



Specialist 4th Class Steven James Hopkins served with Co. A 502nd BN at Vinh Long, Republic of South Viet Nam from August 1965-June of 1966 as Crew-chief on Maverick 32. He received numerous medals including The Purple Heart.



Steffen to his mother and Step to his father. Steven was the second born of eight siblings. To boot, he was the First of four auburn-haired siblings AND the only boy. He was also a model son and beloved brother of seven doting sisters.

At the young age of eighteen, in hopes of becoming a pilot. Steven left his home in southern California and voluntarily joined the Army where he bravely served his country for three years, receiving several medals including the Purple Heart.

While stationed in Ft. Eustis, VA, Steven met vibrant and bubbly sixteen-year-old Mary. This was an oppo- site match destined to be! After his military service, Steven and Mary married and returned to California where Steven proudly joined the California Highway Patrol. For the next thirty-three years, as a dedicated first responder and training officer, Steven protected the highways on his much loved state issued motorcycle.

Together Steven and Mary created and nurtured a God-praising, close knit family with their two daughters Monica and Amy, their spouses and five grandchildren. They were greatly blessed to celebrate their fifty- fourth wedding anniversary this past June.

Steven retired from the CHP at age sixty and soon began his much loved second career as Papa to his three grandsons, Jonah, Jackson, and Joshua. Also, his twin granddaughters Abby and Emma. They were the apple of his eye and the center of his world. Each one had the exhilarating experience of riding with Papa on his RED Harley. Steven was an avid protector of GOD, family, and country with a demonstrable presence both

on and off the job. In addition, he was a devoted US Patriot often riding with the Patriot Guards to honor the families of fallen military comrades. His veteran and first responder role duly earned him the title of DOU- BLE HERO.

Steven was a man of integrity who was loyal and truthful to a fault. He wore his faith on his sleeve, there was never any doubt where he stood. A little known fact unknown to most people was Steven's love of the guitar. He played whenever possible to give glory to God and to inspire his grandchildren. And, so, like his mother, he enjoyed gardening, bird watching, and coffee. His other talents included mechanics and carpentry. He created so many wonderful pieces.

His wife, his children, grandchildren, siblings, family, and good friends miss him greatly but find much comfort and joy that he is now with his heavenly Father, as well as with his earthly Mother who made the same heaven-bound flight a year ago at the age of 101.

We thank the Lord for the many endearing memories and faith inspired lessons we learned from them and we look forward to celebrating with them one day when it is our turn to meet our Maker.