

# RICHARD JOHN MACKEY

On June 25, 2024, Richard John Mackey of Plum Boro, PA, died peacefully at 82 years old while being treated at Forbes Hospital in Monroeville. Rich was the son of Robert and Loretta (Ruffner) Mackey. He was born on July 5, 1941, grew up in Braddock and served in the military as a K9 Military Police dog sentry handler. He has three brothers, Robert, Frederick, and Thomas (deceased).

He was a devoted husband to Janet A. (Kajder) Mackey and proud father to Richard (Jennifer) Mackey and Janet (Mackey) Schietroma (Anthony). He was blessed with 3 grandsons Nathan, Oliver, and Thomas who meant the world to him. After a first date ice skating with Janet, Rich was perhaps most proud of the life he and she built together over 57 years. He often spoke of his loyalty and fidelity to his wife and the pride he had in their accomplishments together. Those included their family and friends, and the love they shared.

Building on his Army experience, Rich completed a successful career in law enforcement. Most notably, he was a patrolman for the Allegheny County Police for over 20 years including time as a mounted officer for parades and other special events. He had a love of animals that was infectious and was passed on to his daughter Janet.

He appreciated the fraternal component most from his job. He maintained his association with the Fraternal Order of Police and counted many of his colleagues among his closest of lifelong friends. They were a particular source of strength for him as he recovered from an initial fall last November. While he never liked to watch police shows on TV, he did like to joke that he had a stereotypical love of doughnuts.

Rich had a strong faith and it was important to him throughout the stages of his life. He was proud to have educated his children at his home parish of St. Bernadette in Monroeville and later in life was an active parishioner at St. Januarius in Plum.

Rich was a kind and loving father who worked hard his entire life to provide safety and security for those around him. He was a patriot and believed that with hard work, anything was possible in this country because of its freedoms. He was right and his life's work produced those fruits in the form of opportunities that those that he loved are able to share together. Friends will be received at the **STEPHEN P. DOLENCE, JR. FUNERAL HOME**, 557 Unity Trestle Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239, Monday from 2-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated in St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 245 Azalea Dr., Monroeville on Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. (Everyone please meet at the church). Interment will follow with military honors at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Cecil Township.

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