



Daniel O'Neil Knight

December 27, 1935 - November 6, 2022

Daniel Oneil Knight was born in Portsmouth, VA, on December 27, 1935, to Adell and Daniel Knight. He died peacefully on November 6, 2022. Oneil was a beloved and devoted husband, brother, uncle and friend. He was an easy-going and caring man who loved being around family members and friends. He was always checking in on family members and close friends. If one of them became ill in the hospital, he was among the first to visit. When a family member or close friend died, he always went to the funeral. He dearly loved and cherished his wife, Ruth. They had a very special bond. They enjoyed visiting relatives and friends, traveling to cities, like Waterbury and New Haven, CT, Atlanta, GA, and New York. He and Ruth were married for 36 years.

Oneil's caring nature stemmed from growing up as the oldest son in a family of eight. He was closest in age to his sister, Alice, and brother, Tim. The three of them stuck together. They were so close that when their father wanted a chore done, such as shining his shoes, he would call Alice, Oneil and Tim. One of them would shine his shoes. The family lived in Mount Hermon and attended Mt. Hermon Baptist Temple, where Oneil was a member of the Boy Scouts and Dad was Scoutmaster. He attended I.C. Norcom High School and left in his senior year to join the U.S. Navy in April 1955. He graduated from high school in the Navy. He traveled the world in the Navy. He enjoyed going into the different ports. One of his assignments took him to Japan for four years. He also was stationed in San Diego and Long Beach, CA, Rhode

Island, and Hawaii.

Oneil also served in the Vietnam War, where he did two tours of duty one year each. In Vietnam, he was in charge of a combat boat that detailed one of the rivers, sweeping for mines as part of the 113th Mine Division. Before going to Vietnam, he drove his 1965 Ford Mustang from California and gave it to his sister, Athelia, who was delighted to get it because she now had her own transportation to Norfolk State University. While in the U.S. Navy, he played on his ship's football team and was a competitive boxer. Oneil retired from the Navy on February 1, 1977. After retiring, he moved to Maryland to live with Alice. He attended Lincoln Technical Institute, where he became a certified car mechanic. Oneil worked on the special police force for the Smithsonian Institution for about two years.

In the early 1980s, he moved back to Portsmouth. He was employed as a crane operator for the Norfolk Naval Base. In 1986, he married Ruth Holman. He retired from the base in 2001. All-in-all, Oneil worked 45 years for the federal government. He received many awards, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, Good Conduct Award, the Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal. Oneil was an avid sports fan. The Washington Redskins, now called the Commanders, was his favorite team. He liked to go to Norcom High School and Norfolk State University football games. He also attended several Naval Academy games, where his nephew Brian was an assistant coach. He attended three Army-Navy games.

In addition to Ruth, Alice, Timothy (Florie), and Athelia, he is survived by two other sisters, Deborah Oates and Mattie Norwood, brother Dr. Joseph Leon Knight, extended family host of nephews, nieces, and loving in-laws. Oneil was predeceased by his parents, brother Phillip Lee Knight, and stepson Eddie Borroum.

Cemetery Details

Albert G Horton Jr. Veterans Memorial Cemetery

5310 Milner's Road
Suffolk, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 16. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 487-3700
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Service

NOV 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ebenezer Baptist Church
728 Effingham Street
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Daniel O'Niel Knight



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - November 18, 2022 at 07:14 PM

