



John Nelligan O'Shea

October 17, 1944 - September 5, 2025

John Nelligan O'Shea, 80, passed away peacefully in West Palm Beach, FL on September 5, 2025.

John was born in Manhattan, NY in 1944 to parents John and Bernadette O'Shea, the second of six children. John earned a BA and MA from NYU and after graduating he joined the military and served in Vietnam. Following his service, John continued his education at St. John's University where he earned his JD and returned to NYU to earn his LLM. Following law school, John became an attorney as well as a law professor. He went on to enjoy a colorful career as an expert in Intellectual Property.

John met Diane Neal and the two were married in December of 1978. They welcomed their only child, their son, Devlin, to their family and raised him in Morris Plains, NJ.

John was generous, funny and loving- not to mention, a great crooner with a lot of songs to sing! He was beloved by colleagues, friends, and most of all by his family- his loving wife of 46 years Diane O'Shea, his son Devlin, as well as his siblings.

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Christopher Catholic Church on Tuesday September 16th at 10:30am (12001 SE Federal Hwy Hobe Sound, FL 33455).

Burial with Honors will directly follow the Funeral Mass at South Florida National Cemetery at 1:00pm (6507 S-R 7 Lake Worth , FL 33449). Please arrive by 12:45pm and pull into Lane 3.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making a donation in John's Memory to Catholic Relief Services. <https://www.crs.org/donate/>

Cemetery Details

South Florida National Cemetery

6501 South State Road 7
Lake Worth, FL 33449

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

SEP **16**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Christopher Catholic Church
12001 SE Federal Hwy.
Hobe Sound, FL 33455

Burial with Military Honors

SEP **16**. 1:00 PM (ET)

South Florida National Cemetery
6501 South State Road 7
Lake Worth, FL 33449

Please arrive by 12:45pm and pull into Lane 3

Tribute Wall

BN

“ John was the best brother-in-law a family could have. Extremely generous, never judgmental, very excepting, and someone to go to for good, objective advice. He was fun to be with and usually closed out a wonderful night with a timely song. He is missed.
Brian and Kathy Neal

Brian Neal - September 11, 2025 at 03:13 PM

BN

I meant accepting, of course

Brian Neal - September 11, 2025 at 03:15 PM