



Deacon John M. Riedel, S.D.S.

Date of Birth *July 15, 1940*

Date of Commitment *April 24, 1993*

Date of Death *June 15, 2016*

Deacon John M. Riedel joined our Father in Heaven on the morning of June 15, 2016, at the age of 75, in Mesa, AZ. He was known and liked by scores of people throughout the community. He has been a familiar face at the Queen of Peace Catholic Church over the last 43 years. For the past 25 years, he has selflessly devoted his life to his faith and his church as a Deacon. Deacon John, as he was known by many, took great pride in his role as an educator of the catholic faith, baptizing new followers of the faith, joining couples together in the sacred bond of marriage, helping others and being a friend to anyone in need, and never asking for anything in return.

John was a silent and humble American hero. He was a Captain in the U.S. Army and a highly decorated aviator. He served two tours in Vietnam, flying helicopter gunships and troop carriers on countless missions. He received some of the nations highest military awards and decorations for his service and bravery. His accolades include the Distinguished Flying Cross, for heroism in flight, Bronze Star Medal, 17 Air Medals, 2 Army Commendation Medals and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

John has had many titles in his beautiful life, from Deacon, to Soldier, Husband, Father, Grandfather, mentor and friend. He has impacted the lives of everyone who knew him. His teachings, advice and wisdom have left a footprint on our hearts that is as genuine and unique as he was. He has solidified his legacy on this earth, laid the foundation for us to build upon, and will continue his work in the afterlife.

He is survived by his Wife and soul mate Charlotte, of 49 years, 2 sons, William (Bill) and Michael, 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be on Tuesday June 28, 2016 from 7-9PM, with rosary recited at 7:30PM at Queen of Peace Catholic Church located at 141 N MacDonald St., Mesa, AZ 85201. Mass of Christian Burial will be held Wednesday June 29, 2016 at 10AM. In lieu of flowers, Please send donations to Americare Catholic Hospice in Mesa, AZ.