



## Frank Johnson

November 17, 1942 - November 10, 2024

Frank Johnson of The Villages, FL, formerly of Wanaque, NJ, died peacefully on November 10th after a long-term illness.

Frank was born in Paterson, NJ on November 17, 1942 to Frank and Martha Johnson. After graduating from St. Mary's high school Frank joined the U.S Navy where he learned to be a Signaller. After serving 3 years he was honorably discharged in 1963. He continued his service in the active U.S Naval Reserve, where he achieved the rate of Signaller first class, and served for 27 years before retiring in 1990. He developed unique and impressive skills in visual communications by using Morse code through signal lights, flag semaphore as well as flag hoist signaling.

Soon after being discharged from the regular Navy Frank embarked on a 32-year career at Nabisco Biscuit Company in Fairlawn, NJ achieving foreman in the shipping department. All of his family, whether it was his cousins or his nieces and nephews, fondly remember the abundance of freshly baked Oreos that Frank brought to every family get together.

On November 16, 1968 Frank married Carol Warnet and they made their home in Wanaque, NJ. Their house was always filled with laughter and cheer at holiday gatherings and especially at the annual "Warnet Family Picnic". His cousins too recall there was always plenty of laughter, lots of smiles and joy

when Frank and Carol visited.

Frank and Carol shared a love of travel and together they visited and explored almost every corner of the world. In 2001 Frank and Carol moved to The Villages, Florida where they were embraced by their new neighbors and warmly welcomed into the congregation of North Lake Presbyterian Church. Carol shared her gifts as an educator with the children of the church and Frank often accompanied her to assist with events and lend his support.

In 1995 after having an operation due to an acoustic neuroma in his right ear, Frank began a years-long decline in health that required full-time care from Carol. He eventually needed professional care so he moved into a nursing home setting. Even though he lived in a home, Carol continued to advocate for his care and remained his devoted partner until she passed away in June 2023.

Frank will be remembered for his laid-back personality, his sense of humor and his passion for living life. Frank had a special way of bringing out the best in everyone. No one can even say they ever heard him speak a negative word about anyone. When his cousins were young children they remembered his fantastic train setup and the great toys and games he would bring them at Christmas. Frank loved seeing his nieces and nephews grow up and even as his memory declined, he always remembered to ask about them and send them his hellos.

Frank is predeceased by his parents Frank and Martha Johnson and wife Carol. He is survived by his brother-in-law John Warnet (wife Cathy), sister-in-law Judy Slegona (husband Brian), nieces and nephews Lauren Marzo (husband Joe), Dawn McDonald (husband Brendan), Sarah Henderson (husband Jim), Josh Warnet (wife Alexandra) and Peter Warnet. He was a Great-Uncle to Isabella, Owen, Joey, Caleb, James, Lucia and Abigail and a

beloved cousin to Tricia, Kathy, Linda, Robert and Donald. Frank will be greatly missed, but forever cherished in our memories and in our hearts.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Wounded Warriors Project– a program that Frank and Carol supported generously. <https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

North Lake Presbyterian Church  
975 Rolling Acres Rd  
Lady Lake, FL 32159-5023  
(352) 753-8484

## Inurnment

DEC 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

Florida National Cemetery  
6502 SW 102nd Avenue  
Bushnell, FL 33513

# Tribute Wall



“ We were so sorry to hear of “Uncle” Frank’s passing. He was truly a kind and generous man. And a true kid at heart. When me and my sister were little and would visit him and Aunt Carol, he would always be so delighted to ask my mom, •” Do you think the girls would want any cookies?” Then he would send us home with a grocery bag filled with Oreos and such. He is missed.

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**Jennifer Riina** - November 24, 2024 at 01:26 PM



“ *Im so sorry to have learned of Frank's passing. I guess there's some consolation to be found in the fact that he's now joined Carol...and that they're both together again, in time to share the holidays with Our Heavenly Father.*

*I don't have a whole lot of specific memories to share...I DO remember that just about every time I was in Frank's presence, he'd make me laugh. There were the extended family gatherings on School Street, BBQ's at their home in Wanaque, stories of his time in the US Navy, and work at Nabisco, so many stories he'd tell...some true, some embellished, some flat out made up, I'm sure, always for a chuckle or a great laugh. We laughed at and with Frank....ALOT. Oftentimes he'd make jokes at Carol's expense even...I can still hear her clearly annoyed and shouting..."FRAAAAANNNNKKKKK STOP IT"!*

*I do have one very specific rememberance of an interaction I had with Frank, back in the good old days when I was a kid, growing up on Westervelt Ave. in North Haledon. I was pretty young, maybe 6 or 7 or 8. I'd had some type of foot surgery, I honestly can't recall the exact clinical details, only that I had a huge cotton gauze bandage on my entire foot. I know I was hopping around in an effort to stay off of it. At some point, I was seated in a lawn chair in the back yard. It was extremely hot out, and I was lamenting about not being able to swim in our above ground swimming pool. Frank had been helping my mom prepare burgers and hot dogs the nearby grill, but listening to me, and engaging in conversation. Complaining for the millionth time, he ran over to where I was seated in the lawn chair, physically scooped me up, saying something to the effect, "how many times are we going to have to hear you \*complain\* (only as I recall it today, he didn't use the word "complain", lol)...As I began protesting, he carried me in his arms, dangling me precariously over the rail and above the water of the pool. I started crying and screaming loud enough for Carol to come to my rescue..."FRAAANNNKKKK NO DONT DO IT...HER FOOT..."!!!! He*

*carried me back to the lawn chair, set me back down, and went back to his burgers.*

*I didn't say another word about wishing to swim for the remainder of that day.*

*I recall only once, seeing Frank profoundly sad...it was at my cousin Betsie's funeral. It was tough seeing such a larger than life, normally jovial figure, shedding the tear we no doubt all collectively felt that day.*

*He was a great man, an honorable Veteran, a loyal family member, a dutiful son and brother in law, and I know more than anything, he was a cherished husband. If only each of us could have had a Frank Johnson in our lives, for just a little while...*

*Prayers of comfort to Judy, Brian & John and the kids...  
Linda*

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**Linda DeGraaf** - November 19, 2024 at 01:27 PM

GP

*Frank was my best friend growing up I will miss you old friend I will see you again in heaven love you friend*

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**guy de phillips** - November 19, 2024 at 04:54 PM