



## John Anthony Stec

June 9, 2024

John Stec passed away at the age of 74 on June 9, 2024. He is preceded in death by his father Anthony Stec, mother, Lena Stec, his brother Anthony (Butchy), and his sister, Carol.

He is survived by his wife Virginia (Ginny) Stec, his daughter Cathy Renfrow and her husband Grant Renfrow, his daughter Ginny Holland and her husband Joel Holland, his grand children Brenden Holland, Brady Holland, Brooke Renfrow, Brenna Holland, Brett Renfrow, his great grand-daughter Bella Holland, his brother Charlie Stec, sister Joanne Salas, and many brother and sister-in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Also included are the many friends he treated as family. His family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors were all very special to John.

John was born on April 22, 1950 in Chelsea, Massachusetts. He joined the Army and served his beloved country for 23 years. He loved his time at Fort Devens, Massachusetts where he was part of the 10th Special Forces Group Airborne-he was proud to be a Green Beret. His military career brought him and his family to Virginia where he was assigned to the Support Directorate of a special missions unit. While still serving in the Army, John started working for DEA as a military liaison. He stayed with DEA after his retirement and worked there for 23 years as well. John loved every minute of his years of service. He enjoyed the outdoors, spending time with family and friends, going

to yard sales, getting a bargain, and volunteering at the Army Museum.

The family will receive visitors from 4-7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024 at Miller Funeral Home, 3200 Golansky Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22192, where a service will follow at 7:00 p.m. Burial will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

# Cemetery Details

**Arlington National Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**JUN 24.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.  
3200 Golansky Blvd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
703-878-CARE (2273)  
<https://millerfuneralhome.net/>

### Funeral Service

**JUN 24.** 7:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.  
3200 Golansky Blvd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
703-878-CARE (2273)  
<https://millerfuneralhome.net/>

# Tribute Wall

SB

“ I'm sorry to be so late with this, but I only found out awhile back that John had passed. I was so shocked. I was stationed with John at the unit and always enjoyed talking with him. After I retired, I would run into him from time to time and we'd catch up. I'll really miss him. He was a great man who served his country with great pride. God Rest his soul.

Steven Breyfogle - March 29 at 12:01 PM

VA

“ Virginia A. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Virginia A. - October 17, 2024 at 10:12 AM

LF

“ Love, The extended Popp family. purchased the A Full Life for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Love, The extended Popp family. - October 16, 2024 at 07:32 PM

CS

“ Deepest condolences to Ginny and the entire Stec family. He was a good friend and a great neighbor who will be missed by many.

*Dave and Connie Stover*

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**connie stover** - June 27, 2024 at 09:18 AM

EM

“ Elaine M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

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**Elaine M.** - June 24, 2024 at 03:10 PM

CL

“ 1 file added to the album *Korean Meals with John*



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**Caroline Leean** - June 24, 2024 at 02:46 PM

CL

“ It seems like a lifetime ago when I first heard John's booming voice around our DEA buildings where we both worked.

*I was instantly fond of him. His humor... his constant invite for a Korean lunch that never happened when we both worked there...*

*Then I saw John and Ginny at a grocery store after I had moved to Woodbridge...I didn't know they were long time residents there too.*

*John helped me with small, and not so small things that needed to be done in my house I had purchased... and he would hint that I needed a young guy to help me fix things ... to which I laughed.*

*I will miss this man immensely. not many years of knowing him, but the years were priceless. priceless.*

*I hope to see John when I get heaven.*

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**Caroline Leean** - June 24, 2024 at 02:16 PM

CL

“ Caroline "kimchee girl" Leean purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of John Anthony Stec.



