



## John Allan Rudolph, Jr.

December 8, 1958 - October 29, 2024

John A. Rudolph, Jr. passed away peacefully on October 29, 2024, at home surrounded by family.

John was born December 8, 1958, in St. Petersburg, Florida to Allan and Eva Rudolph. He grew up cast netting mullet and catching sharks in Tampa Bay, setting the stage for what would be a lifelong passion with fishing.

After graduating from St. Petersburg High School, John attended the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia where he served as Regimental Commander his senior year, graduating in 1980 and serving in the Army Reserves until his honorable discharge in 1991. Many of John's Brother Rats have reached out to share memories of John's years at VMI and those memories will be lovingly preserved for his children and grandchildren.

John thought he wanted to be a doctor like his granddaddy, but his gift of gab and persuasive speech won over and he ended up at Wake Forest University School of Law in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. After graduating in 1984, he returned to Florida and enjoyed a successful law practice for over 30 years in Tallahassee. Friends and colleagues recall with fondness John's characteristic bow ties that he wore and his passion for helping others less fortunate, whether that be through his legal practice or his strong Christian faith.

To anyone who had the privilege of spending time with him and truly knowing him, John always took the time to get to know people. He made everyone feel seen and valued, leaving a lasting impact on all who crossed his path. Through his love, compassion, and the way he treated others, John's influence will continue to echo well beyond his passing.

John achieved many exemplary accolades in his professional life, for which he was very grateful; however, the most important one to him was on a personal level, being a Dad to his beloved twins, Nick and Mary Noelle. Their dedication and unwavering support of him is an amazing reflection of the love of children for their father.

During the last two years of his life, John was cared for at home by Nick and his fiancée, Stephanie Magoufit. The sacrifices they made, both personally and professionally, to provide the best care possible for John, are to be commended. He knew he was loved by them.

John is survived by his wife of 39 years, Rhesa Rudolph, children Nick Rudolph and Mary Noelle Rudolph, and grandchildren, Calla Reyes and Kylar Reyes, of Tallahassee, Florida; mother, Eva Rudolph and sister, Evan Livingston (Chris), of Cleveland, Ohio; and brother, Dr. Council Rudolph of Winchester, Tennessee. He is also survived by sisters-in-law Tamra Shaw (Lowell) of Vilas, North Carolina, and Dr. Carol Fujiyoshi of Springhill, Tennessee; nephews Brandon Shaw (Alex) of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Collin Shaw of Seoul, South Korea, and Jack Livingston of Cleveland, Ohio; and nieces Ellie Livingston of Cleveland, Ohio and Eva Livingston of Chicago, Illinois. He was preceded in death by his father, Allan Rudolph of St. Petersburg, Florida and niece Sarah Rudolph of Winchester, Tennessee.

A visitation and celebration of John's life will take place Sunday, November 3 from 4:00-6:00 pm at Bevis Funeral Home, located at 200 John Knox Road,

Tallahassee, FL 32303.

To quote one of John's many friends, "I'm sure if there's a lake in heaven, he's wetting a line and hoping to catch a good one. Tight lines John."

Rocky Bevis and Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or [www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com)) are assisting the Rudolph family with their arrangements.

# Previous Events

## The Family Will Receive Friends

NOV 3. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory  
200 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 385-2193

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ Rhesa and family, thank you for your gracious appreciation for our attendance to John's memorial service. It was a fitting tribute John's life.

*The long drive up to attend and return allowed me time to reflect on how much Rudy's friendship meant to me so long ago at VMI. Our connection to both Florida, fishing and growing things gave us both a refuge while exiled to barracks life. A favorite memory among many was sitting at his desk and sharing memories of the pictures of the bull shark he had caught. Our adventures at Ft Bragg during summer camp were nothing but epic and rank as one of my most cherished memories of Rudy. Another great memory is of Rudy encouraging me to join him on his daily 3 mile run along the Maury River. My characterization of those days is he was an antelope and I was an anchor. The image of him running ahead of me is how I choose to see him now that he is free from his torment.*

*In remembrance of him and in the spirit of the Lord of the Rings- Lament for the Rohirrim....please accept this as my heart felt eulogy for Rudy:*

*Lament for Rudy*

*Where now the Saber and Shako  
Where is the drums a beating  
Where is the Arch and Statue  
with a chorus Yell arising  
Where is our Captain leading  
Erect with feathers flowing  
Where is the mountain  
Over a green field a growing  
Where is the Wind a blowing  
Lead on my Friend my Captain  
For too soon we must answer  
Your Example  
Once more to Follow*

*In sympathy....Mark McLean '80 aka: Snooze*

**Mark McLean** - November 05, 2024 at 11:31 AM

HB

“ *I was honored to have known John for several years and to have had many conversations with him. I remember the last time he called me, out of the blue. I had heard several rumors about his health, and he was no longer at the firm where I had contact with him. He called me to tell me that he was doing better and hoping to recover from an illness by eating better fresh foods. We discussed a few incidental things and a few legal things he and I used to discuss. Little did I know that that would be the last contact I was to have with him.*

