



John J, Finnegan

August 1, 1924 - December 9, 2022

Finnegan, John J , December 9, 2022 of Fairmount and Blue Bell, PA. Survived by his loving wife of 73 years, Carmella A. (nee Panichelli). Beloved father to Jack, Bella (Rhonda), Bill, and Frank (Peggy). Devoted Grandfather to Jeff (Nicolette), Jon, Fran (Hayden), Marykate (Eric), AJ, Great Grandfather to Alex and Kennedy, and Brother-in-law to Pat (nee Fumo) Panichelli. Predeceased by parents Francis and Isabella, siblings Frank (Alma) Finnegan, Margaret (Pat) Compton, Anna (Joe) Fleming, James (Mary) Finnegan. John is survived by a large extended multi-generational family of caring nieces, nephews and cousins. John attended Roman Catholic HS, and volunteered to join the USN at the beginning of his senior year. He served in WWII as a Radioman 2nd Class (1942-1946) and was awarded The Navy Good Conduct Medal upon his honorable discharge. John worked for 50 years in the box and paper manufacturing industry in the Philadelphia area followed by 10 years as a security guard for SmithKline Beecham. John was an active member of the American Legion and was Commander of Francis J Moore Memorial Post 850 as well as other leadership positions over the years. Relatives and friends are invited to visitation Sat Dec 17th from 9am-10:30am following by a Funeral Mass at St Francis Xavier – The Oratory Church, 2319 Green Street. Interment at Holy Cross Cemetery, Yeaden, PA. Donations in John's honor may be made to WoundedWarriorProject.org

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 17. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM.

St Francis Xavier – The Oratory Church

Tribute Wall



“ *John J, Finnegan*

February 03, 2023 at 04:11 AM



“ *Rest in God's peace Mr. Finnegan*



Regina Jeanie McCashin - December 22, 2022 at 04:08 PM



“ *A life well lived. Our condolences to Carmella and the family. Heaven gained another Fairmounter. James, Shock, and the guys on the corner, all waiting for Mr. Softee.*

Brian T Connelly - December 14, 2022 at 03:47 PM



Thank you so much Brian

Bella Amichetti - December 14, 2022 at 07:06 PM



“ *I am sorry for your loss keeping you in my prayers at this time;*



Sarah Marie - December 14, 2022 at 10:11 AM

DL

“ *Denise Fulmer Lagocki lit a candle in memory of John J, Finnegan*



Denise Fulmer Lagocki - December 14, 2022 at 10:06 AM

BA

Thank you Denise

Bella Amichetti - December 14, 2022 at 07:05 PM

JF

“ Young John Joseph Finnegan was only a junior as spring approached in 1942. After Pearl Harbor he approached his mother and father Isabella and Francis to sign a permission slip unlike any others that would have been sent at the time. Sent in conjunction with St. Francis Xavier’s elementary school or Roman Catholic high school, it said “I want to fight for my country,” and at seventeen he needed permission from his parents. Brother Francis was already off in Europe under George Patton’s division and would fight in the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. Johnny soon found himself on a tanker as a radioman in the South Pacific after Midway and the tide turning in our favor as the Japanese naval fleet was being decimated. He returned after the war with a more worldly perspective and a place in his heart for what would become a life long love affair with the ocean. This love spilled over like an incoming tide down the shore first in Wildwood and then Long Beach Island. As a landlubber he never truly lost his sea legs nor the story telling persona.

To John his family came first and whomever was lucky to grace his presence would leave saying, as the cliché goes, “that guy makes you feel like a million bucks.”

Johnny was a noble veteran proud to serve his American Legion Francis J. Moore post in Fairmount as an officer and Commander. His mother was a talented pianist and his father was a Philadelphia fireman. One chilly Saturday morning whilst enjoying those home made blueberry pancakes his beautiful wife Carmella had served, he smoothly excused himself from the family and quickly opened the alley gate. As he was exiting the alley he noticed a home that was on fire and saved a baby after spotting the smoke coming out the second story window. The reporter wanted to cast him as a hero but he declined any recognition as the parents thanked him graciously for his bravery. He lead with integrity, compassion, loving smiles, and smooth cadence. He was a lover not a fighter. The singer Jackie De Shannon sang “what the world needs now is love sweet love.” He leaves behind surely enough to be manifested in his honor for Johnny Finnegan was a noble warrior with a heart of gold

who is now off on a new voyage only he can contain.

Jack Finnegan - December 13, 2022 at 10:01 PM

TW

*Beautiful tribute Jack! My condolences to you and the family,
Terri(Milec)Wilson*

Terri Wilson - December 14, 2022 at 05:45 PM

PS

*Wow! What a life, and what a great human being. Thank you Sir for
serving our country during World War II. RIP. Heaven has opened its
gate to welcome you. My condolences to Mrs. Finnegan and the family.
- From a Fairmounter who lived on Stillman between Brown and
Parrish. - Pat Stanley*

Patricia Stanley - December 14, 2022 at 08:03 PM

JC

*My condolences to the Finnegan family. We share many great
memories from 23rd street.*

John Campagna - December 15, 2022 at 09:39 AM

RH

*It was an honor to know John and to represent him - a true gentleman,
the best of Philly, and the greatest of story-tellers. My condolences to
the Finnegan family.*

Richard Heleniak

Richard J Heleniak - December 15, 2022 at 05:58 PM

JD

Sorry for your loss!

john devenney - December 16, 2022 at 09:37 PM