



Frank C. Foster

December 3, 1936 - February 15, 2016

Frank C. Foster, age 79, died February 15th, 2016 peacefully at his home in Shelby Township, Michigan, surrounded by his family. He was born December 3, 1936 in Washington, Michigan. Beloved husband of Antoinette "TONI" Foster (nee Pickett). Frank and Toni were married at St. Clement Catholic Church, Warren, Michigan; January 31, 1959 and celebrated their 57th anniversary this past January. Loving father of Crystal Marie (Michael) Kroll, April Lynn (Robert) Laperriere, Barry Blake Foster, and Danette Elaine (Lonnie) Duncan. Dearest grandfather to Jordan and Derek Kroll, Tyler and Paige Laperriere, Spencer and Kelly Foster, and Joshua and Brittany Duncan. Dearest son of the late Blake N. and Mary E. Foster. Also preceded in death by his late Brother Blake A. Foster. Frank graduated from Centerline High School in 1955 and served with the United States Marine Corp as an infantry officer, and was a veteran of the Vietnam Conflict. Frank was Honorably Discharged after 20 years as a Captain. Frank retired from the Social Security Administration as a field representative. Frank was a past member of the Utica Rotary Club. Frank despised winter! For more than 15 years Frank and Toni traveled south. Frank also loved to sit on his patio in the summer months reading a good book and watching the Detroit Tigers. Ask anyone that knows Frank about his lawn, not a weed to be found! One of his greatest joys was to spend time with his children and spouses, his grandchildren, neighbors and friends. Frank will be greatly missed! Family will receive friends Thursday from 2:00 until 9:00 p.m. at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road

(3 Blocks east of VanDyke, on the north side of M59) Utica. His Funeral Service will be this Friday at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial Friday at 1:00 p.m. at Great Lakes National Cemetery with U. S. Marine Corps Military Honors. Please share a memory with his family at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 18. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Funeral Services

FEB 19. 10:00 AM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Burial

FEB **19**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



February 18, 2016 at 09:12 PM



“ *Dear Toni and family. I knew Frank from High School. I certainly enjoyed reading all of the Tributes to him. After school I only saw him at the reunions. I do remember him being a very nice guy. My thoughts go out to all of you on your great loss. May He Rest in Peace.*

Betty(Smilnak) and Jim Moncher

Betty Moncher - February 18, 2016 at 05:52 PM

TY

“ Frank Foster was not only a proud marine who was awarded 3 Purple Hearts during his service in Veitnam, but beneath his tough exterior, he was a caring father and grandfather who always had you in mind before himself.

Growing up I was always told stories about his tough demeanor as a drill sergeant on Paris Island, or some crazy story that took place during the war, but that's not how I remember him.

I remember an incredibly loving grandfather who used goofy voices when reading stories to me. I remember the man who would make hilarious gag gifts for your birthday. I remember the man who was hopping all over town on the weekends so he could cheer on his grandkids little league teams. Most of all I remember the man who shook my hand a few months ago and told me how proud he was of the man I was becoming.

Cheers to you grandpa, when I reach the other side the first beer is on me.

Tyler Laperriere - grandson

Tyler - February 18, 2016 at 10:33 AM

CR

“ *This is my favorite picture of my Grandpa. It was a rare occasion we could get him to smile for a photo, but in-action shots bursting with genuine laughter are the best in my opinion anyway. He lived a great life; married his high school sweetheart & best friend, Toni Foster. Had 4 blessings I call my Aunts and Uncle. Served our country as a proud Marine. Lived in many different states (including Hawaii, I'm still jealous). Spoiled his 8 grandkids with fruit snacks before every car ride home... I'll forever cherish my middle name; through that, and my memories, he'll always be apart of me. He will be terribly missed. Rest In Peace Frank Clare Foster*

Paige Laperriere- granddaughter

Crystal - February 18, 2016 at 10:31 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



February 18, 2016 at 10:17 AM

DW

“ *Semper Fi Marine! DW*

DW - February 18, 2016 at 06:20 AM

EH

“ *ernie fay carlo and family al helen noah perry don hanke purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



ernie fay carlo and family al helen noah perry don hanke -
February 17, 2016 at 05:42 PM

RO

“ Frank lived behind me ever since my family and I moved in when I was 13. As I got older, Frank was always a joy to talk to, and to listen to him complain about the latest Tigers or Lions loss. One memory will always stick out from Frank, and it wasn't hi announcing the Tigers score to my dad while he worked in the backyard. December 10th, 2013 I enlisted in the United States Navy. I was away from home for a long time before I made it back. My parents kept me updated on Franks condition, there was one particular time when I made it back home. I walked into the backyard and to the back fence where 90% of the conversations between my Father and him took place. He came out with three beers in his hand, 2 Busch Light and a Bud Light. I am a Corpsman, he looked at me with a giant grin and said "Hey there Squid"! I couldn't help but laugh, he sure did love calling me a squid, and then laugh again as he handed me the Busch Light and gave the Bud Light to my Dad. The best part was a cartoon clipping he gave me, if anyone reading this has been in the Marines or the USN as a Corpsman they will understand, the cartoon went as follows. A wounded marine was laying on the ground asking a Navy Corpsman (Or Doc) for medicine, the Corpsman looked at the Marine and said "Don't worry, here is some Motrin and Water". If there was ever a person you could look at and say "There goes a Marine", it was Frank. It was an honor to have that beer with him. I will have a beer for you tonight Devil Dog, until we meet again.

