



Walt Flynn- Who performed the Miracle at Eighth & I

In Memoriam - Walter H. Flynn, Jr

Lieutenant Colonel USMC Retired

Walter passed on March 31, 2022, with his family by his side.

Walter was born to Walter H. Senior and Rita (Barrett) Flynn on September 22, 1939, in Boston and lived in Dorchester prior to his enlistment in the Marine Corps in 1958. He was a graduate of Mission High School in Roxbury, received his BA from State College in Boston and earned his master's at the University of Massachusetts in

Boston. Walt was also a 4th Degree Member of the Knights of Columbus.

As you might expect, Walt didn't stop working when he retired from The Corps. He just looked for something that needed attention and then set off to pitch in and serve on many community programs where he lived in Weymouth, Massachusetts. In short order Walt was elected as a member of the Town Meeting, Weymouth's governing body.

Walt was involved in scouting activities both for the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts - his son Terence achieving Eagle Scout. A devoted Father and Husband, Walt was a fixture at the Flynn boys' soccer games and attending Emma's cheer competitions.

Walt retired a Lt. Colonel of the Marine Corps having served over three decades.

Walt served two tours of Duty in Vietnam. His dedication to his country earned him a Good Conduct Metal (2), a Bronze Star with Combat "V," Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Service Metal with 5 Stars, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry wPalm and a Purple Heart.

Walt's favorite duty station was as the Commanding Officer of "M" Company at the Basic Infantry Officers School. Walt thoroughly enjoyed working with the new 2nd Lieutenants. Other duty stations included Officer Selection Officer (OSO) Duty in Buffalo, NY,

Monitor at Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington, DC,
Executive Officer at Marine Barracks Guam and at 29 Palms, CA

Although Walt was having medical issues that served as a distraction, he was determined to carry out his responsibilities to Maryellen, his kids, the Marine Corps, and our Alumni Group.

To Walt's credit, he was not deterred by these ever-present issues as he continued to administer the details of his last Reunion in the fall of 2021 held in Las Vegas at the tail end of the Covid 19 Pandemic. It was another fitting display of Walt's skills and devotion to handle obstacles. Once again Flynn was in charge, and we enjoyed another superb Reunion.

Walt is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years, Maryellen (Fitzgerald) Flynn of Weymouth, MA. Loving father of Walter III of Arizona, Jacqueline of Weymouth, Terrence and his wife Jennifer of Weymouth and Father-in-Law to Dana Flynn of Norton, MA. Walt's surviving siblings are Brian and his wife Ann of Quincy and Kathleen Taylor of Worcester. Kevin Flynn predeceased, cherished and much loved Grampy to Conor Flynn of Norton, and Sean and Emma Flynn of Weymouth.

A funeral Mass was held at Sacred Heart Church in Weymouth, MA. Walter's final resting place is the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, MA.

Stan Pasioka, our recent Reunion President recalls that in 1966 he first met Walt Flynn and Lonnie Meyers when the three of them started traveling from Married Housing (Thomaston Park) daily to classes at Camp Barrett-The Basic School.

A highlight, after experiencing the personal lessons of Vietnam, was reconnecting with Walt in our Alumni Association Reunions, especially the 2007 DC Reunion. That's when Walt deftly handled our Reunion Group being denied entrance into the Marine Corps Sunset Parade at the 8th & I Parade Grounds. With nothing short of Magic, Walt solved the unimagined entry problems for our group, allowing us all smooth entrances into the bleacher section. Sounds like just a small inconvenience, but it took a strong-willed Walt to convince Marine Barracks personnel of their Omission Error to correct it and provide our group with the needed & deserved respected entrance accommodations that they were not willing to acknowledge.

One other noteworthy memory of Walt Flynn over these many years was his untiring dedication to the overall success of our Marine Alumni Association. Walt was responsible for obtaining for our Association 501-c3 Tax Eligibility, updating our By-Laws and so many hours of service in important Association Leadership roles as President, Treasurer and Secretary, (plus the many more required roles/tasks) necessary to have Reunion/Association successes.

Walt Flynn was a most important pillar of strength to the continued success of our Alumni over these many years. What a GREAT

privilege to have such a dear Marine friend. Since Walt first heard about the Reunion, Walt became the heart & soul of 3/66 and 4/66.

We thank Walt for his tireless efforts as a Marine and especially with the Alumni Group

Semper Fidelis and Requiescat in Pace!!