



Paul Mark Jungel

December 22, 1949 - April 30, 2020

Paul Mark Jungel, 70, passed away at his home in Pearl City, Hawaii on April 30, 2020. He was born in Paw Paw, Michigan on December 22, 1949.

Paul's early years were spent with his family on a small farm, where they grew a variety of crops, particularly grapes which were sold to the local winery. After high school, Paul studied at Michigan State University for a semester before deciding to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was immediately deployed after completing boot camp. Paul served in a Combined Action Platoon (CAP) unit in Than Quit for nearly one year. Unlike other troops, the Marines in the CAP units lived among the rural South Vietnamese villagers and worked alongside the South Vietnamese Popular Forces.

During the mid-seventies, Paul's specialty was Intelligence Analysis and he was stationed at CINCPACFLT in Hawaii, where he supported Operation Eagle Pull (evacuation of Phnom Penh, Cambodia) and Operation Frequent Wind (final evacuation of American citizens and "at-risk" Vietnamese from Saigon). During this time, he was recommended for Warrant Officer School and after completing that, became a "mustang" officer, having risen through the enlisted ranks.

Paul was later assigned to the 22nd Marine Amphibious Unit as a senior intelligence officer, where he was one of the key planners for the invasion of Grenada to rescue medical students who were being held hostage by Cubans and Grenadian forces. Immediately after that, the unit travelled to Beirut, Lebanon with the U.S. contingent of multinational forces, which assisted in the aftermath of the bombing of the Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in which 220 Marines were killed. His last duty station was at the Pentagon with the Defense Intelligence Agency, working on the Central America Joint Intelligence Team. Paul was a limited duty officer who attained the rank of Major but retired as a Captain, after serving 20 years in the Marine Corps. During his military career, Paul also completed his BA in Political Science and Government from Michigan State University and a MS in Strategic Intelligence from the Defense Intelligence College.

After retiring from the Marine Corps, Paul moved to Phoenix, Arizona where he began another successful career, this time as a beloved teacher. He earned an MA in Education from Chapman University and taught elementary school for 20 years. Many of the families of the children he taught were low-income immigrants. He was an influential figure to hundreds of children and many teachers over the next two decades at Simpson School in Alhambra School District, where he served as the 4th grade Team Leader and won several awards, including Simpson's Teacher of the Month and Alhambra District's Teacher of the Month.

In 2009, he married Jennifer and retired from full-time teaching. He moved back to the Midwest to live with Jennifer and her son, Patrick, at their home in suburban Chicago. He quickly became a favorite substitute teacher with the elementary and junior high students in Bensenville and Wood Dale, where he was known for sharing his many stories.

Paul had always dreamt of retiring in Hawaii and achieved that goal in 2016, when he and Jennifer moved to Hawaii to help her mom. He felt it was fitting since his late father-in-law was the Marine officer who had recommended his appointment to Warrant Officer School 40 years earlier.

Paul was known for his easy-going manner, smile, and laugh. He shared many stories with his grandkids and students, and had a special way of making each person feel unique and loved. He lived by the motto of the US Marines, "Semper Fi" – always faithful.

Paul is survived by his wife, Jennifer Jones Jungel; children Jennifer (Louis) DeBroux, Kristina (Scott) Fife, Meagan Jungel, Jeremy Wilk, and Patrick Wilk (Bree Mora); 14 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind his mother, Mary Lou; brothers Terry (Beth), Mike (Rosemary), and Karl (Karen), and sister Nina (Kevin) Sherburn. He was predeceased by his father, Mike, and brother, Timothy Lee.

His family appreciates the healthcare staff at The Queen's Medical Center (Punchbowl and West Oahu), Dawson Dermatology, Hawaii Cancer Care, the VA, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Navian Hawaii, and many others who assisted Paul and Jennifer as he valiantly fought T-cell lymphoma related to Agent Orange for the past two years. Private interment at Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Comments



“ I am crushed by this news! Having survived Agent Orange related cancer in 2016 I felt awful when Paul told me of his illness. After that I somehow couldn't bring myself to intrude on his battle, perhaps I just feared what I would learn. Finally I searched for any news I could find and discovered this tribute. I'm heart broken. Jennifer I'm so sorry. Paul was the finest man I've ever known and was proud to call him my friend. We lived and worked together in the early 70's. I was so proud of his success as a Marine (and a teacher), but never surprised. He was ALWAYS just that good and smart. There was a time when we shared a mobile home and an office and laughed and drank Boones Farm wine. A time when I held his first born child in my arms at a Baptism. Times when he tolerated my PTSD induced craziness occasionally, but was always there for me. I'm getting choked up just recalling those days. What a great guy! None better. This is a man who easily "Earned his ticket to the other side". At 70 now as I'm rounding third and heading for home, I suspect I'll run into Paul pretty soon. It will be great to see him again and hear that laugh. Oh boy, am I sad. Semper Fi, Paul....Tom Paddock

