



Milton John Riley

March 8, 1941 - January 29, 2026

Milton John Riley “Bunk” passed away at home after a brief illness on January 29, 2026.

He was born on March 8, 1941, in Washington, D.C. to Edith Matthews Riley and Milton Grimsley Riley. He is survived by his wife of 60 years Jane McNellis Riley, sons Michael John Riley and James McNellis Riley and two grandsons, Thomas Jonathan Riley, Elijah True Riley and his beloved dogs Lady and Chewie.

After graduating from Washington Lee High School in Arlington VA in 1959 he worked for the Washington Old Dominion Railroad until enlisting in the U S Army in 1963. He served as a Nike Hercules Missile Crewman in New Jersey and later in Baumholder Germany until his honorable discharge in 1966.

Once home from the Army he worked for C&P Telephone, AT&T and finally for George Mason University as a Telephone Technician.

He volunteered for several years as an Assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts. He was an avid history enthusiast and became involved with Civil War reenacting in the Emerald Guard 33rd Infantry with the Stonewall Brigade. In later years he served on the Session for Brentsville Presbyterian Church and shared his beautiful baritone voice in the church choir.

He was a proud father and grandfather and a devoted husband to his wife Jane for over 60 years. He touched many lives with his love of all animals, warmth, kindness and humor and will live on in our memories.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in memory of Milton John Riley to Brentsville Presbyterian Church, PO Box 611, Bristow, VA 20136 or the Disabled American Veterans via the internet at DAV.org or mail check to DAV, PO Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 15250-0301.

A memorial service will be held at Brentsville Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 21, 2026, 12305 Bristow Road, Bristow, Virginia 20136 at 11:00 a.m. After the service friends and family are invited for lunch at their home in Manassas. (In case of inclement weather, the service and luncheon will be the following Saturday, February 28.)

An inurnment at Arlington, National Cemetery will take place at a future date.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Ave
Arlington, VA 22211
(877) 907-8585

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

RS

“ Affectionately known as Uncle Milty by many of his friends a C&P Telephone, he probably never knew how uplifting his humor and happy life style was to those of us who worked with him, just Milty being Milty! He made work fun! Rest in peace old friend.

Rod Stauffer - February 04 at 03:54 PM

TC

“ I met Milt (Uncle Milty) through reenacting in the mid 80s. We became good friends and shared many laughs. Milty and I shared a love of history; we always had a lot to talk about. My condolences to Jane and the family. You are all in my prayers.

Tom Cummings - February 04 at 12:19 PM

RB

“ Milton's smile, insightful thoughts and wonderful voice in the chior will be missed. He was a one of a kind Elder. Ralph Benson , Pastor Emeritus, Brentsville Presbyterian Church.

Ralph Benson - February 03 at 03:19 PM

VE

“ Will miss Bunk's smile and his acting as taxi to Jane and Joan in Orlean Va. A true Virginia Gentleman. Thanks for the good times and enjoy the ultimate peace ole friend.

Verlin - February 02 at 05:25 PM