

KENNETH L. SUNKES, JR.
1959-2012

FAMILY

Kenneth L. Sunkes, Jr. was born in Cohoes, New York on December 20, 1959 to parents Kenneth and Doris (Thompson) Sunkes, Sr. Kenneth had 1 brother: John and 5 sisters: Holly, Heidi, Cindy, Constance and Robin. He grew up in Johnsonville and Cohoes. After his military career retirement, he resided in Lansingburgh.

HISTORY:

EDUCATION:

He attended grade school in the Cohoes Central School District. Ken graduated from Hoosic Valley High School in June 1974.

HISTORY:

Ken enlisted into the United States Marine Corps in Houston, Texas on March 1978. Staff Sergeant Kenneth L. Sunkes, Jr. served his country for 15 years. He was a helicopter crew chief and flew combat missions during the first Iraq War and the liberation of Kuwait. He was honorably discharged on April 1, 1993. For his brave and honorable service to his country, Staff Sergeant Sunkes, Jr. was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (5th Award), Letter of Appreciation, Good Conduct Medal (5th Award), Meritorious Unit Citation (2nd Award), Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Mast (3rd Award), Pistol Marksman Badge, Humanitarian Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars, Kuwait Liberation Medal and Air Medal with Numeral "1".

PERSONAL:

Ken married Patricia (Hathaway) Sunkes on February 25, 2012 in Troy, New York. He was the father of daughter, Laura, step-daughter Michelle and four step-daughters from his marriage to Patricia: Tammy, Carrie, Billy Jo and Michelle. He was blessed with sixteen step-grandchildren.

WORK

For several years, he was the general manager of The Barn Restaurant in Tustin, California. He moved back to the area in 2003 and was employed through the years with Price Chopper Markets, McAvoy Development and BLC Construction of Cohoes.

EXPERIENCE:

COMMUNITY

He was the Chaplain, honor guard member and bartender of the Vets of

ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS:

Lansingburgh, member of the Troy Marine Corp League, VFW of Waterford, and American Legion of Mechanicville. Ken was a diehard NY Yankees and NY Giants fan. He enjoyed bartending, marching in parades, cooking, gardening, but most of all, Ken loved spending time with his family and friends.

Sadly, Kenneth L. Sunkes, Jr. passed away on July 21, 2012 and was buried with military honors in the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery.