



Victor Eugene Larkins LTC

March 30, 1943 - August 15, 2022

Victor Larkins, age 79, passed away in Santa Barbara, CA on August 15, 2022.

Born in Watseka, IL, his family moved to Titusville, Florida at the start of his sophomore year in HS

where Vic played baseball and basketball, graduating in 1961. He attended BJC on a basketball

scholarship, where he also played baseball. In 1965, while working at Cape Kennedy he was drafted

into the Army at the rank of Private. Upon graduating from Officer Candidate School, Vic was

commissioned an infantry 2LT. Volunteering for Vietnam, he was serving as the Reconnaissance

Platoon Leader in an infantry battalion (Bobcats) when he was wounded. Vic always considered it an

honor and privilege to lead and serve with some of America's greatest and bravest soldiers

responsible for his safe return home. In 1970, he volunteered for a second tour where he served as an

advisor to the South Vietnamese Army. Later he was honored to serve as special assistant to the

Army's highest ranking military intelligence general in the Pentagon. (Very few people knew of the

physical & emotional effects the Vietnam experiences had on Vic's life thereafter).

On leave after completing his second tour, Vic met his future wife, Patti Chandler. They married after a short courtship and in 2021 celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Vic retired from the Army after 22 years, during which he received his Bachelors Degree from the University of Nebraska and his Masters Degree from Pepperdine University. Vic's medals include: the Legion of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, 2 Meritorious Service, 2 Army Commendation, Army Staff Badge, Joint Service, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry among others.

While Vic had a very successful military career, he felt his greatest gift was his family. He is survived by his wife, Patti (Chandler); sons Sean (Gabriella) and Todd (DeAnna); nine beautiful grandchildren; brothers Dwayne (Jackie), David (Daphne); sister Peggy (Steve) Johnson; brother-in-law Michael Chandler (Susie) and numerous nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his parents Ralph and Marjorie Larkins and brother Curtis.

The family requests donations be made in his memory to the "Wounded Warrior Project" or "Military Order of the Purple Heart Association".

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date with inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery.

Vic will always be remembered for his love of country, quick wit and loyalty to the Chicago Cubs!

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Dr.
Arlington, VA 22211

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

RS

“ Ltc larkins was my battalion commander in 1985 , tremendous respect for him and his csm Robert Sexton . Both were true leaders and both get my sincerest condolences.

Reese Suggs - April 08 at 08:19 PM

DL

“ Vic Larkins was CO when I was a Tactical Officer at Fort Benning, GA. He had a superb sense of humor and was a distinguished soldier. I thank him for making my own combat tour in Vietnam a success. He will remain at a special place in my heart and soul.

David J Law - April 01, 2023 at 10:55 AM

MT

“ My Ex and I had a great visit with Patty and Vic 25-30 years ago. We all had a great time. A great family man and a wonderful family. Patty's mom was my godmother and the relationship goes back two more generations. Farewell Vic. You will be in a better place. Mike Teutschel

mike teutschel - August 30, 2022 at 05:05 PM

PS

“ I hope to see you on the other side ole friend and #23.

phil sellers - August 28, 2022 at 05:45 PM

RH

“ R.I.P my friend. I enjoyed the time were here visiting Titusville when shared drinks and fun. My condolences to Vic's family. Pete Higdon

Russell Higdon - August 28, 2022 at 02:59 PM

LN

“ I have known Vic since I was 14 years old. We went to school and graduated in the same class...1961 Titusville High School, Florida. He was always a sweet and friendly guy. Everyone liked and admired him. He was an honored member of the THS Old Dawgs, which is a very special group of alumni. My condolences to Patti and the rest of his family. We will hold him in our hearts until we all meet again.

Linda Warren Nolan - August 26, 2022 at 04:06 PM

ME

“ I knew Vic from the photos of family and friends on Facebook, his smile, kindness, participation in scrabble games, tea parties and Lavishly wonderful birthday celebrations. While I understood he had been in the military, I was not aware of the depth of his services nor the great sacrifice he had made for others. I am grateful to have the little I know of his fascinating life, I pray for your comfort, peace and love to surround you Patti. May your family and friends deeply comfort you in all circumstances. sincerely Melanie Waller.



Melanie - August 25, 2022 at 05:12 PM