

John William Holden

July 25, 1944 - June 1, 2023

John W. Holden, 78, of East Peoria, passed away on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. He was born in Peoria on July 25, 1944, to William and Lois (Stierwalt) Holden.

He is survived by his sister Carol (Bruce) Studer of St. Louis; his brother, Daniel (Michele) Holden of Phoenix; 4 nephews, Joshua, Kevin, and Scott Studer and Eric Holden; and 6 great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Mary.

John graduated from Woodruff High School in 1962. He then joined the Navy, serving for 4 years during the Vietnam War. He worked several jobs until he joined the East Peoria Fire Department, achieving his lifelong goal of becoming a fireman. Later in his career, John was honored to be given the nickname "Pappy" by his fellow firefighters.

He loved woodworking and donated many items to local teachers and schools.

A Memorial Service, with the Fireman Bell Ceremony, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria, with visitation from 1:00 p.m. until the time of service. A graveside service, with full military honors, will be held at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the East Peoria Ambulance Memorial Fund. Online condolences may be left at www.GaryDeitersFH.com.

Cemetery Details

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

2900 Sheridan Road
St. Louis, MO

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUN **24.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

JUN **24.** 2:00 PM (CT)

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444 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611

Tribute Wall



“ Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of John William Holden



Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services - June 30, 2023 at 03:14 PM

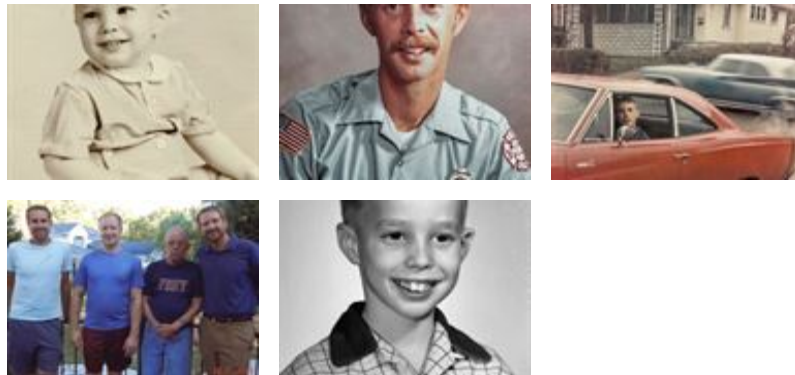


“ John William Holden

October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ 31 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services - June 23, 2023 at 03:03 PM

S1

“ *The Woodruff HS Warrior Nation mourns the loss of a fellow alum.*



S. D. Anderson, WHS Class 1965 - June 17, 2023 at 06:09 PM

RA

“ *ROGER L AYLWARD lit a candle in memory of John William Holden*



ROGER L AYLWARD - June 14, 2023 at 09:31 PM

RA

I met John in 1979 when he joined the EPFD. We faught many fires together. In the mid 1990s we worked together at FireHouse #3 on Engine #3. I was a Lieutenant and John was my Driver/Engineer. He was one of the best Engineer/fire pump operators that I ever worked along side. We worked together until I was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief in 1997. I tried to stay in contact after we both had retired, but only saw each other occasionally. I will miss John. May God Bless him and welcome him into Heaven. Fire Chief R. L. Aylward, EPFD, ret.

ROGER L AYLWARD - June 14, 2023 at 09:44 PM

JK

I worked with John at the Peoria Journal Star early 70's we became good friends, he helped me through some rough spots at the paper, you couldn't find a nicer guy, I took a job with the Spfld. Fire Dept. I wish we . could have worked together I worked on Engine 3. In Spfld. It would have been an honor to fight fires with him.

Jack Kornfeld - November 06, 2023 at 04:40 PM