



David Otis Putnum

September 14, 1951 - July 20, 2021

David Otis Putnum, 69, of Sparland, passed away on July 20, 2021, at the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria. He was born on September 14, 1951, to Eugene Otis Putnum and Mildred Frances Johnston in Mattoon, IL. He married the love of his life, Tonya “Toni” Putnum, on February 19, 1994, in Negril, Jamaica; she survives.

He is also survived by two sons, Nathan Otis Putnum of California and Brent Evans of Lacon; his daughter, Casey (Charlie) Ortiz of Princeton; his sister, Mary (John) George of West Peoria; two granddaughters, Justyce McFall of Creve Coeur and Jade Newhalfen of Henry; two grandsons, Spencer Otis Putnum and Brody Putnum of Sparland; his great-grandson, Jeffrey Crockett of Creve Coeur; many nieces and nephews; and his beloved pomeranian buddy, Junyor.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Cindy Soto; his brother, Jon Putnum; and his sister-in-law, Rita Putnum.

David graduated from Central High School before joining the Marines as an MP in Barstow, California. He then worked at the Caterpillar Tech Center as a research mechanic for 35 years and was a very strong Union man with the Local 974. He was a member of the American Legion Limestone Post 979 in Bartonville, the Allendale Conservation Club, and the dart team in Chillicothe. David loved all sports, especially the Chicago Bears and Cubbies. He was always very competitive in sports and loved playing horseshoes, skiing, sky diving, playing ball, golfing, and playing pool in several leagues in the area.

He enjoyed playing steel darts from Vegas to Chicago to every Tuesday with his dart buddies in Chillicothe. David loved camping at Allendale Conservation, hitting all the campfires he could find, always willing to lend a hand. He also enjoyed riding bikes from his early years of dirt bikes to his Harley.

David adored his family, his kids, grandkids, and his buddy Junyor in his lap. He enjoyed spending time around the fire in his yard. Most of all, he loved his life with Toni and the adventures they would get into, from jumping out of a plane, Halloween parties, to clowning around or just sitting at the table with the TV off, talking and laughing with each other. He will be truly missed by so many.

His wife Toni would like to give her sincere appreciation to his family and friends who came together to help David through his sickness.

Visitation will be from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM on Monday, July 26, 2021, with a funeral service following at 1:00 PM at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria. Burial, with full military rites, will follow at LaSalle Cemetery in Rome, IL.

Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or the Memorial Fund for David's Medical Expenses c/o Toni Putnum at Hometown Banks. Online condolences may be left at www.GaryDeitersFH.com.

Cemetery Details

LaSalle Cemetery

Rome, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 26. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria
444 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611

Funeral Service

JUL 26. 1:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria
444 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611

Tribute Wall



“ *David Otis Putnum*

October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ *Richie And Kathy Sinks lit a candle in memory of David Otis Putnum*



Richie and Kathy Sinks - July 24, 2021 at 10:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Otis Putnum.*



July 24, 2021 at 10:53 AM



“ *Cathy Dover(cue And Brew) lit a candle in memory of David Otis Putnum*



cathy dover(cue and brew) - July 24, 2021 at 09:55 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of David Otis Putnum.*



July 24, 2021 at 08:55 AM



“ *Mary George lit a candle in memory of David Otis Putnum*



Mary George - July 23, 2021 at 09:59 AM



“ *Dear Brother David, I sincerely believe that at the end of Your Journey you will be welcomed by our family. You were my younger brother and I have loved you all my life and I will keep you in my heart till the day we meet again.*

Mary George - July 23, 2021 at 09:58 AM