



John T. Blythe

October 15, 1954 - March 31, 2026

John Thomas Blythe, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and proud patriot, passed away leaving behind a legacy of love, service, and storytelling that will live on in all who knew him.

John was baptized into the Catholic faith on November 7, 1954, at Saint Joseph's Church in Newport, Rhode Island, by his loving parents, John and Isabelle Blythe. His faith remained an important and guiding presence throughout his life.

He was a bright and determined young man, graduating from Rogers High School in Newport, Rhode Island, with an outstanding academic record—earning all A's, one B+, and, as he would humorously recall, a single C in American Government. Though surprising to those who knew his deep knowledge, he chalked it up to being a teenager at the time. John later pursued higher education, working toward a Master's Degree in Business Administration at the Community College of Rhode Island.

John proudly served his country as a United States Marine from 1974 to 1977, stationed at Camp Lejeune. His dedication to service continued throughout his professional life, where he spent 30 years working for the Department of Defense as a Management Director for the Commissary. He retired in 2008, leaving behind a respected career marked by commitment and integrity.

On September 8, 2007, John married the love of his life, Josefa Blythe, on Atlantic Beach in Jacksonville, Florida. Together, they shared 19 wonderful years of marriage filled with love, companionship, and many cherished travels—especially their memorable car trips to quiet, hidden places.

Known affectionately as “Papa” and “Papa John,” a nickname lovingly given by one of the grandsons after the Papa John pizza place: will be remembered as a man of deep intelligence, curiosity, and wit. He was a true history buff who seemed to know a little about everything and could speak at length on nearly any topic. His wife, Pepi said he was a distinguishing, subtle, observant refined man; that’s why she fell in love with him. He loved movies and had an incredible memory for lines, plots, and the stories behind them, often sharing his knowledge with enthusiasm. Though sometimes perceived as gruff by those who didn’t know him well, John was, at his core, a deeply caring and compassionate man. He was a patient listener, a thoughtful conversationalist, and someone who always made time for others—especially his grandchildren, whom he adored. His gentle and attentive nature made him a cherished presence in their lives.

John found joy in life’s simple pleasures: spending time with his family, long bike rides, meaningful conversations, and listening to music—especially The Beatles. He was also a natural storyteller, often adding his own colorful spin to events, making every story more memorable and entertaining.

Throughout his life, John experienced many seasons—challenging, joyful, and everything in between. His final chapter was marked by health struggles, but also by love, faith, and peace. He took comfort in knowing he had cared for those he loved and was ready to begin a new chapter in Heaven, reunited with those who went before him.

John was a family man at heart. He is lovingly survived by his children: John T. Blythe III and his wife Simone, Gregory S. Blythe and his wife Beth Ann,

Matthew J. Blythe, and Tiffany L. Blythe; his stepson Johnny P. Chemente and his wife Summer Loyd Turner; and his stepdaughter Nancy M. Foshee and her husband Heath Foshee. He is survived by his nieces, Chrissy Hanover and Alicia Blythe, with whom he shared an especially close bond. He was a proud and loving grandfather to Malaysia Blythe, Nyah Blythe, Benjamin Blythe, Chase Blythe, Jack Blythe, Jett J. Chemente, Jonny Chemente, Haley M. Foshee, Christian G. Foshee, Carson W. Foshee, and Isabella G. Foshee, and great-grandfather to Zacarias Blythe and Zyair Blythe. He is also survived by extended family including his cousins Pam (McEnness) Giannini, Joe and his wife, Theresa Nunes, Joseph McEnness, and Paul and his wife Linda Manning.

He was preceded in death by his beloved grandson, Robert Whatley. John is also preceded in death by his parents, John Thomas Blythe and Isabelle Blythe, and his brother Gary S. Blythe who he was extremely close with.

John leaves behind an indelible mark on the hearts of all who knew him. His stories, laughter, wisdom, and love will never be forgotten.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that memorial contributions be made to the VA in honor of his service https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=iGaXk kf1cYvXitt8469oJB803BqHjB5Ca3-C6sbon4AxG4rUfzJU3RkFChkVW9D5f_h E_rdC_bDsxdml or to Wolfson Childrens Hospital <https://giving.baptistjax.com/wolfsonchildrens>

As John often reminded us:

“All you need is love.” ^{L}_{SEP}—The Beatles

He lived by those words, and through them, his legacy will endure.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 4. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

St Johns Family Funeral Home and Crematory
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Reception

APR 4. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

St Johns Family Funeral Home and Crematory
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Tribute Wall



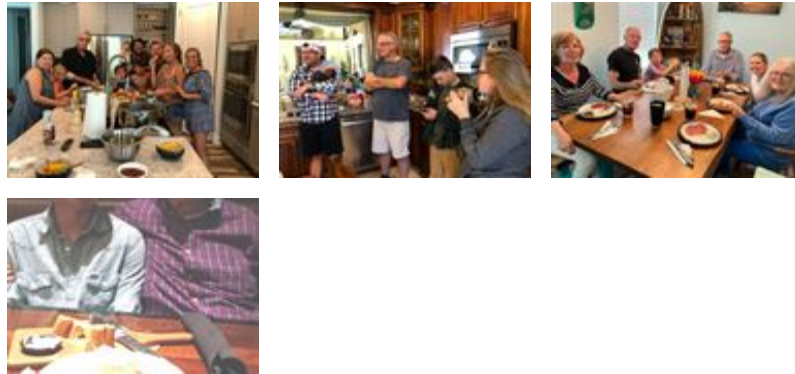
“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John T. Blythe.



April 04 at 03:20 PM



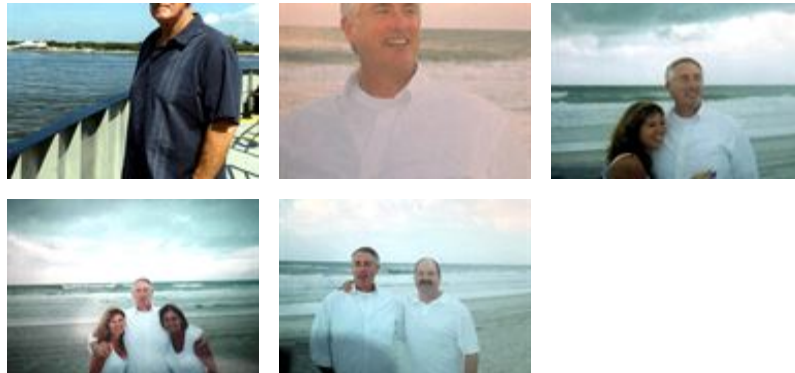
“ 4 files added to the album Life Tributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - April 04 at 08:46 AM



“ 44 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - April 03 at 04:31 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of *John T. Blythe*.



April 02 at 02:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of *John T. Blythe*.



April 02 at 11:30 AM