



John Alvin Odom

December 2, 1949 - July 31, 2021

John Alvin Odom, age 71 of Indian Head, Maryland, died on July 31, 2021 at Complete Care (formerly La Plata Genesis) in La Plata, Maryland. He was born on December 2, 1949 in Havre de Grace, Maryland and lived in New Orleans, Louisiana for a short time as well as Port Deposit, Maryland before moving to Indian Head. He called Cecil County home where he lived most of his life – he liked living in the country and small-town life where everyone is friendly.

He had a great sense of humor and loved sitting around a campfire sharing amusing stories often about adventures and escapades while growing up at what he affectionately called "The Farmhouse," usually with Gary and Jan at his side enjoying the mischief they always encountered and also entertaining everyone with his witty philosophies of life. When John was going to 1st grade, he didn't want to go – he told his mother that he couldn't possibly go to school "because I don't know how to read or write!" (This was an often-told story with his family.) Through his years as a young man, he would introduce himself very seriously - "my name is John, but they call me Johnny." Many of his friends remember him as "Johnny."

He lived a humble life but was always quick to share what he had with someone in need. As a young man, he loved the "muscle cars" and managed to own a couple of them over the years. As a young boy, he was always

fascinated with how things worked and was always taking his toys apart to figure out how they worked. He dreamed of becoming an engineer.

He attended North East High School. He registered for the draft when he turned 18 and after Basic Training was sent to Vietnam. He served his country with honor in the U.S. Army, 25th Infantry - "Tropic Lightning." He was quite proud of belonging to that group. He did two tours in Vietnam and was awarded a Bronze Star for Heroism in Combat with "V" Device (Oak Leaf Cluster) for Valor as well as a Purple Heart. He was given an Honorable Discharge.

He was preceded in death by his father, Cecil Odom and his mother, Susie Davey

He leaves to cherish his memory his son, John A. Odom, Jr.; one brother, Gary Odom; two sisters, Jan Alvarez and Sandra Cowan; and two grandchildren, Lilly Odom and Payton Odom.

Funeral services will be private.

Tribute Wall



“ *My uncle John was the motivator for my joining the US Army, As a young child he showed me many ways to have fun and to make friends. I miss him very much. I was never contacted over his passing*

*In loving memory
James Deitzel (Bayreuth, Germany)*

James Deitzel - October 09, 2025 at 05:52 AM



“ *John Alvin Odom*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *John Alvin Odom*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Johnny,
Grief never ends...
But it changes.
It's a passage, not a place to stay.
Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith.
It is merely the price of Love.
Anonymous*

Jan Alvarez - August 07, 2021 at 03:50 PM

JA

“ *Jan Alvarez sent a virtual gift in memory of John Alvin Odom*



Jan Alvarez - August 05, 2021 at 08:11 PM

JA

“ *Jan Alvarez lit a candle in memory of John Alvin Odom*



Jan Alvarez - August 05, 2021 at 12:06 PM

SM

So Sorry For Your Loss Prayers

sue marx - August 07, 2021 at 06:29 AM

SC

“ *To John, you are my brother, my best friend, and my mentor. I will always love and cherish all of our memories growing up together. I will especially remember pops 1954 yellow Chevy Convertible and the one fantastic drive you and I had in it.*

So, good bye and so long for now. Rest easy my brother. I will always love you.

*Your brother,
Gary.*

Sandy Cowan - August 04, 2021 at 06:03 PM

JA

“ *Jan Alvarez lit a candle in memory of John Alvin Odom*



Jan Alvarez - August 04, 2021 at 01:54 PM

SC

“ *My brother gone too soon. I pray that you have found peace with our Lord. Your suffering here is done. You will be sadly missed. We did have some fun times and that is how I shall remember you always.*

Your sister'
Sandy

Sandy Cowan - August 04, 2021 at 01:19 PM

JA

“ *My Brother, my forever friend. Gone, but never forgotten, always in my heart. My love for you can never die. I pray you are now at peace and resting in the arms of Jesus. You were an honored Army Veteran, a true Patriot, and Hero. I treasure the memories of growing up with you and the fun we had. Rest in Peace, my Beloved Brother. Your Sister Forever, Jan*

Jan Alvarez - August 03, 2021 at 02:09 PM