



John J. "Jack" Ernst

November 3, 1943 - January 5, 2019

John J. "Jack" Ernst, 75, of Hanover, loving husband of Dottie Berry Ernst, entered into God's eternal care on Saturday, January 5, 2019 at his home.

Born on Wednesday, November 3, 1943 in Hanover, he was a loving son of John A. and Mary L. Essick Ernst. A 1962 graduate of Delone Catholic High School, he was a veteran of the US Army, having proudly served during the Vietnam War. During his first week of Boot Camp training, while stationed at Fort Gordon, GA, he was appointed acting platoon Sergeant of B Company. On completion of his training, he received the "Outstanding Soldier" award and was recommended for Officer's Training School.

Jack was a graduate of the Pennsylvania State Police Academy Municipal Officers Course and served the Hanover community as a law enforcement officer for 30 some years mostly with Penn Township. In addition to his patrol duties, he was the department's quartermaster and tactical firearms instructor. Upon retirement, he was awarded the Medal of Valor the highest such award that can be bestowed in law enforcement. He was a member and past chairman of the Penn Township Civil Service Commission, a member of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge # 73 of York County, Penn Township Patrolmen's Association, Green Springs Rod and Gun Club, McSherrystown Fish and Game and the McSherrystown Home Association, and a life member of the Knights of Columbus in Hanover and McSherrystown.

A proud, loving father and grandfather, he always expressed that his most precious treasures in life were his children.

Surviving, in addition to his beloved wife of 51 years, are his four children, Shannon Michelle Koontz and her husband, Timothy, of Littlestown, Joseph Matthew Ernst and his wife, Deborah, Mark Andrew Ernst and Jacki Anne Ernst, all of Hanover; nine grandchildren, Tyler Koontz, Matthew Koontz and his wife, Janelle, Ashlyn Ernst, Laci Ernst, Michael Felton, Brady Ernst, Gracie Ernst, Maeson Felton and John Ernst; two step grandchildren, Maverick Bair and Tanner Stambaugh; two great-grandchildren, Maddilyn

and M.J. Manning; two brothers, James B. Ernst and his wife, Jean, and Daniel P. Ernst and his wife, Gloria; and a sister, Julie Zeigler and her husband, Thomas, all of Hanover. He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert L. Ernst.

A memorial mass will be said at 10 AM Friday, January 11, 2019 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 5125 Grandview Road, Hanover by The Rev. Matthew Morelli. Military honors will be rendered by the Hanover Allied Veterans Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to the VNA Hospice of Hanover and Spring Grove, 440 N. Madison Street, Hanover, PA 17331.

Events

JAN Memorial Mass 10:00AM

11

St. Joseph Catholic Church

5125 Grandview Road, Hanover, PA, US, 17331

Comments



“ Condolences to Jack's family. Thanks for your service as a vet and cop. Welcome home and never forget.



Doug Noble - January 13 at 02:13 PM



“ Dottie & family...

We share your great loss... Jack was a good friend to my mom, Louise, in the years following my dad George's untimely death at age 49. He was also a loyal nephew to our Uncle Bob and Aunt Mary in later years. We saw him all too infrequently, but the times we shared were memorable. He fought the good fight against many health issues over the past decade... always tough, always positive, always keeping his sense of humor. His days of trial are behind him now, but his memory lives on in all who knew him. We grieve, but not as those who have no hope... for since we believe that our Savior died and rose again, even so, through Him, Father will bring with him those who have died.

Larry Ernst
Churchville, Virginia

Larry Ernst - January 11 at 09:16 PM



“ I've known Jack for over 30 years. He watched over my parents when they had The Tastee Freez. He was just a great guy. I didn't see Jack much when he left the police, but his image and memory are in my brain for ever. You will certainly be missed by a lot of people.

Your old friend,

Steve Sponseller

Steve Sponseller - January 10 at 12:12 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to the Ernst family.

Lee & Dotty Arigo - January 08 at 11:28 AM



“ We are sending our prayers to Uncle Jack and his family. We remember his integrity and love of family. My dad, Bob always said such nice things about his brother. I know my dad was there to greet him. God Bless You ! Bobby, Lena, Bobby Jr, Michael, Colleen, & Patrick Ernst (New Mexico)

Bob Ernst - January 08 at 12:06 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John J. "Jack" Ernst.



January 07 at 08:11 PM



“ What a life well lived! Jack was my softball coach and a good coach indeed. My condolences to the entire Ernst family and extended families. -Christina Fahey

Christina - January 07 at 07:24 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time. Prayers that God will replace your sadness with wonderful and beautiful memories. With sympathy,
Tony and Beth Meckley

Beth Meckley - January 07 at 07:02 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with are with the family. God bless you all.

LaVon Leppo - January 07 at 04:19 PM



“ Sending prayers for the Ernst family

Michelle Ericksen - January 07 at 04:11 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to the Ernst Family Betty Fissel

Betty Fissel - January 07 at 10:13 AM



“ My deepest sympathies to the Ernst family. May the Lord comfort you during this difficult time.

Denise Wentz - January 06 at 02:35 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the Ernst family. Jack will always be remembered fondly as a wonderful officer and friend.

Jean Whitson - January 06 at 09:51 AM



“ Sam and I our sending our Deepest Sympathy's to the Ernst Family. Those of us who had the Honor and Privilege to have worked with Jack at Penn Township Police Department in the 80's and 90's, we weren't just co-workers or partners, we were a "Law Enforcement Family". We always looked out for each other, that is what Families do, we had each others back on/or off duty. Jack,we are going to miss you terribly, may you now rest in peace.

Diane and Sam Gilbert - January 06 at 03:24 AM



“ Jack was one of my fathers truly great friends.
They enjoyed fishing and playing cards together. Dad would always tell the story about Jack pulling him over in his police car to see if he could play cards that night. (Lights and siren going). Makes me laugh to this day.
I'm sure by now the deck has been dusted off.
He will be missed by all. Great Husband, Father and Friend.

Robert & Sherri Wildasin

Robert & Sherri Wildasin - January 06 at 03:00 AM



“ Our sincere condolences to the Erntz family. Jack was a great one. Rest in Peace and Godspeed, Jack. We have the Watch from here.
-Toby and Jayne Wildasin

Toby Wildasin - January 05 at 09:53 PM



“ Jack was a classmate, friend, and a gentleman. He will be missed. Best to Dottie aND family. Carol Wildasin

Carol - January 06 at 09:16 AM