



James M. Phillips

FEB 18, 1942 - DEC 20, 2018



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James “Jim” Phillips, of Pitkin, Louisiana passed away on December 20th, 2018 at his home, at the age of 76. Born on February 18th, 1942, in Big Timber, Montana to Stanley and Johnnie Phillips, Jim was raised in and around the Livingston, Montana area until graduating from Park County High School in Livingston.

Upon graduation, Jim entered the Marine Corps where he served with honor and distinction for 20 years, ultimately retiring in May of 1979. During his time in the Marines, Jim served in Force Recon, then transitioning into Aviation later in his career. He served around the world, including 2 tours in Vietnam, and multiple deployments to southeast Asia during his time in Force Recon. During his career in the Marine Corps, he married Gail, and they had two sons, Chris and Scott.

After retiring from the Marine Corps, Jim and his family eventually settled in the Anacoco, Louisiana area while he worked Federal Civil Service at Fort Polk, Louisiana. While Jim worked for the Federal Government, he also graduated with honors from Northwestern State University, earning a Bachelor’s Degree. Also, during this time, Jim donated his time as a Reserve Sheriff’s Deputy for the Vernon Parish Sheriff’s Office while helping Gail raise their two sons. Jim retired from Civil Service after 22 years of service, totaling 42 years of service to the military, and ultimately to his nation.

Towards the end of his career with the Federal Civil Service, Jim and Gail relocated to Pitkin, Louisiana, where they enjoyed watching their grandchildren grow up, and great-grandchildren play. They also attended Arkadelphia Baptist Church, where Jim accepted Christ and was baptized.

Due to his time spent in Vietnam, and exposure to Agent Orange, Jim battled several health issues until succumbing to them. During this time, he served as an example of the willing sacrifice he gave to his country, to both of his sons, and to his grandchildren.



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He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Mary Gail Phillips. Two sons; Chris and his wife Melita, of DeRidder, LA, and Scott and his wife Deborah, of Pitkin, LA. Nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Bill Phillips, of Livingston, MT; his brother-in-law, Ted Lamprich of Farmerville, LA; and his sister-in-law Jean Guidry of Baton Rouge, LA. He is preceded in death by his parents, Stanley and Johnnie Phillips, and also by his beloved sister-in-law, Carol Phillips.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to a favorite veteran organization.

Visitation will begin Wednesday, December 26, 2018, from 5 PM until 9:00 PM, at Labby Memorial Funeral Home in DeRidder, LA. Visitation will begin Thursday, December 27, 2018, from 8:00 AM until 10:00 AM, in the Arkadelphia Baptist Church in Pitkin, LA, Funeral service will start at 10:00 AM with Rev. Brent Maxwell officiating. Internment will follow at Arkadelphia Cemetery, Pitkin, LA under the direction of Labby Memorial Funeral Home.



Tribute Wall

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AS

Anna Sharp posted:

What a proud legacy Jim has left for you, Gail, and the boys. You are all in my prayers.

December 21 at 7:00 PM

AH

Anita (Guthrie) Huerta posted:

Really enjoyed talking to Jim at our 50th Park County High School class reunion. He was such a goof-off in high school that his life accomplishments were all the more impressive. My sympathy to you, Gail, and comfort from God our Father.

December 21 at 7:00 PM

RR

Richard And Shirley Ross posted:

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family. We pray for comfort and peace for you and may his love and many precious memories help fill the grief of days ahead.

December 21 at 7:00 PM

BB

Bob And Paula Berg posted:

Jim and Gail, 47 years ago our families first came together in Santa Ana and remained entwined. We celebrated births of our boys, traveled to Montana on several occasions and celebrated several wedding anniversaries together. We all lived through Viet Nam and several other skirmishes. Jim, you were a "big brother" to me and yes, "best friend". In May of this year we talked, you related being tired and ready to go "home". I know you are happy and whole in Heaven. You did well here on earth and now Chris and Scott will carry on your legacy and watch over Gail. Our condolences to the family. Paula and I love you. You will be missed deeply..Semper fi!!

December 20 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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