

Thomas Lawrence Jackson

December 11, 1932 – November 16, 2022

Thomas Lawrence Jackson, 89, of Old Bridge, NJ, passed away on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at the Raritan Bay Medical Center in Old Bridge, NJ.

Tom was born on December 11, 1932 to Thomas and Elizabeth (Dooley) Jackson in Brooklyn, NY. He was very proud to have served his country in the US Navy from 1952-1957 during the Korean War. Upon returning to the states, he earned a degree in Electronics, started his career with NY Telephone and married Betty Gillespie. They lived in Brooklyn until moving to Old Bridge in 1968.

Tom was a Eucharistic Minister and usher at St. Ambrose Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He could also be found on the softball field or behind home plate as an umpire for many years. He did all of this while raising a family of 6 and working full time for New Jersey Bell.

Tom retired from NJ Bell with 38 years of service in 1995, allowing him to become more active in the VFW, serving as Sr Vice Commander in Memorial Post 9468 and Chaplain in Post 7508. He enjoyed talking with people in front of the Acme or Wawa on Memorial Day weekend while distributing poppies and going into local schools for Veterans Day. Retiring also meant he had more time for his true passion, softball. Tom is recognized as a founding member of the Middlesex County Over-60 and Over-70 softball leagues, serving as Secretary for several years. He continued to play well into his 80s and was always looking to get a few swings in whenever possible.

Tom loved his softball, loved his Mets, loved his 1988 Ford Bronco (Dad's Dream), loved doing the NY Daily News crossword puzzle, loved calling people on their birthdays and loved his fellow veterans, but above all, Tom loved his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Elizabeth, his sister, Maureen Hazzard, his brothers-in-law, Dick Hazzard, Joe Gillespie and Bob Reiners, his sister-in-law, Eileen Gillespie and his daughter-in-law, Helene (Nash) Jackson.

He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Betty, three sons, Thomas and his girlfriend Karen Sheridan, Joseph and his wife Lisa, John and his wife Linda; his daughter, Susan Bruchez and her husband Don; ten grandchildren, Bryan and his wife Jamie, Erin, Meghan, Colleen, Brendan, Caitlin, Daniel, Lauren, Jonathan, and Matthew; his great-grandson, Leo, his sisters-in-law, Joyce Gillespie and Susan Reiners, his brother-in-law, Jim Gillespie, and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held Friday, November 25, 2022, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM & 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at Old Bridge Funeral Home, 2350 CR 516, Old Bridge, NJ 08857.

A Mass Of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, November 26, 2022, 10:30 AM, at St. Ambrose Church, 96 Throckmorton Lane, Old Bridge, NJ 08857. Entombment will follow in the Holy Cross Burial Park and Mausoleum, 820 Cranbury Rd., East Brunswick, NJ.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests supporting your favorite veterans organization. Online condolences can be given at <u>www.oldbridgefh.com</u>.