



Michael J. Graf Jr.

APR 21, 1947 - MAY 26, 2020



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Michael J. Graf Jr.

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Michael J. Graf, Jr., 73, of Clinton passed away, Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at his home surrounded by his family.

A Memorial Visitation will be Monday, June 1, 2020 from 4:00-7:00pm at the Clinton Chapel Snell-Zornig Funeral Homes & Crematory. A Blue Lodge Masonic service will conclude the visitation at 7:00pm. Private services and military honors will be held at the Rock Island National Cemetery at later date.

Michael John Graf, Jr., was born on April 21, 1947 in Clinton, Iowa, the son of Michael and Mary Ellen (Schiltz) Graf. He was a 1965 graduate of Clinton High School and graduated from Mount Saint Clare College. He served in the United States Army from 1967-1970. He married Janet Rickerl on February 2, 1968 at Fort Leonardwood, Missouri.

Michael was employed at DuPont for 33 years retiring in 1999 as a supervisor. He was a member of the Emulation Masonic Lodge, York Rite, Clinton Scottish Rite Bodies and Clinton High 12. He thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his family, traveling especially cruising, and was a Civil War enthusiast.

Michael is survived by his wife, Janet of Clinton; his daughter: Amy (Ron) Celsi of Waukee, Iowa, his son: Matt (Cathy) Graf of Maquoketa, Iowa; two grandchildren: Nicholas and Rebecca; his siblings: Gregory (Barb) Graf of Clinton, Iowa, Barb (David) Frantz of Albany, Illinois, Elizabeth Weets of Seatac, Washington, Jane "Sam" Brown of Cedar Falls, Iowa, and Christine (Craig) Williams of Covington, Washington. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials can be made to Wounded Warriors.



Events

Michael J. Graf Jr.

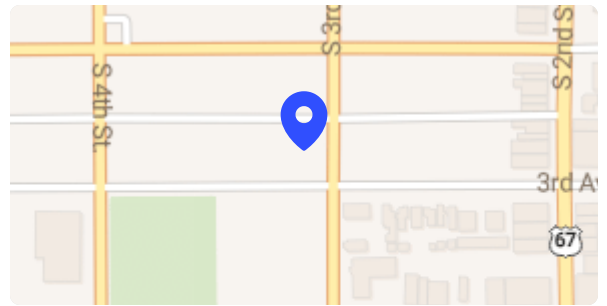
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Visitation


 **Monday**, June 1, 2020

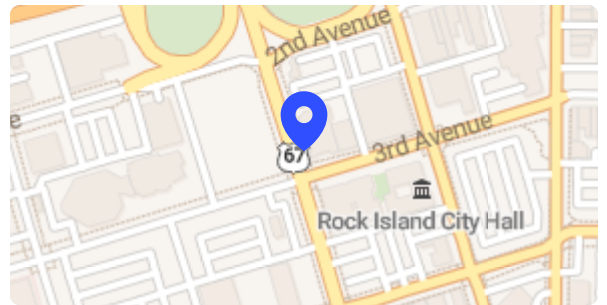
 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT

 **Snell-Zornig Funeral Home & Crematory, Clinton**
302 Third Avenue South, Clinton IA 52732



Cemetery Details

 **Rock Island Arsenal, National Cemetery**
Rock Island IL





Tribute Wall

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Russell Dunn posted:

I met Mike in 1968 in Viet Nam, we were both with the 73rd Engineers but I was originally assigned to the Asphalt platoon although my training was heavy equipment operator. Mike was in the equipment platoon and was able to use his influence with the Lieutenant to get me transferred to his platoon. The first day I was assigned to level a pad with a D7 dozer (I had never operated one before). After about an hour of pushing dirt back and forth the supposed to be level pad had more peaks and valleys than the Rocky Mountains. Mike watched me smiling and then said "let me help you". He not only leveled the pad for me but showed me the right way to do it. Mike and I were ultimately the two operators of the huge D9 dozers in the quarry. When I moved to the equipment platoon I moved into the bunker with Mike and Jay. In the asphalt platoon I was assigned to a 5 ton dump truck hauling dirt up and down QL1, the road we were improving and paving. When I transferred to the Equipment platoon my dump truck was reassigned to Ross Mandeville. A short time later Ross was killed in action while driving that truck when it was hit by a rocket. I can only think that if Mike was not successful in getting me transferred it would have been me driving that truck instead of Ross. I heard a lot about Jan from Mike and it was obvious she was the love of his life. Two years ago I had the opportunity to spend a few hours with Mike and Jan as they passed thru Texas on one of their road trips. I had not seen him since 1969 but the connection was like we had always been around each other. I will miss him very much.

