



Henry "Hank" Phinney

January 6, 1937 - December 1, 2025

Henry "Hank" Phinney, 88, died unexpectedly December 1st.

Mr. Phinney was born on January 6, 1937 in Los Angeles, California, the oldest of 4 brothers. He was raised and educated in Albany, New York.

He served in the U.S. Army 1954-1956 and the U.S. Air Force 1956-1960.

In 1961 he married the late Claire Giroux. They were married for 43 years until her death in 2004.

His career was with Sikorsky Aircraft as an electrical technician for 38 years. He put the power on the Black Hawk helicopters built at Sikorsky, including the one our President uses today. He retired in 1999.

He coached Little League and Babe Ruth Baseball for 23 years in Trumbull, Connecticut. His biggest joy was winning the state championship and having the trophy presented to him and the team on the field at Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox.

He moved to The Villages in Florida in 2000 where he enjoyed golf. Golf brought Hank and current wife Joanne together and they were married in 2005. They celebrated their 20th anniversary this year. They enjoyed golf,

bowling and travelling. Family was always important to Hank and travel included visiting his many relatives as well as family cruises.

As the years passed, Hank's health declined and they made the decision last March to leave The Villages and make Lake Port Square, a continuing care retirement community, their home.

Survivors include his wife of 20 years, Joanne; brother Robert of Jacksonville, Florida; many nieces and nephews; Brothers-in-Law – Anthony "Rick" Riccio, The Villages, Florida and Philip Riccio, Chatham, Ma. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Claire; Father, Herman Lester; Mother, Helen Irene Zehner; Brother, Charles and Brother, John.

Visiting Hours will be held Friday, December 12 from 10-11am; Celebration of Life Service to follow at 11 am at Beyers Funeral Home, 1123 W. Main Street, Leesburg, Florida with Pastor Bob Chase, Lake Port Square – Officiating. Inurnment with military honors will follow at the Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Florida.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The National Kidney Foundation.

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home of Leesburg, Florida.

Cemetery Details

Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Avenue
Bushnell, FL 33513

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory
1123 W Main St
Leesburg, FL 34748
(352) 787-4343

Celebration of Life

DEC 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Beyers Funeral Home & Crematory
1123 W Main St
Leesburg, FL 34748
(352) 787-4343

Tribute Wall

BM

“ John and I met Hank and Joanne on a cruise 23 years' ago. We were on our way to try out the Lifestyle package and they were amazed that we knew about The Villages and we were amazed that they actually lived there. They insisted we make contact after the cruise so that they could help us. We bought our home 2 years later and they became wonderful friends, so kind and helpful, and such good company. Nothing was too much trouble. Hank regaled us with stories of his life and we loved his humour and smiles. Although we are back in the UK now, those memories will last forever.
John and Brenda Milbourn

Brenda and John Milbourn - December 10, 2025 at 03:17 PM

JP

“ 2 files added to the album Hank Phinney's Life in Pictures



Joanne Phinney - December 09, 2025 at 12:59 PM

DS

“ I'll always remember him smiling. He was a gregarious, joyful source of life. I bet there is some serious backslapping in heaven.

Dawn Stranik - December 08, 2025 at 04:11 PM

JP

“ *Joanne Phinney sent a virtual gift in memory of Henry "Hank" Phinney*



Joanne Phinney - December 07, 2025 at 07:13 AM

RH

“ *I have only known Joanne and Hank a short time since they moved to Lake Port Square. We became fast friends and I love them dearly.*

I was one of the lucky gals to be part of Hank's Harem. Every Friday night for dinner 4 of us ladies (his wife Joanne included) would have dinner with Hank.

The memories will last with me forever. He will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him. Until we meet again Hank. Love, Rita Heins

Rita Heins - December 06, 2025 at 11:53 AM

RH

Both Hank and Phyllis were more than neighbors. They were friends who often went out of their way to make our neighborhood a great place to live. Hank's military service was respected and his sense of humor epic. Hank will be missed but he is in a better place with his savior. ❤️

Rob & Kathy Hempel

Robert Hempel - December 10, 2025 at 10:34 AM



My husband and I serviced Hank and Joanne's home since 1999. They became WAY more than just customers. They attended my daughters wedding, and we were friends, John and I love them, and will always miss "Hanky Panky"

Love , Lorrie and John

Lorrie Honaker - December 11, 2025 at 01:03 PM



We met Hank and Joanne at Lake Port Square. In a very short time they became a special couple to us. We are so glad you came into our lives when you did and will remember the good times we enjoyed.
Jack and Barbara Csont

Jack and Barbara Csont - December 11, 2025 at 07:49 PM