



John Hensley Sr.

June 4, 1946 - January 20, 2021

John Edward Hensley, Sr., passed away on January 20, 2021. He was born June 4, 1946, in Baltimore, Maryland to the late Everett and Lillian Hensley. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sandy; his daughter, Tracie Riley and her husband Tim; his son John Jr., and his fiancé Michele Hart and their children, Anthony, Robbie, Sam and Tyler; sisters, Jeanie Jones and Linda Schmidt; as well as lifelong friends, Al and Pat Ramsburg; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

John was drafted into the Army in 1966, and spent two years at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. After his honorable discharge as a Specialist 5, in 1968, he became a Baltimore City Police Officer, where he was assigned to the Tactical Unit. He later transferred to the Eastern District where he was partnered with Al Ramsburg, who became John's lifelong friend. In 1975, he worked in the helicopter unit, where he was an Aerial Observer, helping the officers on the ground. During his time as a Baltimore City Police Officer, he was awarded many commendations. He resigned after 10 years of service and moved to Delaware to become a property manager. He managed multiple properties for over 25 years. He was President of the Delaware Manufactured Housing Association, where he was instrumental in the amending of the Delaware Landlord/Tenant Code while serving on the Governor's Council.

In addition to enjoying spending time with his family, John had many

hobbies/interests. He was involved in Horse Racing for the better part of his life as an owner, groom and fan, racing horses at the Delaware/Maryland Tracks. He became a single engine pilot and enjoyed flying his own plane in and out of the old Milford Airpark. He later became twin engine rated. John was an avid golfer and he and John, Jr. won several DSGA tournaments. He also enjoyed shooting pool and was once the best pool shooter around. He enjoyed his Friday night card games with Tony, Teddy and Dickie G. For many years he also coached Little League and Big League in Harrington. He certainly lived life to the fullest and will be missed by all who knew him.

John will be cremated according to his wishes. A celebration of life will be planned for a later date to be announced. If you would like to make a memorial donation in his honor please consider a donation to Code Purple 1207 E. Division St., Dover, DE 19901 or online at <http://www.codepurplekentcounty.com/> or the First State Animal Center and SPCA at 32 Shelter Circle, Camden, DE 19934 or online at <https://www.fsac-sPCA.org/>. Cremation arrangements were made by Bennie Smith Funeral Home where you can visit their website or Facebook page to share a memory of John or to plant a tree in his memory.

Tribute Wall

DD

“ So very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Don & Aud Davidson - January 30, 2021 at 07:05 PM

NQ

“ With love and hugs,

Nikki & Cael Quillen - January 29, 2021 at 02:14 PM

ST

“ I'm sorry to hear about the loss of John Sr. Such great memories of him growing up. He was like a dad to all of us who were friends with Jr. He was a part of everything we did growing up whether that was on the baseball fields, playing back yard football at High Point, schooling us at pool, or just teaching us life lessons. He was a constant positive presence in all of our lives and he will not be forgotten. Rest well sir.

Scott Talley - January 26, 2021 at 12:47 PM