

Peter Joseph Merkwa Jr.

June 17, 1947 - December 9, 2017

Peter Joseph Merkwa, Jr. 70 of Salisbury passed away Saturday, December 9, 2017 at his home.

Born June 17, 1947 in Lancaster, NY, he was the son of the late Peter Joseph Merkwa, Sr. and Alice Zarajczyk Merkwa.

He was educated in the Lancaster, NY schools and graduated from Rutgers University.

Mr. Merkwa was a veteran of the US Marine Corps for 20 years and retired as a Gunnery Sergeant. He was employed for the W. G. Hefner VA Medical Center for 21 years before retiring in 2007.

He was a member of Trinity United Church of Christ, Concord, where he served as an Elder, Treasurer and on the Consistory Board.

In addition to his parents he was preceded by his wife, Mary Ann Merkwa on December 20, 2012.

Those left to cherish his memory are his children, Patricia Merkwa and wife Rachel Merkwa of Salisbury and Paul Merkwa and wife Bobbie of Lenoir; sisters, Christina Job and husband Ronald of Clarence, NY and Patricia

Cappelli and husband Vincent of Lancaster, NY, 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 12-1 PM Thursday (Dec. 14) at Summersett Funeral Home followed by a graveside service at 1:30 PM at Brookhill Memorial Gardens, Rockwell conducted by Pastor Nathan King, minister of Trinity United Church of Christ, Concord with Military Graveside Rites conducted by the US Marine Corps.

Memorials may be made to Trinity United Church of Christ, 38 Church St. NE, Concord, NC 28025.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Merkwa family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Brookhill Memorial Gardens

Rockwell, NC

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 14. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-2111
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

Graveside Service

DEC 14. 1:30 PM (ET)

Brookhill Memorial Gardens
Rockwell, NC

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Family and Friends*



Rachel Merkwa - December 12, 2017 at 06:29 PM

DF

“ Our prayers go out to Pete's family at this time. Especially Trish, who was his "apple of his eye". May you find some Peace knowing he is with Mary this year for Christmas. God Bless you all.



Dallas and Ted Hewitt and family - December 12, 2017 at 06:00 PM

AL

That's very sweet of you. We are all overjoyed to know that they are back together.

Amanda Ledford - December 15, 2017 at 09:20 PM

CH

“ there are so many memories, when you and Mary lived in Jacksonville, met by the CB radio. the 4 of us played cards almost every weekend..When you and Paul were over seas at the same time, Paul and Trish would babysit so Mary and I could go to Bingo...I don't know what I would have done with out you and Mary when I had the children,you were both so helpful...I hope you will meet Paul in Heaven and tell him I Love him...

Carol

Carolyn Harrington - December 12, 2017 at 03:47 PM

KB

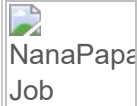
“ Papa Pete always told Lori and I how special we were, that we were awesome people and that he loved us always. We will miss him dearly! Much love Papa Pete!

Kim Bowman - December 12, 2017 at 03:38 PM

TB

“ Papa Pete was a big man with a big heart. He will always be one of my favorite people along with his dear Mary. They were both supportive and loving to all of us. We'll miss you something terrible. See you on the other side someday.

TJ Belt - December 12, 2017 at 03:01 PM



“ *Pete was my "Big Brother".
His Love had no boarders....when I needed
"roots" Pete and Mary were there to claim me
for their own. (That is Love)
One of the best feelings in the world is a "Big
Brother" (((hug)))..... every time we would meet
Pete would put his arms around me and (((hug))) me ever so tight....
(I can't believe I will never get another one again.)
He was my best friend, my oldest friend, that knew me better than
any other.
Part of me is in heaven now... Till we meet again Pete...."Infinity" ❤️
Your "Little Sister", Chris*



NanaPapa Job - December 12, 2017 at 01:33 PM

AL

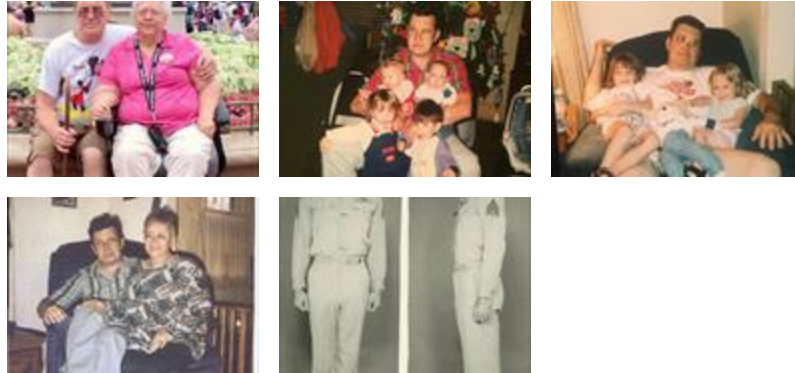
“ *Papa, there are no words that could ever explain how terribly I will
miss you. You were a father when I needed one, a papa when I
needed him, a friend when I was lonely, a counselor when I was sad
and a provider when I was in need. You and Nana were everything
to me and the only peace I can find in this situation comes from
knowing you two are together now, and forever.*

*I hope you two are running full speed ahead and pain free through
Heaven together talking about how lucky you were to find
unconditional love with each other. If Eric and I can be HALF the
grandparents one day that you were to us, I will feel successful. I
love you, and this isn't goodbye, it's see you later. Save me a spot
up there on the porch swing.*

Amanda Ledford - December 12, 2017 at 01:23 PM

AL

“ 7 files added to the album New Album Name



Amanda Ledford - December 12, 2017 at 12:18 PM

SV

“ You Peter lived life the way God and country can only hope it is lived. RIP, hug my sister for me ❤️ till we meet again, thank you for being the man you are , all my love

Sue Vanderlip - December 12, 2017 at 12:11 PM

SK

“ I love you papa so much I remember our lunch date at IHOP it was a good day and I had fun talking to you

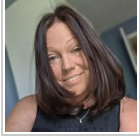
skylar - December 12, 2017 at 11:36 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Peter Joseph Merkwa Jr..



December 12, 2017 at 10:26 AM



“ *Trish, Paul, & Family,*

I am so very sorry for your loss. I was heart broken to hear about your Dad.

Uncle Pete was an amazing man, he was always willing to listen, give advice, and a helping hand when needed. He loved with his whole heart! I am grateful my parents chose your parents to be my God Parents; that we got to be a part of each others lives and that I was able to grow up knowing such a wonderful caring man. I am keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers through this difficult time. Love to all.

Jennifer Harrington - December 12, 2017 at 10:10 AM



“ *Where do I even start, your passing was so unexpected and has left such emptiness I don't have words to explain. You were a great man and will be miss by many. I love Dad, and will miss you for eternity...*

Trish Merkwa - December 12, 2017 at 08:52 AM



He was one of the finest men we ever had the pleasure to know. He will be in so many peoples hearts for eternity. We love you and Rachael.

Patsy/Sylvia Chillcott - December 12, 2017 at 11:32 AM