



Jay Walter Leffert

April 15, 1946 - February 22, 2015

Born in the Little Company of Mary hospital in Chicago, Illinois on April 15, 1946, Jay went to be with his Savior and Lord on February 22, 2015. Jay was the son of Dale and Viola Leffert. He has one sister, Kathleen, "Midge", Hunnicutt. Jay graduated from Lyons Township High School in LaGrange, Illinois.

Shortly after graduation, he voluntarily enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he would spend a total of thirty years, 6 years active duty and 24 years as a Reserve in the Security Forces Career field. He retired as a Chief Master Sergeant in 2006. Jay exited his first tour of active duty in 1967, and moved to Orlando, Florida, where he retired from the Orange County Sheriff's Office in 1997, with thirty years of service.

Jay served his fellow man with over 48 years in law enforcement, serving under six Florida Sheriffs in Orange, Gulf and Bay Counties, and as a Chief of Police in Port St. Joe, Florida. He attained the rank of Major in Orange County, and was an Inspector with the Bay County Sheriff's Office upon retirement. Jay also served as an FDLE Accreditation Assessor. He served in a variety of functions, from Sector Commander to SWAT Team Commander to Accreditation Manager to Police Chief.

Jay met his wife, Ann Marie O'Donnell, while working as a young Deputy

Sheriff. They married in 1969, and had two wonderful daughters, Christy Ann (Williams) and Marney Noelle Leffert.

Ann Marie Leffert, his wife of 34 years, died in March, 2003. Ann and Jay shared in the joys of their first grandchild, Faith Andrea Mitchell, daughter of Marney, of Gainesville Florida, before Ann's passing. Cole David Williams and Macy Ann are the son and daughter of Christy and Dave Williams, of Cumming GA.

In May, 2009, Jay married the former Sherida Sanders Crum, and have celebrated their 5th anniversary. They have 10 grandchildren between them. Jay's three, Cole and Macy Williams, and Faith Andrea Mitchell, plus Sherida's seven.

Sherida's son Derrick Crum(Kim) of Crawfordville FL; Christopher, Torie, Ansley and Eli, and her daughter Keisha Cannon(David);(Fairhope AL) Georgeanna, Nola and Bella.

Jay graduated from Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, earning a BS and two Master of Science degrees. He was also a graduate of the FBI National Academy, 185th Session, the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government Senior Management Institute for Police Executives, and FDLE's Chief Executive Institute.

Jay was an adjunct professor at Valencia Community College and University of Central Florida, Orlando. Jay also taught various courses at the Orlando/Orange County Criminal Justice Training Center during his career.

Jay served his served his community as a Master Mason, a Past Master and Perpetual Member of South Seminole Lodge #364, Casselberry, FL, a member of Scottish Rite (32nd degree), and a Knight Commander, Court of Honor. Jay was also a Shriner. Jay was a joint member of Crawford Lodge #294,

Crawfordville, FL.

Jay's community service continued as a Rotarian in both the Apopka and Port St. Joe FL Rotary clubs, being a past President of the Port St. Joe FL Rotary club. Jay was a Paul Harris Fellow.

Although christened and confirmed in the Episcopal church, and becoming a member of the church Vestry in Port St. Joe, Jay migrated to the First Baptist Church of Panama City FL., and then Lake Ellen Baptist Church, Crawfordville FL.

Jay faithfully served his God, his country, his family and his community throughout his life.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 12:00 PM at Lake Ellen Baptist Church with military honors and Masonic service at the interment. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

Amber Miller and David Conn of Bevis Funeral Home are assisting the family with arrangements (850-926-3333 or www.bevisfh.com).

Cemetery Details

Lake Ellen Baptist Church Cemetery

4495 Crawfordville Hwy.
Crawfordville, FL

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 26. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Lake Ellen Baptist Church
4495 Crawfordville Highway
Medart, Florida, FL 32327

Celebration of Life

FEB 26. 12:00 PM (ET)

Lake Ellen Baptist Church
4495 Crawfordville Highway
Medart, Florida, FL 32327

Tribute Wall



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.*



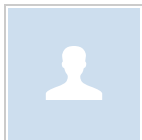
February 26, 2015 at 10:45 AM



“ *Jay was a long time family friend and such a wonderful man. I'll always remember Jay, Ann and the girls spending every Christmas Eve at our house when I was a little girl and how much he loved my moms cooking, especially the sweets. He was a very sweet, loving and gentle man. I haven't seen Jay in several years, since back when he and I both worked at OCSO, but I'll always have special memories of him and his family. From my family to yours, will be keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. Jay, you will be missed.*

Becky Riegel McGahuey and family

Rebecca McGahuey - February 26, 2015 at 10:42 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.*



February 25, 2015 at 02:28 PM

SH

“ My husband and I knew Jay for many, many years with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. He was a good leader and kind man. God Bless.

Sharon - February 25, 2015 at 12:06 PM

KV

“ What a loss to mankind. Jay was my Chief in the US Air Force at Patrick AFB. What a kind and gentle person he was. He had a robust laugh and could eat more than anyone I know. This is surely mankind's loss and God's gain. Rest in peace Chief.

Keith Vick
MSgt, Retired

Keith Vick - February 25, 2015 at 06:58 AM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.



February 24, 2015 at 08:15 PM

MF

“ Mitch and Kathy Floyd purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.



Mitch and Kathy Floyd - February 24, 2015 at 07:22 AM

LH

“ *lester c hardeman purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.*



lester c hardeman - February 24, 2015 at 07:18 AM

CM

“ *It was a blessing to know Jay. We are keeping you and the family in our prayers.*
Tom & Cheryl Mallow

Cheryl Mallow - February 24, 2015 at 04:31 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.*



February 23, 2015 at 07:53 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.*



February 23, 2015 at 05:37 PM

RW

“ One of the finest people I ever served with. A true leader. Got my butt kicked in several basketball games down here at Patrick AFB. I knew when I was doing my reserve time any time Chief Leffert was here was going to be a great time. What a loss for the community and law enforcement in general. I am proud to have served with him.

*Agent Robert Wagner
Brevard County Sheriff's Office
Merritt Island, Florida*

*MSgt, (ret) 45th Security Forces Sq
Patrick AFB, Fl.*

Robert Wagner - February 23, 2015 at 01:42 PM

LP

“ *Leslie Perenich lit a candle in memory of Jay Walter Leffert*



Leslie Perenich - February 23, 2015 at 01:16 PM

LP

“ *Leslie & Rodney Perenich purchased the Basket of Joy for the family of Jay Walter Leffert.*



Leslie & Rodney Perenich - February 23, 2015 at 01:12 PM

DB

“ Thank you for your dedication to public service. Yours has been a life well lived.

Dave Blaich - February 23, 2015 at 11:00 AM

KU

“ My dearest condolences to you and your family. Love Kathern Cox-Uvalle

Kathern uvalle - February 23, 2015 at 10:53 AM

RL

*Jay was a wonderful friend and a blessing to our church. His big smile will be missed.
Ray and April Lambeth*

Ray & April Lambeth - February 24, 2015 at 07:12 PM

JS

Jay provided support as Sector Commander in Orange County, fl. He was more than happy to make sure I was able to attend Rotary, while recovering from Heart Surgery. He also so proud to show my wife and I around Port St Joe, as we passed threw on our way to Pensacola, shortly after the death of his first love.

*Jack & Virginia Schrenker
Rotary Club of Apopka, Florida USA*

jack & Virginia Schrenker - February 25, 2015 at 03:29 PM