



## John William Knauss

June 26, 1944 - October 22, 2018

John William Edward Knauss, 74, of West Palm Beach, FL, formerly of Winchester, VA, passed from this world on Monday, October 22, 2018 after a long illness.

He was born June 26, 1944 in Wichita, KS, the son of Albert J. Knauss and Lucy Clink Knauss. He lived there until 1972 when he moved to Virginia to begin a job with the federal government.

John was a 1962 graduate of East High School in Wichita, KS and attended college at Wichita State University.

Following college, he was employed by FEMA and later Homeland Securities as an engineering technician until his retirement in 2004.

John married Victoria Marie Tate on October 25, 1975 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winchester, VA where they lived until 2017. They then moved to the West Palm Beach, FL area to be near her sister, Alice.

John was an eagle scout with the Boy Scouts of America, and an assistant scout master with troupe 63 of Winchester. He was a very conscientious and caring person toward people, animals and nature. He loved camping and being outdoors. John was very dedicated to his work with the government and helped to start the OSHA safety program at FEMA. He traveled across the globe for his work and had many interesting stories to tell.

Of his many assignments through the government, John was appointed by the Marine Corps and sent to Vietnam in the 1960's to train servicemen in the proper use of firearms and marksmanship. Practice target ranges were set up on and near the front lines.

He loved having fun, especially interaction with people and children, and deeply loved his cats; Poppins, Ginger, Sam and Jackson.

He is survived by his wife, Victoria; his sister-in-law, Alice Vermilye and her boyfriend, Tim Woodcock; his brother-in-law, John Coryea of Wichita, KS; several nieces and nephews; and a sister, Marlene Roets whos location is unknown.

A funeral service will be Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in Phelps Funeral Chapel, 311 Hope Drive, Winchester with Rev. Mike Mayton officiating.

Burial will follow in Shenandoah Memorial Park.

Friends will be received on Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the funeral chapel.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **30**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Phelps Funeral & Cremation Service  
311 Hope Dr  
Winchester, VA 22601  
(540) 722-2424  
travislnesselrodt@gmail.com  
<https://phelpsfunerals.com>

## Service

OCT **31**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Phelps Funeral & Cremation Service  
311 Hope Dr  
Winchester, VA 22601  
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travislnesselrodt@gmail.com  
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# Tribute Wall

SH

“ Vicky,  
Denny and I are so sorry to read of John's passing. We are grateful to have known him. We have been living in TN for 13 years and at this time cannot come home. You are in our prayers.  
Susie and Denny Hibbard

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**Susan Hibbard** - October 29, 2018 at 09:24 PM

AB

“ Our sincere condolences to Vicky and the rest of the family at this time. My husband and I worked with John at FEMA and remember him very well. He was a kind and generous man. When we built our home in 1987, he gave us the gift of a Hemlock tree which stands strong and proud in our back yard today. We will remember him fondly each time we look at it's beauty. Prayers for peace for all who loved him.

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**Angie Bageant** - October 29, 2018 at 07:00 AM