



Joseph James Keenan

March 27, 1923 - March 29, 2016

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Joseph James Keenan, age 93, passed away peacefully at his home on March 29, 2016. Mr. Keenan was born on March 27, 1923 in Montana to the late James and Elizabeth Keenan. He served in the United States Army in the 82nd Airborne Division 504 PIR during WWII, making combat jumps in Sicily, Italy, Normandy and Holland. Following his military service Joe lived in Alaska for 30 years, loving life as a commercial fisherman, hunter and guide. Joe married Betty Murdoch in Alaska. After she passed he traveled to California where he met and married Grace Keenan. They moved to Finland Minnesota, built a cabin in the woods, and after five years moved to St. Augustine in 1987, enjoying life in St Augustine Beach, attending St Anastasia Catholic Church. Joe was a life member of the VFW, DAV, 82nd Airborne Division Association, and 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment Association. He was awarded the French Legion of Honor medal in 2015. Survivors include his lovely wife Grace Keenan of St. Augustine; two sons, David Murdoch of Boise, ID and Robert Eckmark of St. Augustine, their children and grandchildren; and one daughter, Colleen Eckmark of Nashville, TN. The Keenan family would like to extend a special thank you for the excellent care provided by Haven Hospice. Memorial services will be held at St. Anastasia Catholic Church on Wednesday April 6, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. Following the memorial service, inurnment will take place at Jacksonville National Cemetery

with Military Honors at 2:30 p.m. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

AG

“ I’m sad to find this so many years later. My belated condolences to the family. I met Joe at the 82d Airborne Division Convention in Buffalo in the late 90s. He and Grace were at my table with fellow commanders and our young lieutenants. He was funny, kind, gracious with his time and stories. Joe was a piece of American history and a treasure. I’m blessed to have been friends with him over the years.

Anthony Grisanti Buffalo, NY

Anthony S Grisanti - June 11, 2020 at 10:18 AM

GK

Joe's photo is on my desk and I love to talk to him every day. He was my hero and we enjoyed many years and adventures together. We will meet again in paradise.

Grace Keenan - December 31, 2022 at 03:43 PM