life-long Marine, and he knew me as a friend and Park Police civilian retiree. Thank you, Jack, for your friendship and your devoted and excellent service to both the USMC and USPP. Semper Fi!
Joan Smith

Joan L. Smith - February 20, 2019 at 06:34 PM

GG

“ Jack and I were boyhood friends since 1940. We have been in touch off and on all these years. I will miss him greatly. We have had some wonderful times through eMail hashing over "The Good Old Days".
Rest in Peace Jack and May the Good Lord comfort the family
Gar R Goodemote, Stanton Iowa.

Gary Goodemote - February 19, 2019 at 06:37 PM

DM

“ I worked with and for Jack Sands 20-yrs. Jack was an excellent Peace Officer, supervisor, manager, Leader and role model to many. In nearly 50-yrs. of police service w/four different agencies, I've served w/hundreds of officers, and I would rate Jack Sands integrity, character, demeanor and ability among the top. Jack was my friend.

David McAllister - February 19, 2019 at 03:03 PM

LP

“ Love, Rich & Lucy Parkerson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jack Merwin Sands.



Love, Rich & Lucy Parkerson - February 19, 2019 at 10:55 AM

MF

“ Jack Sands was a fine a man who ever walked. He had great integrity and was a fantastic role model. I never heard a negative thing said about him even though he was tough and had very high standards which he lived up to in every way. Although he served as commander of the NYFO for only a short period of time he became my most treasured mentor and we kept in touch for several years thereafter. His service to our wonderful country as a Marine was his proudest achievement. A great voice has been stilled and he should have been appointed Chief of the USPP. Michael Fellner

Michael Fellner - February 19, 2019 at 09:14 AM

WL

“ Jack Sands was a leader and developed excellent assisted in developing the law enforcement curriculum used today. His leadership skills are with me today. Willie Lemay

william lemay - February 19, 2019 at 08:19 AM

RP

“ A GOOD Man - A GOOD MARINE - A GOOD and HONEST POLICEMAN.

Roger Phillips - February 18, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jack Merwin Sands.



February 18, 2019 at 07:24 AM



“ Mike Carey lit a candle in memory of Jack Merwin Sands



Mike Carey - February 17, 2019 at 05:30 PM



“ Brian Reilly lit a candle in memory of Jack Merwin Sands



Brian Reilly - February 17, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Brian Reilly - February 17, 2019 at 03:20 PM

TF

“ One of the finest I worked with for 27 years.; We wrote emails often, a brilliant man and a good friend. Hope to see you later on. REST I(N PEACE Jack.

Tony Ferraro - February 17, 2019 at 12:03 PM

KJ

“ I first met Jack when I joined the Department in June of 1970, he was in charge of our rookie class. He was all business, by the book and a tough DI. There were times we wanted to strangle him, especially after marching around Hains Point twice, in formation wearing raincoats and carrying our riot bags. But in the end, I think he prepared us well for the street.

Over the years, I developed a great respect for the him. He was a good cop, and a great supervisor.

You served your country well my friend, may you Rest In Peace.

Kenny Green

Kenny Green Jr. - February 17, 2019 at 09:58 AM

MB

I heard that story many times known as the "Death March". If I recall correctly some of you guys were throwing spit balls on a day he had a guest speaker come into the classroom.
Margie - his daughter

Marjorie Brown - February 18, 2019 at 06:33 PM

PM

Rest in Heavenly Peace. It was an honor to know you. 🇺🇸⭐

Paula Kohlhaas Miller - February 18, 2019 at 09:43 PM

DM

Yes Marjorie, the story is true. When asked the guilty to come forth, all declined. All suffered the consequence.

David McAllister - February 19, 2019 at 03:11 PM

KJ

Margie, the spit balls were one of our minor infractions. The march was a result of another infraction. It was standard for us to snap to attention anytime an officer of any rank entered the room. The first person to see the officer would yell "class attention" and we would respond. On the day of the march a few of us were in the room during lunch break and your dad walked in. No one said or did anything. Your dad walked over to the first officer he saw and asked; "what do you say Officer....?". To which the officer responded, "how the blank are you Sarge, " your dad almost exploded. Shortly thereafter we were forming up in the parking lot and the rest is history.

Kenny Green

Kenny Green Jr. - February 19, 2019 at 04:32 PM

JM

I was also a member of the 1970 recruit class under Jack and echo Kenny Green's comments. Even though he was hard on us he was truly respected by each and every member of the class. He truly helped build the foundation for my career.

JJ McLaughlin

JJ McLaughlin - February 25, 2019 at 08:18 PM

GD

“ It was a pleasure working with Jack in SFB. He was a good person and I can still see him walking the halls. He will be missed by all of us that worked with and for him.

Happy that he finally started riding his Harley after retirement. We tried to get him to ride while he was working.

With Deepest Sympathy.

Greg Dalrymple (Retired USPP Motorman)

Greg Dalrymple - February 16, 2019 at 05:24 PM

CS

“ Dear Margie and Family,

Your Dad was one of the finest men that I have ever known in my life. He and

i started off as "Buds" when he came on the United States Park Police in 1962.

He was President of the Class of 1963. There were 28 of us in that class, and

now we have 13 remaining. I have never met anyone who did not agree that

Jack Sands was among the best officers to ever wear a US Park Police Badge.

Jack and I spent a lot of time together over the last 57 years and I will miss him dearly.

Love and Prayers. Charlie

Charles E. McLane, Sr. - February 16, 2019 at 02:13 PM

RM

RIP Jack -- I'm going to miss our weekly e-mails (for years). Thanks for your publication of "The Motorcycle Marines, an Illustrated History," all of those service members you recognized, and all of those articles you wrote that were published in the "Leatherneck" magazine. The Marine Corps hymn states that the streets of heaven are guarded by U.S. Marines. Stand your post Marine, Semper Fi, Ron Miller

Ron Miller - February 18, 2019 at 01:48 PM

CS

What a great man to work for. I remember when he got his beloved APC and took a ride in the Anacostia. What a smile on his face. God bless him.

Chip Smallwood

Chip Smallwood - February 19, 2019 at 06:29 AM