



LCDR James B. Boyette

November 18, 1927 - July 19, 2020

James Bee Boyette, born in Tampa, FL on 11/18/1927 to William and Dessie Boyette has lived a most remarkable life. Leaving behind son Billie, Rickey and Darrell, grandkids Heather, Rickey Jr., Bethany and Douglas and great grandkids Alice and Chance. He is now with his wife Marie, sons Larry and Douglas and daughter Sandy.

Jim served his country for 35 years in the Navy, retiring as LT Commander in May 1980. While in the Navy, he played baseball on the Navy All Star Team for 15 years. He likes to tell the story that he processed Senator John McCain's pay when he was released from a POW camp back to Jacksonville, FL.

While in Hawaii serving in the Navy still, Jim was part of a country western band Louisiana Drifters, the number one band in Hawaii at the time. He played the bass fiddle, steel guitar, bass guitar which later prepared him to play his grand-daughter's house band for you are my sunshine.

Jim Boyette is a true pioneer in the sport of barefoot water skiing. He learned to barefoot in 1973 at the age of 45, when very little was known of the sport. He became a member of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club, skiing in the Australian Masters Tournament. He has competed in every national tournament starting in 1978, winning 70+ championships, and setting 30 national records. He is the WORLDS oldest barefoot water skier. He has featured in many local news segments, both on TV and in print as well as national articles in major magazines.

Through all of his accomplishments, Jim battled Melanoma, Non-Hodgins Lymphoma, bouts of AFIB and Charcot-Marie-Tooth Neuropathy Disorder. He generously gave to charity on a regular basis, cared for friends and family becoming a mentor and hero for so many people.

Jim, Dad, Grandpa, Great p-pa, will be missed by his family, friends and community. Truly a hero on so many levels. We can all say that we leave better to have known and loved him.

In lieu of flowers, the family graciously requests donations in James' name be made to:
Tunnels 2 Towers Foundations www.tunnel2towers.org

Events

JUL **Viewing** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

23

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations
910 W. Michigan St, Orlando, FL, US, 32805

JUL **Funeral Service** 06:00PM

23

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations
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Comments



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of LCDR James B. Boyette.



July 25, 2020 at 12:54 AM



“ Jim was a awesome friend and a great ambassador for barefoot watersking he loved everyone. And was so supportive of everyone no matter of age !! He will be missed very much by the barefoot wAterski family and community



char portman - July 23, 2020 at 05:52 PM



“ Please click the link below to watch a live stream of the service:

<https://tributestream.live/memorial-live-stream-for-james-jim-boyette/>

Sarah - July 23, 2020 at 08:22 AM



“ Your Xorail Family purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of LCDR James B. Boyette.



WILLIAM SEAN GRAHAM - July 22, 2020 at 09:35 AM



“ Mr. Boyette was our friend and neighbor. His strength and enthusiasm will continue to be an inspiration. He took the time to teach me to barefoot. I loved listening to his stories of his years in the Navy and then his world wide competition career.

Tasha Golis - July 21, 2020 at 03:30 PM