



Paul Ralph Long

July 26, 1945 - September 5, 2021

Paul Ralph Long was born July 26, 1945 in Essex, Missouri to Manly A. and Caddie J. Long. He passed away peacefully at his home following a brief illness in Naples, Florida on September 5, 2020 at the age of seventy-six years.

Paul is survived by his partner, Jack Bays; one brother, Maurice Long of Bonfield, IL; three sisters, Joyce Brady of Trilla, IL, Delores Woodford of Augusta, WI and Faye Dennison of Lee's Summit, MO; and many relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Manly and Caddie Long and his sister, Lois Bond. Paul is also survived by his second family, Sharon Hullinger, Kevin Bays, Jeremy and Mason of Fort Myers, FL and Juli Coy and Jori of Kankakee, IL.

Paul attended Gray Ridge Schools through his junior year and graduated from Dexter High School in Dexter, MO in 1963. Paul was an accomplished clarinet player in high school. He placed First in Clarinet two years consecutively in the MO State Music Contest. Paul graduated from the University of Missouri, Columbia, MO in 1967 with a B.S. Degree in Horticulture. He enlisted in the United States Army upon graduation. Paul was a clarinetist in the 399th Army Band at Fort Leonard Wood Army Base in Missouri. He was stationed in South Korea following basic training with the United States Army Band and was awarded an Honorable Discharge in 1969.

Paul worked as a floral designer in Kankakee and Bourbonnais, IL, Kansas City, MO and Bonita Springs, FL for thirty years. He was co-owner of Potpourri

in Kankakee, IL; worked as a designer for Panazzo's Floral & Produce in Bourbonnais, IL for several years. He recently designed flowers at Bonita Blooms in Bonita Springs, FL. Paul was a gifted floral designer, artist, gardener, photographer, gourmet cook and musician. He played clarinet and oboe in Community Bands in Bourbonnais, IL and Bonita Springs, FL. Paul was a Life Member and Trustee on the Board of VFW Post 4254 in Bonita Springs, FL. He was a member of American Legion 303 and Moose Lodge 1454 in Bonita Springs, FL. Paul was an active member of the Springs of Bonita Springs Outdoor Church. He was baptized in the Dexter Church of the Nazarene.

Paul will be inurned in Sarasota National Cemetery in Sarasota, FL on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 12:30 PM.

To sign Paul's guest register or to leave online condolences, please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home and Crematory, Family Owned and Operated since 1978.

Cemetery Details

Sarasota National Cemetery

9810 State Road 72
Sarasota, FL 34241

Previous Events

Inurnment

SEP **27**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Sarasota National Cemetery
9810 State Road 72
Sarasota, FL 34241
<http://www.cem.va.gov/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Paul Ralph Long*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I worked with Paul at Panozzo's flower shop he always had a kind heart and also was invited to party at there home in Kankakee Illinois
Gods Blessings and rest in Gods arms
Love Carol Jones*

Carol Jones - September 12, 2021 at 07:16 PM



“ *Paul will always hold a special place in my heart. He and I had such wonderful conversations together. He loved flowers and plants and knew any questions I had for him. We had many pleasant years knowing each other. He and Jack were so dear to me. I will and do truly miss him.*

Jan Roller

Jan Roller - September 12, 2021 at 04:09 PM



“ *Meat & Cheese Sympathy Gift Crate was purchased for the family of Paul Ralph Long.*



September 09, 2021 at 11:58 AM

BF

“ To Jack Bays,

Tony and I send our sincere words of sympathy to you on the loss of your long-time partner and best friend, Paul; and to your sister and our good friend, Sharon Hullinger, who loved Paul like a brother. Jack, you are an awesome person! We remember with fondness the time we were up North with you all, the laughter and goofy games, and meeting Paul. We knew you and he belonged together. Of course the sadness over your loss will never go away, but knowing you, you'll cherish the memories of so many years, and continue living life with gusto, and honoring Paul. It makes us happy that you and Sharon live close enough to spend lots of time together! Loving thoughts are with you!

Tony and Becky (McMahon) Fisher Noblesville, Indiana

Becky McMahon Fisher - September 06, 2021 at 05:26 PM

JL

“ Joanne Jewell & Michael LeBlond lit a candle
in memory of Paul Ralph Long



Joanne Jewell & Michael LeBlond - September 05, 2021 at 08:17 PM

DW

“ *My little brother, Paul, was a happy fun loving kid. He had a cat that that he would hold in his arms with his arms under it and it was his accordion, He would play and sing with it.*

He loved to fish in the drainage ditch, probably had no fish in it, but he loved trying. He always loved nature, I remember his face was really swollen from a bee sting, when he wanted to see in the bee hive. Paul was a gifted person in the arts, music, floral work , and painting and drawing. He was a sweet loving brother, such an upbeat person. I will always love you, Paul

Delores Woodford - September 05, 2021 at 05:14 PM