



John Richard Yerkes

September 29, 1943 - January 12, 2019

John Richard Yerkes, age 75, passed away Saturday, January 12, 2019 in his sleep at his home in Vancouver. He was born on September 29, 1943 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Harold Alfred and Cecile-Norah-Camille (Millette) Yerkes before growing up in Vacaville, California with his brother Robert and sister Andree.

After graduating high school, John joined the Navy and served during the Vietnam war. After the Navy, John continued his over 25 year career at Sears in Chula Vista, California where he got married and had his son, Brandon. After living in different parts of San Diego, Pasadena, and Santa Barbara during his long career at Sears, he left Sears and settled in San Diego. There he opened up the restaurant Chicken Out and helped with the opening of legendary craft beer bar, O'Brien's. He then started spending summers in Portland and winters in San Diego, until he moved to the Pacific Northwest permanently where he met his wife Janice and started his second over 25 year career with Trader Joe's.

A master on the grill, John loved barbecuing, listening to his music, stressing about traffic and the weather, and spending time with his friends over a couple BVs joking about Whatever. From helping run football pools to a winning day at the track, John loved his sports. In fact, his day wasn't complete unless he had read all about them in his daily paper.

John is survived by his beloved wife Janice Yerkes, son Brandon Yerkes, step sons Kyle Taylor, Richard Taylor and Tyson Taylor, brother Robert Yerkes and nephew Jay Yerkes.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, January 21, 2019 at 10:30am at Willamette National Cemetery at 11800 SE Mt. Scott Blvd, Happy Valley. A Celebration of Life will follow at about noon at Celebrities Parkway Grill at 20725 NE Sandy Blvd, Fairview.

Tribute Wall



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Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 03:25 PM



“ We loved our visits with him. I remember my dad making me, after a fishing trip in Haggerman , Idaho before we went home, detour , all the way up to see him and Janice, just to have a cup of coffee and turn around and head back home to Menifee, CA. My dad actually sat down, which he never did , long enough to drink that cup of coffee at their house, We all were laughing about that and so surprised. Thanks for always taking the time to come down here to visit with us too. So many nice stories , my dad would always talk about, how John, runs some of the Trader Joe's "pretty good aye" , he'd say.. R.I.P. John. We love you.

Terri Jones - January 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM



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Tribute Store - January 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ Will miss and love you forever Dad

Brandon Yerkes - January 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM