



John Walter Para Sr

November 23, 1931 - December 25, 2013

John (Hap) Walter Para, Sr, 82, of Manassas, went to heaven on December 25, 2013. He was born on November 23, 1931 in Carbondale, PA, and raised in the township of White's Crossing. He acquired his nickname Hap (Happy) as a youth which he proudly carried through his life. He married Joann Marie Swencionis on October 26, 1957 and devoted 56 years of his life to her and their children. He was a crew chief and a veteran of the United States Air Force and later studied engineering with Broome Technical Institute which began his career in technology. He worked for Link Aviation at Travis Airforce Base, CA collaborating with pilots and astronauts as a flight simulator programmer. He then worked with the US Department of Defense which took his family to live in Germany for six years and later transferred to the Washington, DC area where he remained with his family and retired in 1993. John was a proud member of the Knights of Columbus at All Saints Catholic Church. He is survived by his wife, Joanie, his sons John Walter Para, II and R. Joseph Para; his daughters Lynn Renee Para, Lisa Marie Toth, and Lori Ann Para; his grandchildren Christina Lee Para, Austin Joseph Para, Melissa Caitlin Para, Heather Marie Toth, Amanda Lynn Toth, and Michael Todd Para; great-grandchild Eleya Paige Para, his sisters Roberta Helen Sefchick and Barbara Mae Flederbach. He was preceded in death by his father Joseph John Para, his mother Maryann Shedlock Para, his granddaughter Taneha Terrace Para, his brother Joseph Michael Parra, his son-in-law Edward Billington Toth, and his sister Rosemarie Ann Prsybylski. John Walter Para, Sr.

was a loving husband and an extremely devoted family man. We will miss his sense of humor, charm, and smile. Please join the family to celebrate his life:

Viewing: Sunday, December 29, 2013 from 2 - 4 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m.

Pierce Funeral Home

9609 Center St. Manassas, VA 20110

Telephone: (703) 257-6028 Website: <http://www.piercefh.com/>

Funeral: Monday, December 30, 2013 at 11 a.m.

All Saints Catholic Church

9300 Stonewall Rd, Manassas, VA 20110

Reception: Knights of Columbus Hall, Church site

Burial: Thursday, January 2 at 10 a.m.

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Road (Route 619) Triangle, VA 22172

Cemetery Details

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Road
Triangle, VA 22172

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **29**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Visitation

DEC **29**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall

DW

“ *To the Para Family,
I was crushed to hear about the passing of my old baseball buddy
John Para. He was a constant at the Osbourn Baseball Games for a
number of years. He was a wonderful Human Being to be around. I
am so sorry for your loss.*

Dave Walters and Family

Dave Walters - January 27, 2014 at 02:43 PM

LP

“ *Lynn Para lit a candle in memory of John
Walter Para Sr*



Lynn Para - January 08, 2014 at 03:51 PM

DJ

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Para's passing. Your entire family will be
in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.*

Dale (Potts) Jepson

Dale (Potts) Jepson - January 07, 2014 at 06:58 AM

KR

“ JoAnn - Robyn Snyder let me know about your husband's passing. I am so sorry for you loss. The memories and pictures you have in your heart will always remain. Those will help you get through the days ahead - and smile in the months ahead. Will keep you in my prayers.

Karen Green (Rice) - in North Carolina

Karen Rice - January 06, 2014 at 05:37 PM

RC

“ JoAnn and family .. So sorry for your loss. Praying that you will be able .. In time .. to just remember the wonderful and beautiful times you had together. The way you always talked about him when we worked together .. He was a great man, and great husband and father. God bless. Robin and Burnard

Robin Clemen - December 31, 2013 at 07:11 AM

SP

“ Joann, I am so sorry to hear about Hap's passing. You and your family are surely in my thoughts and prayers. I really got to appreciate his light hearted fun side at our 50th reunion in Las Vegas. I pray the the Good Lord will watch over you and your family and keep you all in His loving care..

Stash Para



Stash Para - December 30, 2013 at 10:58 AM



*Thank you for sharing this photo!
Fondly,
Lisa Toth (Para)*

Lisa Toth - January 08, 2014 at 09:19 AM



*“ Joann, I am so sorry for the loss of your husband. May you have happy memories and comfort from God to sustain you through the rough times ahead. Peace and blessings to you and your family.
Liz Washington*

Liz Washington - December 30, 2013 at 10:29 AM



“ My prayers are with you at this time of your sorrow. May he rest in peace. Cousin Theresa Bloomer

Theresa Bloomer - December 29, 2013 at 12:38 PM



“ Bill and Linda Flederbach purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Walter Para Sr.



Bill and Linda Flederbach - December 28, 2013 at 08:19 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Walter Para Sr.



December 28, 2013 at 06:08 PM

BF

“ Lord, you have called my brother to shine among the angels. In a fairer, brighter life. Safe in the arms of Jesus. My heart is full of sorrow, tears have dimmed my eyes, but I'll meet him one again in the home prepared for us. He was called on the celebration of the day that the Lamb of God came to take away the sins of the world and prepare a place for us. I ask that Your will be so. Amen

Barbara Flederbach - December 28, 2013 at 04:43 PM

BF

“ Memories of a handsome young man returning from the service. Following him around our parents home, getting in his way while he reapolstered his car. He rewarded me with a drive through Main St. in Carbondale, PA, and I was so proud because I thought he looked like Elvis. I Respected his intellegence. He had a jolly laugh, thus called "Hap". Eyes that twinkled and is a cherished brother.

Barbara Flederbach - December 28, 2013 at 04:35 PM

LB

“ Love, Barbara and Bill purchased the Exotic Grace for the family of John Walter Para Sr.



Love, Barbara and Bill - December 28, 2013 at 03:57 PM

PB

“ Remembering John since our childhood but mostly the special week we spent with he and Joann in St. Lucia celebrating our 50th anniversary together. John, rest in peace.
Love, Pat and Paul Burnett

Pat and Paul Burnett - December 28, 2013 at 12:47 PM



“ *Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of John Walter Para Sr.*



December 28, 2013 at 11:39 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of John Walter Para Sr.*



December 28, 2013 at 06:00 AM



“ *Glenn & Kris Evans purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Walter Para Sr.*



Glenn & Kris Evans - December 27, 2013 at 08:04 PM



“ *Jimmy Carter purchased the Red Poinsettia for the family of John Walter Para Sr.*



Jimmy Carter - December 27, 2013 at 07:49 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of John Walter Para Sr.*



December 27, 2013 at 06:25 PM