



Arthur "Art" Robert Blenk

May 22, 1935 - September 15, 2020

Arthur "Art" Robert Blenk of Pawleys Island, SC and formerly of North Salem, NY, passed away peacefully on September 15, 2020. Art was raised by Irene and Arthur Blenk in Franklin Square, NY where he attended Sewanhaka High School. As a United States Marine from 1953-1956, he served his country with the rank of Corporal in the Korean War Era and received the National Defense Service Medal. Upon completion of his military service, Art went on to receive a degree in Mathematics from Pennsylvania State University, where he was a Sigma Chi, and then a Masters in Operations Research from New York University. He was a dedicated member of the Marine Corps League-Grand Strand Detachment 873, Murrells Inlet, SC, where he served terms as Commandant, Adjutant and Chaplain. He also served as the Department Chaplain for the Marine Corps League Department of South Carolina. Through his service to the Myrtle Beach and Grand Strand communities in the Marine Corps League, Art spent countless hours serving the US Marine Reserve's Toys for Tots program, Wounded Warriors and the Grand Strand's Help4Kids & Backpack Buddies program. He was also involved with the local Junior ROTC program and the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout program where he had the opportunity to be a presenter of the esteemed Marine Corps League Good Citizenship Award to JROTC and BSA Eagle Scouts, exemplifying exactly what it meant to be a good citizen. In 2013, Art received the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award and in 2018 the Distinguished Citizen Award, both prestigiously given by the Marine

Corps League.

Art is survived by his wife of 52 years, Anne Johnson Blenk; children, Tera Adams Blenk, Thomas Hadwin Blenk (Hyuna) and Elizabeth Blenk Kiniry (Christian); and five grandchildren, whom he loved more than anything else in the world, Robert, Daniel, Annabelle, Caroline and Hadwin.

Those who knew Art could tell you that he was a man of his word and always completed a task on hand. He loved football and never missed a Penn State or NY Giants game. He was a voracious reader and completed every NY Times crossword puzzle. As a new hobby after the age of 70, he wrote dozens upon dozens of Op-Ed pieces that were published in the Sun News, proving that you're never too old to start something new. Art adored his grandchildren and took great pride in their accomplishments as if they were his own.

Sometimes described as an old war horse, he had a story or two to tell to those who were lucky enough to hear about his life's adventures.

Services will be held outside under the oak trees at The Abbey at Pawleys Island, 46 Gathering Lane, Pawleys Island, SC 29585 on October 5, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers in memory of Art, please send donations for the Marine Corps League Grand Strand Detachment's educational scholarship program known as the "Art Blenk Scholarship".

Checks or money orders should be made to the "Marine Corps League Grand Strand Detachment 873" and sent to the following address:

Marine Corps League

Grand Strand Detachment 873

Attn: Commandant (Art Blenk Scholarship Fund)

P.O. Box 1104

Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Sign an online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

OCT 5. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

The Abbey at Pawleys Island
96 Gathering Ln
Pawleys Island, SC 29585
(843) 314-0277

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Anne,

We are sorry to hear the passing of Art. You both hold a special place in our hearts.

We are also sorry we were not able to attend his services due to circumstances.

Please call if you need anything.

Deborah and Jim Stone.

Deborah L Stone - October 05, 2020 at 11:53 AM

LD

“ Anne and family, we were so sorry to hear of Art's passing. He will be remembered by us as a kind gentle man.

Lynda and Pete Dobson

lynda dobson - October 05, 2020 at 09:43 AM

JS

“ Anne....we are members of the Myrtle Beach Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association and want to express our sincere condolences on the death of Art. He love our chapter, watching games together and heading our annual Toys for Tots drive. We will miss his smiling face as well as your presence at our activities. God's blessings.

Ted and Judy Sweitzer

Pawleys Island

Judy Sweitzer - October 01, 2020 at 02:38 PM

CS

We wish we could have been at Art's service today. He was an accomplished man who loved his wife, children and grandchildren dearly. He loved his community also and served it in many ways. Blessings and comfort to his family, Carol and Ryland

Carol and Ryland Scott - October 05, 2020 at 09:28 PM

JT

“ I was the Department Commandant and Art was my Chaplain. He was always there to send obituaries on any Marine that was sick or had passed. I was very pleased with the work from Art. He was a great Marine and I will miss him very much

John Tharp - September 30, 2020 at 10:56 AM

CC

“ Art was my Thanksgiving buddy at Liz's house during the annual Turkey Trots. I remember Art with warmth and fondness. I don't remember what we ever talked about but it didn't matter. It was just easy with him. Art was smily, kind, wise and humble. He will be missed by many as he touched countless. Count me among those who will miss him. I am among those he touched. Rest in Peace ❤️

Colette Christianson - September 29, 2020 at 03:17 PM

TM

Art and I became friends thru the Marine Corps League at Pawleys Island. We shared many similar experiences. He's guarding the gats to Heaven now. Semper Fi'.

*Tom Marchant
379 Golden Bear Drive, J2
Pawley's*

Tom Marchant - October 03, 2020 at 09:51 AM

RO

“ Ann I offer my deepest sympathy on the passing of Art. He truly was a great person & will surely be missed in the Marine Corps League.

Another Marine reporting Sir, I've served my time in Hell.

Semper Fidelis forever !!!!!

Bo Olsen

Robert Olsen - September 28, 2020 at 10:03 AM

GI

“ Anne & Family, Our Sympathy for your loss, always enjoyed talking to the Marine and reading His Letters to the Newspapers. Served GOD, Family and Country with Honor, Semper Fi Marine.

Gerald J.Napoleone Sr. / Pawleys Island - September 27, 2020 at 04:24 PM

DB

“ Art was a very good friend. I will really miss him. Rest In Peace Art. Semper Fi. Don Bromeier.

Don Bromeier - September 27, 2020 at 02:42 PM