June 4 at 4:34 AM



Dorothy Carbee posted:

Dear Jan & family: I will let Margy and Betty know of Mike's passing. He was such a great guy and lived so courageously in spite of his health issues. I will NEVER forget the comfort and care you & Mike gave my parents when they lived next to you. May you know God's richest blessings in this time, knowing that Mike is at peace and no longer struggling. May you and yours feel God's compassion and comfort in your time of sorrow. Dottie Kynett Carbee

June 3 at 1:44 PM



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JJ

James R (Jr) Johnson posted:

I served with Mike in Vietnam in 1970 and saw him many times thru the years. In my 20 years in the Army I would often tell people about how tough Mike was. He always had that great smile. God Bless and keep you, You will be greatly missed by the men of the 73rd Engr Co (CS). 1SG James R. Johnson

May 29 at 12:37 PM

LG

Lesley J Geaney June 2 at 6:21 PM

I met Mike in the spring 15 years ago while cruising in the Carabean. My mother and I joined friends, she had never cruised before and was recently widowed. On our dining table we're this lovely couple. My mother could be hard to handle but she took to Mike very well with his smile and gentle persuading way. Jan and Mike were my rock oh that time away. I have kept in touch ever since. It's been very hard these last few years for them. Wishing peace, comfort and lots of good memories of Mike to hold the family and all who loved and respected him. He was a big man who had a gentle heart I remember. Lesley Geaney Hertfordshie England UK.



Anonymous sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Graf family.



May 29 at 11:46 AM

JM

Jane Mccarthy posted:

When I saw the name, I was sure that I had taught Mike in 3rd grade at Sacred Heart. So I checked with my cousin; Pat Hohenhorst Stolley who was in 4th grade. And she agreed. I also remember that Mike was rescued by his cousin, Richard (Jughead) Olsen when he fell into the river. Some of you might be able to corroborate these memories. He was never a problem in school. Will remember you in prayer. Sister Jane(Noel) McCarthy osf.

May 28 at 2:45 AM

TJ

Tracy Holdgrafer Jones posted:

Mike and Jan were great neighbors to my parents. I will always remember my dad saying that wine was shared over the fence and that he decorated his back yard at Christmas for you guys. Sorry for your loss.

May 27 at 5:43 PM



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BM

Barb McBride posted:

R.I.P. Best Man- Deepest Sympathy to your Family!

May 27 at 4:19 PM

LE

Love The Weets Family: Doug, Kelley, Ethan & Emily sent a Rose Remembrance to the Graf family.



May 27 at 11:24 AM

SH

Steve Hoosack posted:

This is such sad news. My sincerest condolences to Janet and the entire Graf family at this time of sorrow. Mike was a good friend during our days at Clinton High together, my heart is heavy with his passing. Steve Hoosack Ballwin, MO

May 27 at 10:52 AM

JW

Jon Weber posted:

I enjoyed working with Mike at DuPont. He had a great personality and was always willing to help you when you needed it. His family is in our prayers. Jon, Purl, Troy, Logan, and Carley Weber Hazelwood, MO

May 27 at 6:57 AM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Graf family.



May 27 at 6:54 AM

BH

Becky Holland posted:

My heart is heavy. Praying for You, Jan, and whole family ♥The good time Bill and Mic are having and singing off key with the angels♥

May 27 at 6:18 AM



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Greg, Nicole & Cierra Weets sent a Serene Retreat to the Graf family.



May 27 at 5:36 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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