AR

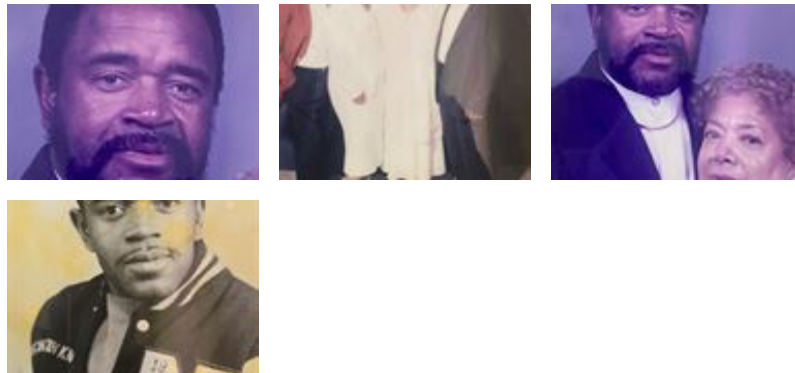
“ Prayers and condolences to Ruth and the immediate family. The extended family has loss one of its storytellers and a friend to all. We always knew that he would show up for every family occasion. He will be missed.



Andrew Ryan - November 16, 2022 at 11:06 AM



“ 4 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - November 16, 2022 at 09:56 AM

LB

“ *Linda, Gloria, Alfred, Lawrence Barnes purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Daniel O'Neil Knight.*



Linda, Gloria, Alfred, Lawrence Barnes - November 15, 2022
at 03:38 PM



“ *83 files added to the album Life Tributes*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - November 14, 2022 at 06:06 PM

LS

To the Knight Family,

The I.C. Norcom Alumni Association, Inc. was deeply saddened to hear about the lost of your brother. O'neil. Your Alumni family is keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers.

We know that we cannot take your pain away, but we want you to call on us if there is anything you need and always remember that we are here for you.

We pray that you find peace during this difficult period.

Your I.C. Norcom Alumni Association, Inc.

Leah D. Stith, President

Leah Stith - November 16, 2022 at 12:08 AM

RF

“ Praying for the Knight family. I know that you are going to miss Brother Neil but I also know that you will continue to uphold one another because of your very loving family bond.



Rev Joyce Foster - November 14, 2022 at 07:14 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Daniel O'Niel Knight.



November 13, 2022 at 10:40 PM

TB

“ Theresa BrownDoonquah lit a candle in memory of Daniel O'Niel Knight



Theresa BrownDoonquah - November 12, 2022 at 07:47 PM

LW

“ To The Knight Family,

On behalf of the I. C. Norcom Class of 1971, we send our condolences and prayers. We pray that God will give each of you strength, peace and comfort you during these times. Deborah please know that your Greyhound Class of 1971 is here for you. Always remember that there is no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Be blessed.

*Respectfully,
Linda V. Williams,
I. C. Norcom Class of 1971 Reunion President*

Linda V. Williams - November 12, 2022 at 06:46 PM

DW

“ Dear Ruth and Family We here at Monarch Walk are sending you our condolences on the loss of your husband. Such a kind humble man and would always wave as he rode by in the Neighborhood. We are here for you .Peace and Blessings.

Denise Williams - November 12, 2022 at 10:05 AM

VT

“ Valarie Taylor lit a candle in memory of Daniel O'Niel Knight



Valarie Taylor - November 10, 2022 at 10:31 PM

LS

“ I did not know Daniel But I did know three of His siblings. His Sister Alice was My Mothers Friend. To know the Knight Family was an inspiration to all who lived in Mount Hermon. May the Family continue to find comfort in knowing that others share in their loss. God will continue to be with them in the days ahead.



Leigh M. Burton, Sr. - November 10, 2022 at 10:08 PM

VT

“ It’s so hard to believe that I won’t see your smile or hear your laugh again. You were always just a phone call away; I could count on you to just be there, rather standing next to me or seeing your face in the crowd. If it was important to me then it was important to you and I valued your presence in my life more than you know. You always had a story to tell and kept me laughing! I think in your own way you were preparing me for this day as you often told me “Val I’m getting old and I didn’t come here to stay” but nothing could prepare me for this. I am Blessed to be your Niece and forever Thankful for the memories. Rest In Peace Uncle O’Neal, Love you Always.

Valarie Taylor - November 10, 2022 at 09:48 PM