



## George Sabato

September 23, 1943 - August 27, 2019

George Vincent Sabato, age 75, of St. Augustine, passed away on August 27, 2019 at his home with his family by his side. Born and raised in Washington D.C. and joined the U.S. Navy at age 17, serving his country for 4 years. In 1972 he met his beautiful wife and the two married in Ft. Myers on January 12, 1974. George started his career as a volunteer firefighter for Prince George County, before being hired as a paid firefighter where he was employed for 7 years. After getting his name on the federal register he was hired as a fire fighter at naval training center in Orlando. His career took the family to NAS, Key West, FI and Cecil Field, Jacksonville. George made St. Johns County his home where he has resided for the past 35 years. During his career with The Dept of Defense he did a 4 year overseas tour in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba along with his family. He followed that with a one year solo tour and retired from the Fire Dept in Guantanamo in February 1996. George was also a certified dive instructor in Maryland, was a member of search and rescue and he also gave private lessons. During his retirement he continued to enjoy diving and snorkeling, fishing and of course boating, including living abroad a 44 foot Defever, fulfilling a dream. Later he went on to become an avid Harley Davidson rider and was a Mason 32 degree and a certified coastguard captain.

He is survived by his wife, Loranne "Lori" Sabato of St. Augustine; son, George Edward Sabato (Cindy) of Warrenton, VA; daughters, Stacey Marks (Kevin) of St. Augustine, Samantha Beckett (Thomas) of Austin, TX; grandsons, Jonathan and Hayden Beckett of Austin, TX, August Marks of St. Augustine; granddaughter, Piper Marks of St. Augustine; sister, Connie Bushnell (David) of Frederick, MD and step brothers, Stanley and Joel Goldberg of Olney, MD.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Comments

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“ Lori....I'm so sorry! I just saw this!

**Bunky** - October 21, 2019 at 08:59 AM

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“ George Sabato, what a great guy.

I met George when he came to NAS Cecil Field. George had a great personality and I could tell from the start he was very intelligent and easy to get along with. When he was in the Fire Inspection Division, I was Crash Captain on one platoon and he worked out of my office for quite a while and we became close friends. He had a good sense of humor and would call me at home after I retired and always tried to pull one over on my wife, telling her he was the Fuller Brush man and try to sell her something. After I retired, his career went on for quite a few years. I didn't get to see him a lot, usually at Fire Department gatherings and a few times when he rode his "HOG" down to my home in Green Cove to visit for the afternoon. When George got sick, he would call and let me know how he was doing between trips back and forth from Texas for treatments. The week before he passed I went to his home to visit with him, he introduced me to one of his beautiful daughters and showed me around his property and I got to meet his chickens, ducks and other critters. We spent several hours in his Mancave talking. He told me he felt at ease with what was to come and with his wife living there close to his daughter and son in law that gave him comfort. I had planned to return the next week with Ray Murray, another Fire Fighter but unfortunately that was the last time I got to see George. He told me that last visit that he always considered me as a really close and personal friend and I felt the same way about him.

Love you Brother Sabato, the world has lost a great guy and I have lost a great friend!

Donald (Skinny) Johnson

**Donald Johnson** - October 20, 2019 at 08:53 PM

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“ Enjoyed working with George at Cecil Field Fire Dept. We had a lot of laughs together.

Lee Chaney - October 17, 2019 at 07:08 PM

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“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



lori sabato - October 17, 2019 at 11:09 AM