



Dr. John M. Leonard, VMD

June 1, 1953 - May 28, 2025

Dr. John M. (Jack) Leonard, VMD a man of boundless adventure and kindness, passed away on May 28, 2025, in Ocala, FL, at the age of 71. Born on June 1, 1953, in Greensburg, PA, John was a beam of light in the lives of those who knew him. He shared 20 beautiful years with his beloved wife, with whom he enjoyed 15 years of loving marriage. John's legacy is carried on by his wife, Rasha Mohammed-Leonard, his grandson Jensen Leonard, and Jensen's mother, Emma. He was preceded in death by his cherished son, Jacob "Jake" Leonard, as well as by his parents, John C. Leonard and Dorothy Leonard.

Jack's life was marked by his extraordinary dedication to his profession. After earning his Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinarian Medicine in 1979, he built a remarkable career as an Equine Surgeon, spending a large part of his career in Egypt. His passion for his work was palpable, and his contributions to the field were immense. His colleagues revered him not only for his expertise but also for his resourcefulness and outgoing nature. His confident approach to challenges, both in and out of the operating room, inspired many.

Beyond his professional life, Jack had an insatiable appetite for ancient history. His knowledge was so vast, he was often lovingly referred to as a walking encyclopedia. His love for history was matched only by his love for the

great outdoors; Jack was an enthusiastic scuba diver, an avid swimmer, and a world traveler who relished the opportunity to explore new depths, both literal and historical.

Jack's spirit of adventure was contagious, and he was always ready to embark on a new journey, whether diving into the depths of the ocean or into the pages of a historical tome. His friends and family will fondly remember him as the kind and friendly soul who could strike up a conversation with anyone and make them feel like the most important person in the world.

Those who had the privilege of knowing Jack understood that his adventurous nature was deeply intertwined with his character. He was a man who lived life to the fullest, embracing every moment with open arms and a heart full of generosity. Jack's warm smile and jovial laugh will be dearly missed but never forgotten.

As we say goodbye to Dr. Leonard, we celebrate a life well-lived, full of friendship, love, and the pursuit of knowledge. His was a life that exemplified the very best of what it means to be adventurous, kind, and friendly. Jack's memory will continue to inspire and guide us, just as his presence enriched the lives of all who knew him. Rest in peace, dear Jack, your story will be told for generations to come.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 30. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (Est)

Roberts of Ocala West Chapel
6241 SW State Rd 200
Ocala, FL 34476
(352) 537-8111
info@robertsfunerals.com
<http://www.robertsfunerals.com>

Graveside Service

MAY 31. 10:00 AM (ET)

Good Shepherd Memorial Gardens
5050 SW 20th St
Ocala, FL 34474
(352) 900-4681

Tribute Wall



“ Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. John M. Leonard, VMD



Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations - May 30, 2025 at 11:22 AM

CG

I know I should not speak ill of the dead, but as a young female veterinarian, I suffered his abuse as an intern, and he was doing so much illegal drugging of horses with antipsychotic drugs, and random other drugs he was bringing back from Egypt in his suitcase. He left me in charge of really challenging cases while he travelled although I had only graduated recently. It took me many years to get over this, and perhaps I will never completely heal from this experience. I feel sorry for the cute and super-smart son he had - as I understand that much tragedy ensued. Something he told me stuck: fresh out of school, I was taught to always label compounded drugs carefully with all ingredients, and I proceeded to do exactly that when he yelled at me: " What are you? An idiot? Do you want me to lose my license??" This speaks for itself, and yes, he should have lost his license.

Carole Granillo - August 02, 2025 at 12:11 AM

CG

PS: I know this will be deleted, but finally being able to share this experience has haunted me for so long, and it was therapeutic to finally express my anger. I am quite successful now as a completely different kind of veterinarian.

Carole Granillo - August 02, 2025 at 12:15 AM

DM

“ I just found out about my classmate Jack, with whom I spent many nights in the 1970's in Vet School studying, cramming, and joking around. A true friend who helped me get through some interesting times in my life. The kind of guy who, even if you hadn't spoken for years, picked up on your last conversation like it was yesterday. I will always rememebr his laughter. I shall miss him deeply. My sympathies to Rasha and Jensen. (Photos from our yearbook in 1979.)



Docterry McGrath - July 12, 2025 at 06:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. John M. Leonard, VMD.

May 30, 2025 at 03:54 PM

LB

“ Linda Bennett purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. John M. Leonard, VMD.



Linda Bennett - May 30, 2025 at 10:18 AM