



Matthew Anthony Pepe, Jr.

April 14, 1943 - June 27, 2020

Matthew Anthony Pepe, Jr., 77, of Anniston, Alabama, passed away on June 27, 2020. Funeral services will be held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church with Father John McDonald officiating. The family will receive visitors at the Church on Thursday, July 2, 2020, between 4 and 5:30 p.m., and the rosary will be said at 5:30 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, July 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Inurnment with military honors will follow at the columbarium adjacent to the church.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 55 beautiful years, Dian, three daughters, Kimberly Pepe Presson (Scott), Shari Pepe Doyal (Tim) and Diana Pepe Harrison (Derry); five granddaughters, Allison, Katey, Alyssa, Samantha and Jennifer; sisters Grace Lordo (Bob) and Shirley Koshan (John) and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his mother, Elizabeth Drabick Pepe Repas and father Matthew Anthony Pepe, Sr., grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Matt proudly served his country in the United States Army for 9 years; he served one tour of duty in the Vietnam War. Matt was a decorated member of the First Air Cavalry Division and a survivor of the Battle of the Ia Drang Valley, which was documented in the movie "We Were Soldiers". He was a member and served as an officer of the Vietnam Veterans of America local chapter 502, was a member of the Anniston Fraternal Order of Police, was a

Calhoun County Reserve Deputy, a Walter Wellborn Band Bus Driver and a local VA Hospital transport driver.

Matt was an expert cook and grill master, a HAM Radio operator, loved cars, boating and fishing and could build and fix just about anything. He was an avid Alabama Crimson Tide and Pittsburgh Steelers football fan. He will be remembered for being a wonderful and loving husband, father and Pop.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Matt to Support our Soldiers - 733 Mill Springs Lane, Birmingham, AL 35244 or the Foundation of the First Cavalry Division Association Ia Drang Scholarship -302 Main Street, Copperas Cove, TX 76522.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 2. 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church
1301 Golden Springs Road
Anniston, AL 36207

Rosary

JUL 2. 5:30 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church
1301 Golden Springs Road
Anniston, AL 36207

Service

JUL 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church
1301 Golden Springs Road
Anniston, AL 36207

Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Lee lit a candle in memory of Matthew Anthony Pepe, Jr.*



Joseph Lee - July 11, 2020 at 04:21 PM



Matt and I served together in Vietnam. He was a friend and a brother! The yellow candle is in honor of his service in the 1st Air Cavalry Division "Garry Owen". The yellow ribbon!!! God bless Brother. Wait for me at Fiddlers Green and we will share a brew together!!!!

Joseph Lee - July 11, 2020 at 04:23 PM



“ *Charlotte Downing lit a candle in memory of Matthew Anthony Pepe, Jr.*



Charlotte Downing - July 01, 2020 at 10:22 PM



“ *Welcome home! First team! Rest in peace*

Milton Kellum - July 01, 2020 at 08:39 AM

TP

“ *What a joy it was to listen to him talk. I'll always remember the story about the old guys and their sandwiches during lent. Oh, how he made me laugh! I will always treasure our visits and time spent talking with Matt.*

Terri Pauluzzi - June 30, 2020 at 09:31 PM