



## Leo George Ruffing

May 8, 2023

Leo George Ruffing, 91, passed away peacefully on May 8, 2023. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to the late Catherine and Lawrence Ruffing. Leo was a Veteran of Korea. He started his service career in the Army in 1948 and then enlisted in the Air Force and retired in 1970. Leo graduated from Park College with a bachelor's degree, Eastern Kentucky University with a master's degree, and Bethany Bible College with a Doctor of Ministry. Leo celebrated 65 years of sobriety and was a mentor to countless others on their path to recovery. After retiring from the military, he worked in the field of substance abuse for the Volunteers of America and later the US Navy. He spent many hours volunteering at the Oasis Social Ministry in Portsmouth and rebuilding homes in Gulfport, Mississippi after hurricane Katrina. Leo was an avid fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers and University of Kentucky basketball. He loved reading and history and was an active member of Park View Christian Church.

Leo was the husband of the late Theresa A. Ruffing. He is survived by his five children, James Ruffing, David Ruffing and wife Kathleen, George-Ann Wood, Wayne "Scott" Ruffing and wife Cherry and Michael Ruffing and wife Erin; seven grandchildren, Whitney, Doug, Noah, Joseph, Caymon, Ellie and Nolan; four great-grandchildren and four brothers, Jack, Jim, Gilbert and Donald. In addition to his wife, Leo is also predeceased by four siblings, Larry, Betty, Lois and Alice.

A celebration of life service will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 18, 2023, at Park View Christian Church, 3201 Western Branch Blvd., Chesapeake, Virginia 23321. Pastor Will Collins and Dr. Brian Ray will be officiating the service. The burial will be private at the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk, Virginia.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to the Parkinson's Foundation, in memory of Leo.

# Cemetery Details

## Albert G. Horton Veteran Cemetery

5310 Milners Road  
Suffolk, VA 23434

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

Park View Christian Church  
3201 Western Branch Blvd.  
Chesapeake, VA

# Tribute Wall

LD

“ *My condolences to Leo's family. I had the opportunity to see him a few times.. he was always fun to be around. He will be missed by family and friends.*



Lori DePaul - May 18, 2023 at 07:50 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Loe's Friends*



Chuck Boyd - May 15, 2023 at 02:49 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Leo George Ruffing.*



May 14, 2023 at 07:33 PM

GL

“ *My condolences to your family, his friends, and all whose lives he touched one way or another. He made a positive difference in my life and the lives of an untold number of people. He will be sorely missed.*



Gail A Lashbrook - May 14, 2023 at 03:23 PM

EL

*Going to miss Leo he was such a big part of my life. A gentle soul with a wicked sense of humor. My condolences to the family I will keep you in my prayers.*

**Ernie Leclerc** - May 16, 2023 at 04:08 PM

SF

*For Mr. Leo's family and friends. know that God is near the broken hearted. ShirleynFields*

**Shirley Fields** - May 16, 2023 at 04:50 PM

MK

*Michael your dad was such a great man. Always positive and of course humorous. He was a beacon of hope for all that new him. He showed that all things are possible, and never stopped working one day at a time. He loved his friends and family with all his heart. What a humble man. Mary Kook*

**Mary Kook** - May 16, 2023 at 09:46 PM

DW

*Mr Ruffing was such a staunch supporter of veterans, especially those of the Korean War Era. He had such vase knowledge and compassion and made an indelible impression on all he encountered. DAV Chapter 22 in Portsmouth was greatly influenced by Mr Ruffing, and he will be missed! We collectively extend condolences to the family.*

**Denice Williams** - May 20, 2023 at 11:01 AM

CM

*Leo was so very generous in sharing his experience with others. He was a shining light for all who knew him. When faced with a dilemma, I often wonder, "What would Leo say?" God Bless Leo Ruffing.*

**Catherine Modlin** - July 11, 2023 at 08:40 AM