



## Leo Bernard Shanley, Jr. LTC (Ret) US Army

January 23, 1937 - August 23, 2022

Leo Bernard Shanley, Jr., a decorated U.S. Army veteran and beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away on August 23 at the age of 85.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Bette (Glinberg) Shanley; his five children: Leo B. Shanley III (Louise), Jean M. Lyon (Clifford), Paul S. Shanley, Timothy P. Shanley and Helen A. French (David); seven grandchildren: Kelsea Owens (Luke), Michael, Joseph and Caroline Shanley, Samuel and Benjamin Lyon, and Joshua French; and one great-grandson, Jackson Owens. He is preceded in death by his late wife Marion (Muller) Shanley.

Leo was born in Chicago on January 23, 1937, son of the late Leo B. Shanley and Grace (Quinn) Shanley. He and his older sister, the late Sr. Leonie Shanley, SSJ, grew up all around the U.S., following the career of Leo Sr., a construction engineer. Some of the places they lived include Davenport, Iowa; Hobbs, New Mexico; Erie, Pennsylvania; and eventually Merion Station, Pennsylvania. He attended high school at Malvern Preparatory School in Pennsylvania and went on to Dayton University in Ohio, graduating in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science in Geology.

In 1960, Leo was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. He was an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) officer, who served on

several continents at bases including Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana; Hohenfels, Germany; Vicenza, Italy, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland; Saigon and Quinhon, Republic of Vietnam; Redstone Arsenal, Alabama; Berlin, Germany; Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey; and Daegu, Korea. Leo won several awards from the U.S. Army in recognition of his service. These honors included the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

He later worked for the U.S. Department of the Army in a civilian capacity as a Supervisory Logistic Management Specialist; he managed logistics for Patriot Missile batteries during the First Gulf War. He represented the U.S. to The Hague, where he advised on how to best reduce landmine proliferation. He won the Meritorious Civilian Service Award for this service. As a civilian consultant, he provided expert support to U.S. non-proliferation efforts in various countries.

Leo and Bette loved to travel together, and over the course of his life he visited over 50 countries, seeing every continent save Antarctica. Family members remember Leo's keen sense of humor and abiding love for military history, as well as his impressive coin and stamp collections. He took great pride in being Pops to seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. Leo was active in his Catholic faith, for over 20 years at Holy Family Catholic Church in Woodbridge, Virginia, and more recently at Good Shepherd Parish in Alexandria.

A viewing will be held on August 31 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Drive, in Alexandria, Virginia. Funeral services will follow on September 1 at 10:30 a.m. and will be held at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria. He will be interred in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 31. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Jefferson Funeral Chapel  
5755 Castlewellan Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22315  
(703) 971-7400  
info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com  
<https://www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 1. 10:30 AM (ET)

Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
8710 Mount Vernon Highway  
Alexandria, VA 22309  
<https://www.gs-cc.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Leo Bernard Shanley, Jr. LTC (Ret) US Army.*



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February 17, 2025 at 03:43 PM



“ *I just found this tribute to Leo and wanted to add my condolences to Bette and family. I served with him in Taegu, ROK, '78 to '79 and again at Redstone Arsenal, AL, '86 to '88. He was an inspiration to a young officer like me and I learned much from him. He pinned on my captain's bars in June '79. If there is one thing I remember about him it was that integrity was paramount for an officer. I will miss him.*

*Richard deRusha  
Cheyenne, WY*

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**Richard Alan deRusha** - November 04, 2024 at 06:38 PM



“ *Leo Bernard Shanley, Jr. LTC (Ret) US Army*

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October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ I met Leo in my first week at the EOD Technology and Training Program in Jun '93. Leo had just assumed his position as EOD staff officer at Army HQ. He was my principal aid in maintaining Joint Service equanimity. Thru out my time in my position, my conversations and lunches with Leo provided the most pleasure. In one of our first conversations, we learned we had both spent time in Jun '67 investigating an ASP explosion at LZ English. Although we both concluded it probably resulted from a parachute flare, the command declared it due to enemy action, thereby protecting careers of senior officers. Leo and I could jointly chuckle over that and many more past moments. I miss him.

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**Patrick Dillon** - September 05, 2022 at 08:40 PM

JM

“ Bette and family. I sincerely regret your loss. I first met Leo in 1987 and remained friends with him ever since. He was a true friend, mentor and all around great guy. I will miss his dry humor and outlook on life. May he rest in peace in God's loving embrace. I will miss him.

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**John Maples** - September 01, 2022 at 10:25 AM

JL

“ LTC Stanley and my Father served together in Taegu, Korea. His son Leo and I were classmates. LTC Stanley conducted my interview for an application to West Point which I did not attend though. He and his wife are great parents and it shows through their children and grandchildren.

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**John Lessor** - September 01, 2022 at 03:09 AM

RC

“ *Bette and children, our sincere condolence to you. Leo was a fine gentleman. May God bless you and hold you close during this time.*  
*Becky & Boots Couvillon*

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**Rebecca Couvillon** - August 31, 2022 at 06:49 PM



“ *As one of Leo's classmates at St Margaret's School in Narberth, PA, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to the Shanley family. I remember him as a kind and intelligent person who was "most likely to succeed". Thoughts and prayers,*  
*Elaine (Marcoianni) Murphy*

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**Elaine Murphy** - August 31, 2022 at 08:24 AM

KC

“ *Dear Bette, I saw Leo's obituary in the Huntsville AL newspaper. I am so sorry to hear this. You and Leo were good friends to me and John. My husband, John, died last December. Love to you and your family.*  
*Kathy Christopher*

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**Katherine L Christopher** - August 30, 2022 at 10:50 AM

LG

“ I hired Leo on a part time basis for his extensive explosives expertise. We were supporting a DOD program supporting US nonproliferation efforts throughout Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. I was often sending Leo to provide expertise and ensure safe destruction, efforts the caused our clients to sweat and worry. Leo was the best thing I could provide, an expert with a droll sense of amusement during tense periods. You could say many complementary things about Leo but he was a true profession, regardless the challenge, One of the best military compliments I ever got in my Army career came from a first non-commissioned Officer in my first unit, “He done good!” Leo, great job and you are missed...

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**LTC Joseph Grubb** - August 29, 2022 at 04:33 PM

AB

“ My sincere condolences to Bette and the family. Arlette Brandli

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**Arlette Brandli** - August 26, 2022 at 03:43 PM