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**Caroline "kimchee girl" Leean** - June 24, 2024 at 02:05 PM

GC

“ Gloria C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

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**Gloria C.** - June 24, 2024 at 01:44 PM

PF

“ Popp and Dusvitch family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Popp and Dusvitch family - June 24, 2024 at 11:00 AM

LF

“ Love, The Tabaka Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Love, The Tabaka Family - June 24, 2024 at 10:29 AM

LF

“ Love, The Tabaka Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

Love, The Tabaka Family - June 24, 2024 at 10:29 AM

MC

“ Mike & Donna Conley purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Mike & Donna Conley - June 24, 2024 at 08:17 AM

TD

“ *The Domigans purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



**The Domigans** - June 23, 2024 at 11:30 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



June 23, 2024 at 10:08 PM

LC

“ *Love, Bryan, Stacy, Jenna & Connor purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



**Love, Bryan, Stacy, Jenna & Connor** - June 23, 2024 at 07:31 PM

LH

“ *Love, Natalie, David and Lorelai Haar purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



**Love, Natalie, David and Lorelai Haar** - June 23, 2024 at 01:45 PM

TF

“ *The Nienaber girls and families! purchased the Arive in Style for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



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**The Nienaber girls and families!** - June 22, 2024 at 10:12 AM

DM

“ *Don and Holly Monday purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



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**Don and Holly Monday** - June 21, 2024 at 09:17 PM

AO

“ *Our sincere condolences to family and friends of John Stec. My Woodbridge family, Bill and Bertie Oller, were very grateful for his friendship.*  
*Al and Dianne Oller- Gurnee, Illinois.*

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**Al Oller** - June 21, 2024 at 05:14 PM

RP

“ *We've so incredibly saddened, and still shocked, by Uncle John's passing. Being able to grow up around such a loving uncle was truly a privilege and seeing him was always a highlight of our trips back to Virginia. We'll miss him dearly. Love, Ricky, Shannon, Gretchen and Naomi Popp*

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**Rick Popp** - June 20, 2024 at 02:04 PM

TF

“ *The Popp and Deering family purchased the End uring Grace for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



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**The Popp and Deering family** - June 20, 2024 at 01:01 PM

YF

“ *Your Honor-Roll Remodeling Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



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**Your Honor-Roll Remodeling Family** - June 19, 2024 at 10:51 AM

CA

“ *Charlie, Maria, Antonio, AnnMarie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.*

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**Charlie, Maria, Antonio, AnnMarie** - June 18, 2024 at 04:13 PM

CA

“ *Charlie, Maria, Antonio, AnnMarie purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John Anthony Stec.*



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**Charlie, Maria, Antonio, AnnMarie** - June 18, 2024 at 04:13 PM

SU

“ Summer lit a candle in memory of John Anthony Stec



Summer - June 18, 2024 at 04:00 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Anthony Stec.



June 18, 2024 at 09:46 AM

SK

“ Sue K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

Sue K. - June 17, 2024 at 04:20 PM

DR

“ Deepest condolences to the entire Stec family. So many fond memories of working with John during our time together at DEA. No task was too big for John, and he always found a way to get the job done! A true patriot and DEA legend who will never be forgotten! God Bless.

Don Rospond - June 17, 2024 at 10:50 AM

LH

“ I worked with John for several years at DEA HQS, and John was always very helpful , and a good friend. He always got the job done and solved any problems!  
*Larry Hornstein*

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**Larry Hornstein** - June 17, 2024 at 12:27 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear to Johnnie's passing. He was a big man with an even bigger heart. We wish you and your family comfort and peace to face the days ahead. Love Frank and Paula Fulco and family

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**Paula Fulco-old** - June 16, 2024 at 06:50 PM

JA

“ As a Snowcap S-4, John was a consummate professional who always got the job done. He was the epitome of "anything, anywhere, anytime." There was nothing he couldn't due in support of DEA's mission. No doubt his hard work and dedication not only made our jobs down south easier, but also saved lives. It was always a joy to hear his voice belt out a hello or friendly greeting in that distinctive Chelsea accent in the lobby or courtyard of DEA HQ. What a wonderful man and true American patriot, may he rest in eternal peace.

