



Paul Joseph Phillips

April 30, 1981 - December 6, 2023

Paul Joseph Phillips, a man known for his dry humor and endless dad jokes, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, December 6, 2023. Paul 42, was born on April 30, 1981, in Oak Harbor, WA, the son of Richard and Christine (Hayhoe) Phillips. Following graduating from high school Paul followed in his father's footsteps and enlisted in the United States Navy. He enjoyed his tours to different countries and having the opportunity to experience their culture. He was very proud of his service to his country and his brothers and sisters that served alongside him. Paul retired from the Navy after 21 years, his most recent rank was a Fireman Control Chief. Being born and raised in Washington, Paul loved the Seattle Seahawks. He was also known as a decent cook and his ability to invent new meals. Paul also enjoyed shooting guns, playing video games, anything outdoors, and above all teasing his daughter.

Paul is survived by his daughter, Kaelyn Phillips; mother, Christine Phillips; sisters, Keri (Douglas) Naes, and Viki Phillips; niece, Kimberly Naes; grandmother, Dorothy Phillips; aunts and uncles, David (Angie) Hayhoe, Mike Hayhoe, Shari (Mike) Hill, David (Gloria) Phillips, Debbie (Brian) Stoddard, and Katy (Tim) Brown; and several cousins. He was predeceased by his father, Richard Phillips; grandparents, Walter Phillips, and Barbara and Donald Hayhoe; and uncle, Bob Phillips.

Friends are encouraged to support Paul's family by sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com <<http://www.prayfuneral.com>>. There will be no services for Paul at this time. In the spring of 2024, he will be buried at Great Lakes National Cemetery with full military honors. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Wounded Warrior Project. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Graveside

APR 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
4200 Belford Road
Holly, MI 48442

Tribute Wall

KA

“ I served with Paul (a.k.a Chief) onboard the James E Williams and he was the one who shot straight and let you know what you needed to know and sometimes a little extra! A respected leader onboard the ship who was always ready to lead and mentor all ranks. Very sorry for your loss and my prayers go out to his loving family who he spoke so highly about. RIP Chief. V/r, Keith Adkins

Keith Adkins - January 29, 2024 at 08:10 PM

KF

“ Paul and I served together on the James E. Williams and we worked closely together in weapons department. Paul was key to the ship's success in passing many exercises, I learned a lot from him and he was a huge part of my development as a young officer. I was always impressed by his level of knowledge and his sense of humor. I'm so saddened to learn of his unexpected passing and I'm praying for his family. Fair winds and following seas shipmate.
Kyle Funk

Kyle Funk - January 27, 2024 at 03:46 PM

BB

“ I served with Paul on James E Williams. Always a great guy and great sailor to work with. He was always willing to help others. Paul will be missed. RIP shipmate.

Benjamin Bricco - January 27, 2024 at 01:23 PM

SS

“ Paul and I served together on James E Williams. He was always there to help out and offer support as needed. He also took a special interest during Chief season when I made it. He was a great guy and had a truly good heart. Rest in Peace bro. Fair winds and following seas.

Shawn Smith - January 26, 2024 at 08:12 AM

AR

“ I knew Paul as ‘Chief Phillips’. And was one of many Chiefs I knew while stationed on the James E Williams. After I left there, he kept in touch a few times because he knew I was struggling to make rank. Always checked in to make sure I was doing ok even when I was not. He taught me well. He was a great leader and an awesome friend. I will never forget him. Rest in Power, my brother. Fair Winds and Following Seas. My deepest condolences to the entire family. And to all who knew him.



Ashley Ribeiro - January 25, 2024 at 03:51 PM

AW

“ Paul Phillips man didnt expect to see this today but may he rest easy and in peace. Condolences to the Phillips family. Fair winds and following seas brother.

Antonio Williams - January 09, 2024 at 02:09 AM

AG

“ I served with Paul on the JPJ. He was a friend and a shipmate. Easy to talk to and he had a great sense of humor. Paul was able to make difficult days in the Navy seem a little easier. You will be missed my friend, I have nothing but love and respect for you.

Andrew Garcia - January 08, 2024 at 08:51 PM

JP

“ Paul was like a brother to me. I was able to always count on him whenever I needed him both while serving and when I became a civilian just as I was there for him when he needed a friend. We always seemed to get teamed up together with our brother Jon on the mid shift. May Paul and Jon be enjoying each others company in Valhalla.

Jacqueline Pedder - January 08, 2024 at 07:50 PM

BB

“ Paul was young when we first became neighbors with our family away from home- the Phillips family. He was a character back then and we have fond memories of the antics when the kids stayed with us.

Bonnie Bouchard - December 08, 2023 at 09:08 PM