*I had the utmost respect for John a, a man of the highest integrity! I was very flattered that he would think to call me like he did, God's speed, John. It was an honor to have too briefly known such a real Gentleman.*

**Howard Beckham** - November 05, 2024 at 07:40 AM

BT

“ *Dear Rhesa and Family. My sincere sentiments. My encounters with John were episodic, but pleasant and memorable. He was a good soul. A man who left us too soon. My condolences. Tom Bersson, VMI '80*

**Bersson Tom** - November 04, 2024 at 10:08 PM

RZ

“ *John was an honorable and humble man who I had the privilege to know while attending VMI. It is tragic that his life was cut short but he will live on in our memories. We can honor him by being the best we can and living as selflessly as possible. Rich Zott*

**Rich Zott** - November 03, 2024 at 12:20 PM

WK

“ Walter K. purchased the Healing Thoughts Gift Basket for the family of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..



Walter K. - November 03, 2024 at 11:48 AM

WK

“ Walter K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..

Walter K. - November 03, 2024 at 11:48 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..



November 01, 2024 at 07:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..

November 01, 2024 at 07:26 PM

TP

“ I had the pleasure of partnering with John for several years. He was a top-notch lawyer and always a gentleman. He will be missed by many. RIP, my friend.

Tom Powell - November 01, 2024 at 03:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..*



November 01, 2024 at 10:37 AM



“ *Your CAMPUS Leadership Program family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..*



**Your CAMPUS Leadership Program family** - November 01, 2024 at 10:10 AM



“ *Your CAMPUS Leadership Program family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..*

**Your CAMPUS Leadership Program family** - November 01, 2024 at 10:10 AM



“ *Attorney and counselor John Rudolph was a loyal Kiwanian during his membership in the Tallahassee Kiwanis Club, always thinking of ways to serve other people. His positive attitude lives on in the memories of those who knew him. Humanity was much better for his participation in it during his life that was much too short. May he continue to be a blessed memory in the lives of those who knew him.*

**Enoch Whitney** - November 01, 2024 at 08:38 AM

JR

“ If there was anything alphabetical at VMI there we were side by side. So it was at commencement in JM Hall, May 1980. Quite a contrast really, me a 4 year private with an undistinguished academic record and John, First Captain of the Corps and clearly bound for great things. We chatted quietly and intimately about what it was all about and for those few minutes we had a shared moment of brotherhood and achievement. John had a way of putting you at ease and making real and personal connections. A natural leader and human being of superb character. Though I haven't seen him again since that day I miss him terribly. My condolences for your loss - John Runyon VMI '80

John Runyon - October 31, 2024 at 11:46 PM

WH

“ With love, Bob & Libba Harris purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..



With love, Bob & Libba Harris - October 31, 2024 at 09:32 PM

TH

“ I remodeled a home in Panama City Beach, Florida about 15 years ago for an attorney who practiced in Tallahassee. Come to find out, he knew John through the legal community and had wonderful things to say about John. Rest in Peace, Brother Rat.

Ted Helmick - October 31, 2024 at 04:50 PM

WW

“ To Rhesa & Family, I was one of John's BR's a long long time ago. It gives me great joy to read about John's life and accomplishments "after" VMI. He lived his "dash" well. Dash as in 1958-2024. Sorry for you loss. Walt Wood VMI 1980

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**Walt Wood** - October 31, 2024 at 04:32 PM

CG

“ "Rudy" represented the best of humanity. He was bright, energetic, highly accomplished, honorable, compassionate and selfless. He was an honorary member of Hard Room 156 at VMI and we all shared many laughs and adventures together. It is awfully hard to imagine what he and his loved ones endured for nearly a decade but his spirit will live forever in those that were fortunate enough to have known him. RIP brother Rudy. A special place in heaven was reserved for you long ago Chal Glenn VMI 1980

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**Chal Glenn** - October 31, 2024 at 03:44 PM

BS

“ John, may God bless your soul and may you be reunited with your loved ones who have already passed on from this world to the next. My prayers are with your family and friends, who dearly loved you.

Your Brother Rat,

Bert

Oro Valley, AZ

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**Bert Schneider** - October 31, 2024 at 03:20 PM

WA

“ Rhesa & Family,

*My family offers our condolences to you and your entire family as you honor and cherish the life of this very special man. Many have been touched by John's precious life of service for many years. God Bless you all.....*

*Alex & TJ Woelper  
VMI 1980*

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**WOELPER, ALEX** - October 31, 2024 at 03:05 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..



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October 31, 2024 at 02:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..

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October 31, 2024 at 02:58 PM

BL

“ Bert L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Allan Rudolph, Jr..

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**Bert L.** - October 31, 2024 at 02:56 PM