THOMAS PADDOCK - April 15 at 03:45 PM



“ I feel terrible that I have only just found out that Paul had died so many months ago. Jennifer, my deepest sympathy for your great loss. We had exchanged emails for over a dozen years. I only met Paul a few times in person before I retired back in 2011 but he made a great impact on me when I first visited his school. I was represented a schoolbook publishing company at the time and we clicked right away as he was very generous with his time and attention. Many people have expressed how they had been touched by Paul's generosity of spirit along with his endearing personalty. I join them as one that will miss him too. Soon after we met we exchanged stories about our past. I had met my wife Ellen, at a cocktail party back in 73 when my ship visited Portsmouth N.H. I had been commanding a Detachment of British Royal Marine Commandos. Marines across the globe have a mutual respect and affiliation for each other so it was natural that we would hit it off. Many of our emails would revolve around our Corps or politics. I knew that Paul had been fighting the dreaded cancer and so earlier this year I had shared that my wife, Ellen, had been diagnosed with ovarian cancer. He wished her well. Since February my life has revolved around Ellen's health and her recovery so I had not realized that I had not been receiving responses from my emails from Paul. Ellen, by the way, has fought very hard and long and her recovery is one of the few good stories of 2020. Paul was a true Marine and an outstanding fellow; Semper Fi, my friend.
Chris Brant, Former Royal Marine Commando

Chris P P Brant - December 22, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ I just learned of Mr Jungel's passing tonight and I'm so sadWe kept in touch for a very long time and he was my very favorite teacher. Gosh I'd have to do the math.... I'm 36 now and he was my 4th grade teacher when he taught at Granada in Phoenix, AZ. I would guess the year either 1993 or 1994.

Invitations were sent for my wedding but I believe they were still living on the East coast that year. He was an amazing human being and I'm so blessed to have known him!! He was such a nice teacher and I remember how hard he pushed me to reach my potential.

My favorite thing was walking into class with The Lion Sleeps playing on the music player 🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵 that's a forever memory!

When we kept in touch, before the internet, he would always sign his letters with "Semper Fi" and I didn't know what it meant until I looked it up one day. So he taught me that phrase. He would always tape black and white comic strips to the back of the envelope 📧

He will be greatly missed!!!! I send my deepest condolences to Jennifer and the whole family. I pray for healing, peace and understanding during this difficult time. May God bless you all!!

Sincerely,
Melanie Valenzuela

Melanie Valenzuela - May 26, 2020 at 01:56 AM



“ You have an incredible story and life. Thank you Paul for talking to me about the Corps before I joined, and all the help and friendship you and Jeniffer provided to our family. The Platek family, from Chicago and San Diego alike, sends our condolences. Semper Fidelis, Paul. Rest easy, I have the watch now.

Marcin Platek - May 19, 2020 at 01:58 AM



“ Jennifer and Jungel Family - I just learned of Paul's passing and am sorry to hear the news especially in these unprecedented times.

My memories of Paul are so fond. He and Jennifer were referred to me by a mutual friend to purchase a condo in Scottsdale in 2010. His demeanor and kindness was that and more as described in his Obituary: "Paul was known for his easy-going manner, smile, and laugh... and had a special way of making each person feel unique and loved. He lived by the motto of the US Marines, "Semper Fi" – always faithful." I loved how he was consistent in ending every communication with "Semper Fi" as it was the essence of his character and being.

We continued to keep in touch over the years and in 2019 I was fortunate to help them again to sell the same condo they bought almost a decade prior (a beautiful book end experience for all of us). His spirit and demeanor had not changed despite the internal battle his body was experiencing. YOU WILL BE MISSED PAUL!

I feel grateful to have known this good man and the mutual friend who introduced us... who was likely one of many who welcomed him into heaven.

Sending much love and deepest sympathies to the Jungel Family.
Sincerely,
Zoe Tsighis

Zoe Tsighis - May 09, 2020 at 04:41 PM



“ Always a Marine....first to go in, first to finish his missions and now first of us Jungel boys to follow Tim (Terrys twin) into Heaven.....you fought a good fight Marine....now rest in the arms of the Lord.....GOD BLESS AND KEEP YOU... I MISS YOU ALREADY...KARL



Karl Jungel - May 09, 2020 at 02:47 PM



“ Gone but NEVER forgotten!! Proud to call you my friend!! Semper Fi.

Leon - May 09, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ Meant he was loved and will be missed

Mary Ray Zerbe - May 09, 2020 at 08:27 AM



“ I went to school with Paul for many years and as a youth he was a genuinely Good person.Ive never heard anyone say anything bad about Paul.He was lived and he will be missed."SEMPER FI"

Mary Ray Zerbe - May 09, 2020 at 08:25 AM



“ Paul was one of my FTA teachers at Lawrence. Always fond memories. RIP my condolences to the family.

KeVen Riley - May 08, 2020 at 11:39 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Paul Jungel



Jennifer Jungel - May 08, 2020 at 08:23 PM