

Walter “Walt” Ruby

Walt Ruby, 77, died on Friday, March 26, 2021, at the VA Hospital in Sturgis, SD. Walt was born on June 11, 1943, to Walter and Katherine (Gray) Ruby in Bridgeport, CT. He grew up in Fairfield, CT, and graduated from Andrew Ward High School. He was a talented football player and was awarded a full ride scholarship to play football at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York. In his second year of college, he joined the United State Marines.

As a U.S. Marine, Walt spent 19 months deployed to Vietnam on Hill 55 as part of a communications division before returning to Camp Pendleton in California for his remaining time in the service. Walt was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1967.

In 1968, Walt moved to Spearfish, SD, to attend Black Hills State University. He met his wife, Kathy (Goodell) Ruby, while there. Walt and Kathy were married in 1970 in Thermopolis, WY. Following their graduation, they both were offered teaching positions in Danbury, CT. Walt taught middle school special education. Walt and Kathy moved to Riverton, WY., in 1976 for special education teaching positions with the Fremont County School District. Walt taught high school special education and coached girl's track.

Walt took early retirement from teaching in 1996. Throughout his retirement Walt pursued many hobbies and interests including music, art, coins, stamps, baseball cards, pocket watches, wooden boxes, knives, swords, and books. He spent many hours building model military tanks. After Kathy retired in 2009, Walt and Kathy moved to Rapid City, SD, to be close to family.

Walt was a man of many acquaintances but a few chosen close friends. He was a great mentor to his students, nephews, son, and friends. He enjoyed philosophical conversation and healthy debates.

Walt is survived by his wife, Kathy; his son, Wade (Elizabeth); two grandchildren, Baze and Dax; sister-in-law, Kristi (Keith); brother-in-law, Bob (Liz); sister-in-law Cara (Tom); and nephews, Lon (Denise), Jake, AJ, Cody, Casey (Kelsie), and Chase; and several great-nieces and nephews.

Walt is preceded in death by his infant son, Matthew; parents, Walter and Katherine; sister, Elinore; and in-laws, Doc and Connie.

Memorial gifts can be made to the Disabled Veterans of America of which Walt was a member or the donor's choice.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

*Family and friends are invited Kathy and Walt's
home for an open house from 1-3 p.m. at 23764 Mulligan Mile in Rapid City.
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



In Loving Memory Of

Walter “Walt” Ruby

June 11, 1943 ~ March 26, 2021

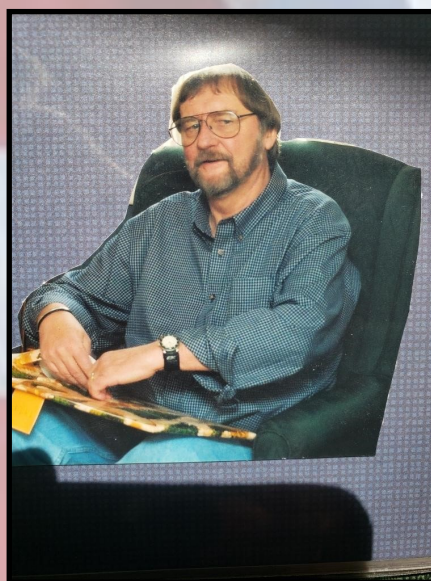
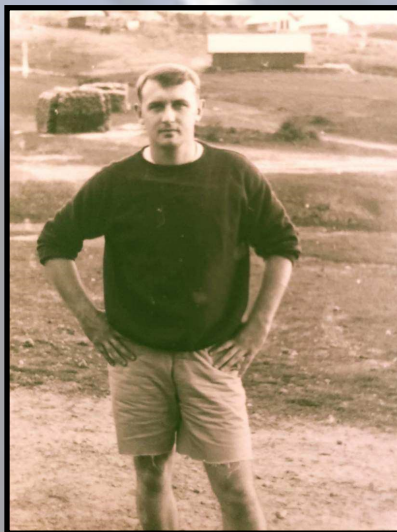
My Way by Frank Sinatra

And now the end is here
And so I face that final curtain
My friend I'll make it clear
I'll state my case, of which I'm certain
I've lived a life that's full
I traveled each and every highway
And more, much more
I did it, I did it my way

Regrets, I've had a few
But then again too few to mention
I did what I had to do
I saw it through without exemption
I planned each charted course
Each careful step along the byway
And more, much, much more
I did it, I did it my way

Yes, there were times I'm sure you knew
When I bit off more than I could chew
But through it all, when there was doubt
I ate it up and spit it out
I faced it all and I stood tall and did it my way

For what is a man, what has he got?
If not himself then he has naught
Not to say the things that he truly feels
And not the words of someone who kneels
Let the record show I took all the blows
and did it my way



***In Loving Memory
Walter "Walt" Ruby***

Born

June 11, 1943
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Died

March 26, 2021
Fort Meade, South Dakota

Memorial Service

Friday, April 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Wilber Holz

Musical Selections

"Hymn Of Promise" "Time"

Military Honors

Sturgis Veterans Honor Guard
Sturgis, South Dakota

Final Resting Place

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

