

Jan Blair Kapaun was born on February 3, 1949, in Fargo, ND, to Veran and Audrey (Lee) Kapaun. He graduated from Fargo Central Highschool and then later attended Mayville State University to become a teacher. Throughout his high school and college careers, Jan participated in baseball and basketball. After his schooling, he joined the Navy; he served for 2 years and during this time, he discovered his love for golf. Jan then transferred to the Naval Reserve, where he served for over 20 years.

Jan was blessed with two children, Carey and Joshua. He often took his kids to the lake to swim and fish. His children have fond memories of their Dad teaching them to fish using corn as bait, and of tubing down the river, which Jan especially enjoyed. Jan also enjoyed hunting, but only with his son, Josh. He taught in Villard and Minnewaska for over 30 years which he truly loved. He also coached volleyball, tennis, basketball and golf over the years which he was extremely passionate about. Many of the students and athletes that he taught and coached still remember him today which truly shows the lasting imprint and legacy the he left.

After retirement, Jan enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren, visiting with family, especially his sister, Marilyn "Cookie", and gardening. Jan was a people person and everybody loved him. He was accountable, loving, and was a gentle soul with a memorable, dry sense of humor. Jan will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Jan Blair Kapaun passed away on Friday, August 26, 2022, at the Melrose Care Center at the age of 73. He is survived by his children, Carey (Joseph) Hiebel and Joshua (Mandy) Kapaun; grandchildren, Makayla, Jaidah, Garek, Madelyn, Eithen, Josiah, and Maddux; great-granddaughter, Haven; and sister, Marilyn "Cookie" Finley. Jan is preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, Mitchel and Veran Kapaun.

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.*

*I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.*

*A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

*My Life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.*

*Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

In Memory of
Jan Blair Kapaun

February 3, 1949



August 26, 2022



Memorial Service
Anderson Funeral Home
Alexandria, Minnesota
Thursday, September 1, 2022
3:30 PM

Officiant
John Taplin

Military Honors
Minnesota Naval Honor Guard
American Legion Post #87
Veteran of Foreign Wars Post #936
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #235
Marine Corps League Detachment #1409