

# JOHN "JACK" AND DEBORAH ANN (YECKEL) REES



Deborah Ann (Yeckel) Rees, passed away on July 19, 2024, in Florida, surrounded by her loving family and her husband of 48 years John "Jack" Rees who passed away only two days later on July 21, 2024, of a broken heart.

Debbie was born on June 20, 1957, in Pittsburgh, PA, to her proud parents, James and Carol Ann (Kempe) Yeckel.

Jack was born on January 2, 1957, to his parents,

George and Maria (Gaffora) Rees.

Debbie graduated from Deer Lakes High School and began her career at PNC Bank, she then worked at Oakleaf Personal Care Home and Atria Assisted Living until her retirement in 2009. She touched the lives of many with her hard work and dedication. However, it was her role as the heart of the family where she truly shone.

She will be forever remembered for her infectious laugh and hosting countless family holidays, Debbie's cheesy potatoes were a favorite amongst her loved ones. Debbie found great joy in spending time with her family and friends, they are what meant the most to her. Some of her favorite pastimes were listening to Rod Stewart, traveling, shopping, crossword puzzles, and reading a good book.

Jack graduated from Shaler High School. He worked at Raff Printing for 47 years until his recent retirement in 2022. Jack was a quiet man to some, but he could sure be a goof ball once you got to know him. He could fall asleep anywhere. He was a devoted husband, father and friend. He was known by many as Mr. Rees through his countless support of his kids and grandkids events and trips. He enjoyed fishing and golfing and would enjoy those activities whenever he could day or night.

Debbie and Jack's proudest accomplishment was undoubtedly being parents to their sons Jason Rees, Joshua Rees, and Jon Rees. They also adored their granddaughter, Brianna Rees and cherished every moment spent with family.

In addition, surviving is Debbie's brothers, James Yeckel Jr., Robert Yeckel, Ronald Yeckel, Nick Yeckel, along with their families in Pittsburgh, PA. Additionally, Debbie leaves behind her Uncle Gerald Yeckel (Lou).

Jack leaves behind his older brother George Rees and his family, as well as his late sister Nina (Rees) Paylo's family, both from Pittsburgh, PA.

Preceded in death by their loving parents, Debbie's grandmother, Alice (Charles "Chick") Gibbons, Jack's sister, Nina Paylo and nephew, Brett Englert.

May they rest in peace knowing that they are together and reunited with their families and friends before them. We love and will always miss you mom and dad.

Per Debbie and Jack's wishes, arrangements are private and entrusted to **MILAM FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES**, 311 S Main St, Gainesville, FL 32601. Please share your memories and condolences at [www.milamfh.com](http://www.milamfh.com).

In lieu of flowers, please donate in their honor to the National Parks Foundation [give.nationalparks.org](http://give.nationalparks.org). An organization that supports causes they both enjoyed in life.

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