



Walter Malarkey Drake

October 21, 1942 - April 15, 2021

Walter M. Drake age 78 passed away at the West Palm Beach VA Hospital on Thursday, April 15, 2021.

He was born in the Bronx, NY on Oct 21, 1942 to Elizabeth (Noonan) and Walter J. Drake. Graduated from St. Helenas Business H.S. and entered the U.S. Army (82nd Airborne Division) at age 17. He was wounded in Laos in 1961 while serving as a Cryptographer under the “Howze Board”. His assignment was coding pilot evaluations of UH-1 Huey helicopters for future use in warfare. Honorably discharged in 1963.

Attended L.I. University (CW Post College) graduating '68 with a BS degree in Accounting, he received his NY CPA license in '73. Employed by “Big 8” accounting firm Arthur Andersen for 10 years and was then hired by United Technologies (Pratt & Whitney / Norden) of Hartford, CT.

In 1982 he was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis which limited his mobility to a scooter and wheelchair. Walter moved from Shelton, CT to Jupiter, FL in 2003. However, MS didn't stop his zest for life. Walter could be found cruising the neighborhood in his electric wheelchair and turning up in a neighbor's driveway for an impromptu conversation at any time. He enjoyed going to many of the local breakfast places, watching the boats at Jupiter Inlet, asking random people if they were from NY and supervising any family project.

He was a member of the NYSCPA's, AICPA, Lifetime member of 82nd Airborne Division (paratroopers), American Legion Post #271, Tequesta, FL, Paralyzed Vet Association, Disabled American Vets, USOPF.

He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years Barbara and his caring son Christopher, as well as numerous nieces and nephews whom he loved very much. Also special was his friendship of 60 years to fellow 82nd vets Jim Ellis, Eusebio Madrigal, Jack Stinton, Dick Totino and his childhood friends from the Bronx whom all supported Walter's health to the end. He was preceded in death by his twin sister Maureen.

In lieu of flowers a donation may be sent to the Paralyzed Veterans Association (www.PVA.org).

A Visitation will be held on Sunday, May 2 at Taylor & Modeen, Jupiter, FL from 12-3:00pm. Burial on Monday, May 3 at 2:00pm at the South Florida National Cemetery, 6501 S State Road 7, Lake Worth, FL 33449

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home
250 Center Street
Jupiter, FL 33458
(561) 744-2030
<https://www.taylorandmodeenflorida.com>

Interment with Military Honors

MAY 3. 2:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Walter Malarkey Drake*

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *I was so sorry to hear of Mr. Drake's passing. I have extremely fond memories of him and am sorry I didn't get the chance to tell him he and Mrs. Drake were truly special people in my life before he passed. My sincere condolences to Mrs. Drake and Chris.*

Lylah Franco Hannon - April 09, 2022 at 03:13 PM



“ *Deepest sympathy to Barbara, Chris and lynne on the passing of Walter*

We are all sad over here about his passing but we have great memories of you all when you visited Ireland.

Walter had great love for his relatives in Westmeath and they for him.

His aunt Gertie and cousin Ann never stopped talking about you all and also Elizabeth C.

May they all rest in peace. Barbara you can be so proud of the wonderful care you gave to Walter over all those years and the wonderful hospitality you and Walter afforded my family when they visited you all in U.S.A.

Thinking and praying for you all at this difficult time. John Browne.

john browne - May 04, 2021 at 07:58 AM

JB

“ I first met Walter in 1982 as a 10 year old kid in JFK. Walter was my mother's first cousin and I arrived in the States as an unaccompanied minor to stay with Walter, Barbara and Chris in beautiful Connecticut. We spent the summer taking in the sights. It was truly the holiday of a lifetime. It was so good I returned the following year. These were experiences given to me by Walter and his family that otherwise I would never have had. Walter had a great love of his Irish roots and his Irish family who in turn had a great love for him. Walter always spoke of his Aunt Gertie and his cousin Ann. Walter was a generous man with a huge heart and will be forever remembered with love. I was lucky enough to take my wife and boy's to see Walter and his family in 2007. My son's will never forget Walter and I was so proud he could meet them. Walter was great fun to be around and there was never a dull moment. Rest in Peace Walter you we're one of the good ones and I feel so privileged you were part of our lives.



Justin Browne - May 02, 2021 at 06:17 PM

MF

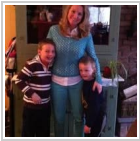
“ Walters son Chris and I worked together out of West Palm Beach Airport and had a great time. That's when I was introduced to his great Dad, Walter. What a character 😊 Always had a great story to tell you or would just say something out of the blue to be funny. I have great respect for all the things he accomplished in his life and the great son he helped raise. I really enjoyed the times I got to visit with him. Take care Walter, you'll be missed sir.

Matt FitzGerald - May 02, 2021 at 10:31 AM

PA

“ Zeke and I are so happy we had the opportunity to meet Walter. We only regret we hadn't met him sooner. We are sure he had many wonderful stories to share with us about his fascinating life! His wife Barbara was there beside him through it all, giving him encouragement and hope but most of all, her love. Rest in peace Walter.....you will be dearly missed by all.....

patti - April 23, 2021 at 08:22 AM



“ Such a fun, smart and wonderful man, always loved hearing him tell a story whenever we saw him with Eamonn and Arlene. Rest In Peace Walter 💕💕

Collette McDonagh - April 22, 2021 at 12:03 PM

CD

“ 1 file added to the album Walter Drake



Chris Drake - April 21, 2021 at 09:59 PM

BB

“ I remember Uncle Wally and Aunt Bobbie would play tennis, but I was thinking...not Uncle Wally...
Had the best time when they lived in Ct.
My children had a ball in their pool. Love you and will miss you Uncle Wally.
Love always..Bobby Jean 💕

Barbara Baker - April 21, 2021 at 07:11 PM