-Rich Osborne

Rich Osborne - February 17, 2016 at 03:13 PM

JB

There were two primary people that I looked up to when I was growing up. One was my brother Frank, and the other was my cousin Frank. I joined the Navy in 1973 largely out of a sense of duty instilled by a Marine that went to war in Vietnam and served his country, my cousin Frank. I would have never survived the Marines, and when they didn't draft me, I felt I owed him and all the other vets something so I joined the Navy. And, he called me "Squid" too! To me it was a badge of honor. I remember when he was working at the Social Security Office in Port Huron (I think it was in 1975, or early 76), and I went into the office to say hi, and we went to lunch. When I walked into the office and he looked up from the desk he was at, he said with that big smile he always had "Hey, the Navy's here! What's up Squid?". The world is definitely a lesser place without him. Semper Fi Frank.

- Joe Britton

Joe Britton - February 18, 2016 at 01:48 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frank C. Foster .



February 17, 2016 at 02:54 PM

JG

“ Well i can honestly say today has been a top contender for the worst day of my life thus far. Today we lost an amazing loving funny strong man. A person who showed me what true love looks like. The way Josh's grandfather loved his grandma was a rare find in today's world. I remember when josh and I would go visit them in the summer out on the patio where frank was reading a book. I loved listening to the stories of how Frank and Toni met and journeys they had. It was straight out of a Nicolas Sparks book. Having grown up without grandparents, and having them come into my life was surreal, Frank was so quick to treat me like one of the grandkids, frank and Toni always made me feel welcome at holidays or even to just swing by. I know that he is in a better place now, not suffering, but will always mourn not having him at mine and josh's wedding and the strong man that my kids will not have In their lives when the time comes. I will never forget the way Frank looked at Toni and the grin he would look at her with. And I will never forget the way he accepting me into the family with open arms, I am forever grateful for that. And I will truly miss him.

Jill Hamilton (Joshua's girlfriend) - February 17, 2016 at 01:35 PM

JG

“ How do you put into words the lifetime of a man who had a personality larger than life itself? He was the most selfless, kind, compassionate, and loving man, and one that I am proud to have to called my Grandpa. He was a true Marine's Marine, and carried himself with such dignity and grace that everyone always was aware of his presence. I hope one day to love someone like he loved my Grandma, to be as well read and well learned as he, and to be passionate about living life every day to the fullest just like him. He always treated everyone like family, and was a true example of what a strong family man should be. His carefully penned cards and notes of encouragement I will always treasure, his constant laughter and practical jokes will be sorely missed, and I am proud to have shared my birthday with him for the past 24 years. Love you Grandpa, and I know you will be with us always.

Jordan - Oldest granddaughter - February 17, 2016 at 01:33 PM

DF

“ Don & Bea Olson & family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Frank C. Foster .



Don & Bea Olson & family - February 17, 2016 at 01:20 PM

“ A few thoughts from Bob Wood and a tribute to Frank Foster.

Throughout my life many experiences and individuals have greatly influenced me in positive ways. In 1959 I joined the United States Marine Corps which proved to be a very good move. From the days of “Boot Camp” throughout the four years I served, the Corps taught and enhanced esprit de corps in my character.

Among the individuals who positively influenced my life is Frank Foster, a Junior Drill Instructor of Recruit Training Platoon 331 at Parris Island, South Carolina. During the time I was at Parris Island, Frank was an E-4 Sargent, thus I still like to refer to him as “Sgt. Foster.” Frank advanced to Gunnery Sargent then received a commission and retired as Captain. One of the things that impressed me about Frank was that he epitomized the character of the Marine Corps; he was a Marine’s Marine. As one may say, “He covers every inch of ground he stands on.” Although we had very little personal contact I was able to observe Frank and benefitted from his encouraging “talks” with the platoon and his conduct. Frank was tough and demanding of the recruits in his charge yet he was understanding and fair. All of the recruits in Platoon 331 knew this and respected Frank for it. Frank is well remembered by those who trained under his supervision. Of the 82 recruits in Platoon 331, we have located or accounted for over 50, unfortunately many of those men are deceased but 38 communicate on a regular basis. Without exception those 38 men still remember “Sgt. Foster” with great respect.

Although I served only four years active duty, the Marine Corps has been and still is an important part of my life. The Marine Corps has been a character building influence and standing out front is the sometimes silent, sometimes loud influence of Sgt. Foster. Some people have an untitled characteristic which makes others want to perform at 110% for them, Frank had that characteristic.

Since 2011 our platoon has been enjoying annual reunions and Frank has been there for each one. It is always a pleasure to visit with Frank, his family, and the members of 331. Each time we head home we do so looking forward to the next get-together.

Here's to you Frank!

Semper Fi

Bob Wood

Bob Wood - February 17, 2016 at 01:17 PM

IJ

“ *Iwona, Ryszard & Jakub purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



Iwona, Ryszard & Jakub - February 17, 2016 at 11:09 AM

LS

“ *Love, Mark, Wendy, Dori and Heidi Shisler purchased the Delicious Delights Basket for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



Love, Mark, Wendy, Dori and Heidi Shisler - February 17, 2016 at 10:14 AM

GD

“ *Guy & Rae Ann, Sandy & Rick, Linda & Frank, Gary & Deb purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



Guy & Rae Ann, Sandy & Rick, Linda & Frank, Gary & Deb - February 17, 2016 at 09:51 AM

SO

“ *A great neighbor, a great friend...I sure am going to miss the early morning Hello's, the great stories and the talks over the fence.. You will forever be in our Hearts.....*

The Osborne Family

Sam and Kim Osborne - February 16, 2016 at 07:24 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frank C. Foster .*



February 16, 2016 at 07:19 PM