

Francis "Frank" Arthur Bishop, age 76, Captain USMC Ret. of San Clemente, died August 10, 2006, in his home after one last hard fought battle with heart and lung disease.

A San Clemente resident for 40 years, Frank was born on March 26, 1930, in Worcester, Mass. He grew up in the small town of Waterville, Maine, where he and his brother, Bobby, won the 1949 High School State Basketball Championship, played in The Boston Garden.

He joined the Marine Corps in 1951. Frank was soon sent to fight in Korea, where he was combat wounded and received a Purple Heart. He was then stationed on the Island of Trinidad in the West Indies, where he met and married Janet Perkins and their first son, Robert, was born.

They went back to the states, had four more children in three different states. While stationed in Virginia, Capt. Bishop served as a combat cargo officer on the USS Muliphen and the USS Rockbridge, for two six-month tours in the Mediterranean. He settled in San Clemente in 1964. Capt. Bishop was a drill instructor at Camp Pendleton and also served a year in Vietnam.

He retired after 20 years and went to work for the Capistrano Unified School District. "Mr.B" worked in the athletic department for both San Clemente and Dana Hills High School, taking care of the athletic equipment. He spent his last 10 years maintaining the swimming pools at both the schools. He loved being around the kids, especially the athletes and coaches. He was very proud to have been chosen the Sun Post Citizen of the Day back in the 1980s for his work as the "pool man" at the schools.

Frank loved to go fishing on the boats out of Dana Point Harbor. He also spent time playing pool, poker and making friends at the Elks Lodge. But most of all he loved to watch his children and grandchildren compete for San Clemente High School. He was so proud of all of them. Frank was a loving husband, a wonderful father, a caring friend and a brave soldier to the very end. We will all miss him.

Frank is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Janet; and five children: Bob (Debi) of San Marcos, Wendy Yoder (Bob) of San Clemente, Mona Ferner (Dave) of San Clemente, Jay (Shawnette) of Bakersfield, Jessica Kargola (Jeff) of San Clemente; grandchildren Brook and Kristi Bishop, Curtis, Cory and Erin Yoder, Cody Ferner, and Luke, Jacob and Nicole Bishop. He has five step-grandchildren, Larry, Kelly, Kourtney, James and Katy; and eight step-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his older brother, Donald; and is survived by his younger brother, Bobby (Diane) of Waterville, Maine; and two nieces; and a nephew.

Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers please send donations in Capt. Frank Bishop's memory, to Soldier Ride Inc. c/o P.O. Box 1905, Amagansett, N.Y. 11930, or go to Soldier