*Jim Akagi*

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**Jim Akagi** - June 16, 2024 at 01:28 PM

CL

*I loved his accent, his booming voice too!*

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**Caroline Leean** - June 24, 2024 at 02:34 PM

JC

“ My condolences to John’s family and friends. John Stec represented the epitome of the can-do and will-do guy, the sort of person our generation got to know as the “finest generation” that preceded us. John was a wonderful colleague and handled with ease and expertise the kind of impossible tasks that others would shy away from. Even after I left Headquarters for the field, I would always look for John’s smiling face whenever I returned for a visit or meeting. Just knowing he was still around made me feel confident that everything was OK. We are all better people for the brief time we had to know and appreciate John Stec. May he rest in peace.

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**John Coleman** - June 16, 2024 at 11:46 AM

CW

“ God bless you John always a gentleman who got the job done!

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**Craig Williams** - June 16, 2024 at 11:42 AM

MC

“ Devastating news. John was a gentleman and dedicated to our Country and DEA’s mission. He will be sorely missed. RIP John.

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**Michael Chapman** - June 16, 2024 at 10:57 AM

KW

“ I also had the pleasure of working with John for several years as DEA Chief of International Programs and it warms my heart to read all the many wonderful memories from John’s friends and colleagues. John was an American patriot and someone I counted on many times. He was a behind the scenes teammate who could always be counted on worldwide and my friend. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of working with him. Our sincere condolences to the Stec family  
Kevin and Nancy Whaley

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**Kevin Whaley** - June 16, 2024 at 10:19 AM

AT

“ *If not us then Who? RIP brother we will take it from here. We will meet you again at the link up point. Rico*



**A.C Rico Tanner** - June 16, 2024 at 10:14 AM

ED

“ *At the DEA IDEC overseas conferences, both John and Frank H. (always a team) were a joy to work with for us all. They brought professionalism, unique humor and always good cheer for us all. John will be missed by many.*

**Erika Dott** - June 14, 2024 at 11:31 PM

M?

“ *My Grampy was full of love and joy he loved every second about his grandchildren and me. It was so sad to hear that he passed away from a heart attack. I will always remember all those kind things that he used to do when I was two and one and three and now I'm eight and I'm all grown up, I miss him really really much so God I hope you protect him and I hope he's having a good time. Love Bella Grampy.*

**Mommy** 😊 📝 🌸 🎀 📁 📖 📄 - June 14, 2024 at 07:40 PM

GH

*I love you sweet girl ! And your Grampie loved you so much*

**Ginny Holland** - June 14, 2024 at 09:13 PM

RS

“ John was a consummate S-4 logistics professional. I worked with him on Operation Snowcap and the SIU program. He always had a ‘can-do’ attitude, the antithesis of his counterparts in the civilian world. His responses were always in the affirmative; ‘We can make that happen’, ‘Let me look into that’ or ‘I’ll get back to you with an answer’. Always thinking of one way to make something happen as opposed to 10 ways it couldn’t. He could order a MAC flight and have it on the tarmac within hours and a Nightingale flight with a phone call. The breadth of his vast professional network was unparalleled. Aside from his professional prowess, he was a decent man who was selfless, thoughtful, funny and kind.

To the Stec family,

I am so sorry for your loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers in the days to come!

Our deepest condolences,

Bob and Liliana Sousa

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**Robert Sousa** - June 14, 2024 at 05:06 PM

DG

I second everything Bob expresses and wil always remember Big John as a true friend and all around extraordinary person. His achievements in this world resonate in thousands of saved lives and a better place for many to live, not only in the USA but also around the globe! Thanks John and rest in Heaven, brother. To the Stec family, our sympathies and expression of thanks for lending us such a wonderful man in our fight against drug trafficking, abuse and addiction. He is one of a kind!



