



Jeremiah "Jerry" Holland Sr.

April 1, 1944 - March 2, 2025

Jeremiah Patrick Holland, Sr. (Jerry or JP) 80 years of age, of Ocala, Florida , passed away on March 2, 2025 at home peacefully and surrounded by his family.

Jerry was born on April 1, 1944 in New York, New York, and was raised in the Bronx by his parents, Patrick and Eileen Holland who were both Catholic immigrants from Ireland. Jerry was the first in his family to be born in the United States. He attended Mount Saint Michael's Academy where he was an outstanding scholar and athlete. His specialty was the 400 meter in track and he broke the New York State record. He joined the United States Navy at the age of 17, right after he graduated high school. While in the Navy, he was introduced by a fellow sailor that was the uncle of a woman who would become the love of his life, Sandra Guess. After an honorable discharge from the Navy in 1964, Jerry moved to Ocala where he and Sandy would marry and embark on an amazing journey together.

He started his distinguished Law Enforcement career in 1966 at the Ocala Police Department. In 1968, Jerry became a Deputy at the Marion County Sheriff's Office. While working at the Sheriff's Office and attending classes, he earned both a Bachelor's and Master's degree from the University of Central Florida and Saint Leo University. He was also a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Jerry was a strong advocate for education and instructed many

aspects of law enforcement training. He shaped and mentored the career of countless Law Enforcement officers. He touched many lives and was well respected by his peers. Jerry worked his way through the ranks and retired as Chief Deputy of the Marion County Sheriff's Office in 1998. He created a legacy which continues to grow.

When he moved to Ocala, he became a member of Blessed Trinity Catholic Church and was a devout Catholic for the remainder of his life. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Elks club. An avid outdoorsman, he loved hunting, fishing and camping with his family and friends. He cherished spending his summers with Sandra at their cabin in the Smokey Mountains of North Carolina. He loved God. Not only was Jerry an honorable man, he was a patriot. He was an outstanding dad who adored his family, friends, and his favorite pet beagle, Buttons. He was quite the prankster and had an unforgettable laugh.

He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Sandra. Son, Jerry Jr. and his wife Christine, daughter Wendy and two grandsons, Jerry III and Brennan. His brother in-law Woody Guess his wife Diane and sister in-law Bonnie Guess. Nieces, Olivia Kasey Amorginous (JT), Bronwyn Guess and Becky Guess. He is preceded in death by his parents Patrick and Eileen, father and mother in-law Frank and Grace Guess and brother in-law Bobby Guess.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 12:30pm on Friday, March 7, 2025, at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church with burial to follow at Good Shepherd Memorial Gardens, Ocala, Florida

The family will be receiving friends during his viewing from 5:00pm - 7:00pm on Thursday, March 6, 2025 at Roberts of Ocala Funeral Home, 606 SW 2nd Avenue, Ocala, FL

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Hospice of Marion County and asks that any Memorial donations be made to the Hospice of Marion County.

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Bobby often talks about things that happened when he and Jerry worked at MCSD in what Bobby calls the “good old days”. Sandra we will be praying for you and your family.
Bobby and Pat Savage

Bobby and Pat Savage - March 09, 2025 at 04:26 PM

DG

“ In Memory of Jerry Holland. Thoughts and prayers to Sandy and her family.

Donna and Paul Gaddie

Donna Gaddie - March 06, 2025 at 09:53 AM

WM

“ J.P. We started at the S/O within a day or so of each other. Over the years we saw lots of change and growth within the Department. Memories gone but not forgotten. I know you are much better off now, but you will never be forgotten my friend. My utmost condolences to Sandy and ALL of the family. God bless. Wayne McAteer

wayne mcateer - March 05, 2025 at 02:18 PM

LM

Heartfelt condolences to Sandy and the family at this sad time. May your many happy memories bring smiles. RIP Jerry, you were a great American and one of God's servants.

Lois Miller - March 08, 2025 at 01:16 PM

AG

“ Alfred and Darlene Guess purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Jeremiah "Jerry" Holland Sr..



Alfred and Darlene Guess - March 05, 2025 at 01:50 PM