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**Dave Gaddis** - June 16, 2024 at 10:22 AM

SM

“ Sorry to hear of John's passing. I worked with John when he was assigned to Operation Snowcap. He could get you anything you needed no matter how insignificant or small for your op. Jackie used to talk to Ginny frequently in the bank as we lived close by. RIP John  
Scott Meadows  
DEA Retired

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**Scott Meadows** - June 14, 2024 at 04:25 PM

SG

Yeah - John was the best for us SnowCappers! He made sure we had the equipment we needed before we deployed to Peru and Bolivia - Steve Gunzenhauser

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**Stephen Gunzenhauser** - June 15, 2024 at 10:07 PM

LN

“ Jeffrey and I are still shaking our heads in disbelief. We are so sorry for your loss. Johnny was a wonderful cousin with a great relationship with his aunts, they shared the love of food., Sending our love. He will be missed

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**Lori Navrro** - June 14, 2024 at 01:25 PM

JG

“ Janet G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

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**Janet G.** - June 14, 2024 at 12:19 PM

PD

“ Pinar and Mark Destito planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

Pinar and Mark Destito - June 13, 2024 at 11:32 PM

PD

“ Pinar and Mark Destito purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Pinar and Mark Destito - June 13, 2024 at 11:32 PM

RO

“ Oh Ginny: My heart is so broken. John was my protector since I met him in 1998 at DEA. You both were very close friends. Why does God take the good ones way too soon? Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. I Love you John, Roberta Oller

Roberta Oller - June 13, 2024 at 11:09 PM

BM

“ Barbara and Mike Mitchell purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Barbara and Mike Mitchell - June 13, 2024 at 09:01 PM

MH

“ John and I worked closely together at DEA’s technical operations division (OST). John was the go to guy and a class act. I had the privilege of managing the operation, but if it wasn’t for John’s stellar guidance, I would have embarrassed myself. A classy guy!

Michael T. Horn - June 13, 2024 at 08:17 PM

KH

“ I always referred to John as "Frank's Girlfriend John" from working in the army and together again working side by side in the DEA they were a team of professionals to be sure; it was always a "job well done". We traveled as much as possible with the guys on the IDEC conferences and always had the best time...we took boat excursions and lately we were cruising buddies. I will miss you John...say HI to Frank and Valarie be sure to mind your "Ps" and "Qs" till we meet again . God Speed and God Love Kathy

Kathleen Heidel - June 13, 2024 at 04:32 PM

DS

“ John was such a nice man. He really took care of our overseas offices. He never was in a bad mood in all the years I worked with him. And he always solved any problems we had. He left this world too soon. Prayers to your family. Diane Stewart

Diane Stewart - June 13, 2024 at 03:59 PM

SP

“ We all loved John dearly. We will hold him in our hearts forever. A good guy gone too soon. Rick, Sue and Sunshine



sue popp - June 13, 2024 at 03:31 PM

CN

“ Corinna N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

Corinna N. - June 13, 2024 at 03:21 PM

AF

“ Aunt Gracie and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John Anthony Stec.



Aunt Gracie and family - June 13, 2024 at 02:45 PM

PF

“ Ginny and family,  
We send our love and condolences to y'all. Johnny was a very good man and loved his large extended family, and we loved him. With our deepest sympathies.  
Aunt Peggy and family

peggy fulco - June 13, 2024 at 12:11 PM

DS

So sorry for the loss of John. It's always hard to say goodbye to our loved ones who leave us too soon. My heart goes out to the family and I pray for God to comfort each and everyone of you.

Dee Smith - June 13, 2024 at 06:28 PM

JC

“ We had some good times together in the 10th, and D.e.a. Rest in peace and I'll see you in the "big team house".

*John C.*

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**John Conrad** - June 13, 2024 at 09:59 AM

LF

“ Love Eileen , Ray and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Stec.

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**Love Eileen , Ray and family** - June 12, 2024 at 11:44 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Anthony Stec.



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June 12, 2024 at 11:44 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Anthony Stec.



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June 12, 2024 at 03:54 PM