



## John R. Terpening

September 12, 1925 - November 9, 2010

John Russell Terpening

AKA: Jack, Jackie, Jake, Ibjack or as he left us as "Smilin Jack".

09/11/1925 - 11/09/2010

John Russell Terpening of Casselberry, Florida passed peacefully on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at Hospice of the Comforter in Altamonte Springs, Fl., with his loved ones and beloved 1963 Stingray at his side.

His life began in the Village of Mohawk, New York, the only child to Paul Wallace Terpening and Mary Shields Terpening, on September 12, 1925. He enjoyed a wonderful childhood in Mohawk and graduated at Mohawk High School. Soon to join the Merchant Marines and followed his dream to fly planes in the U.S. Army Air Corps. While there Jack was co-pilot and navigator on B-29 Flying Fortressed with the 343rd Bomb Squadron, and the 383rd Bomb Wing during WWII and in the Korean War. He was also a B-52 pilot in peacetime and was assigned to the Minute Man missile program the last 15 years of his Air Force career retiring as a Major in the Strategic Air Command (SAC) at Westover AFB, Massachusetts.

Jack got his first motorcycle while he was in high school, a big Indian. From there he never looked back. His fascination for engines took off and his love for cars took place. Being a Race Car enthusiast, he and his "Posse" enjoyed

driving Race Cars at Atlanta and Charlotte Motor Speedways as well as Daytona Speedway. He also took to Legend Car Racing for a short time at Bithlow Raceway. His true passion was for his 1963 Stingray Corvette that he owned as a "driver" since 1964. Over the years, he restored it and showed it winning numerous national titles and awards, not to mention the Duntov"!twice!

His three daughters survive him. They are Jill Sinay and husband Dan, of Florida, Toni Long of North Carolina and Jan Terpening and husband Sam Milkes of Pennsylvania. Additionally, four grand children, Tyler Long and wife Misty, Jessica Windsor and Nate and Dylan Milkes. Great grand children, Axyl and Landon Long and Xander Windsor. We love you Dad/PoPo.

His wish was to be cremated and his ashes to be scattered over his parents resting place in Mohawk, New York. A portion of his ashes will lie at Arlington National Cemetery with full Military Honors and ultimately they will travel to Ireland for a final resting place"! Not before visiting several Irish Pubs along the way.

Jack was blessed with an awesome culmination of the most interesting friends and you all know who you are"! So, on behalf of Jack, thank you for a wonderful life and friendship beyond words. And when you think of me, smile and tell a good story.

Slainte'

Smilin' Jack.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held locally on December 4, 2010 from

3:00pm until 6:00pm. For more information, please contact Jill Sinay @ 407-383-3879.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to:

Hospice of the Comforter

480 W. Central Parkway

Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

[www.HospiceoftheComforter.org](http://www.HospiceoftheComforter.org)

At Jack's request, please make a pledge to:

Canine Companions for Independence

Southeast Regional Center

P.O. Box 547511

Orlando, Florida 32854-7511

[www.caninecompanions.org](http://www.caninecompanions.org)

Online condolences may be made at [www.DeGusipeFuneralHome.com](http://www.DeGusipeFuneralHome.com)

Arrangements entrusted to DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory 9001 N.

Orlando Ave. Maitland Florida 32751. phone 407-695-2273. [www.degusipefuneralhome.com](http://www.degusipefuneralhome.com)

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# Tribute Wall



“ Jack was always a wonderful friend to everyone he met. He will be very missed.

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.*

*Bob and Margo Miller##imported-begin##Bob and Margo Miller##imported-end##*

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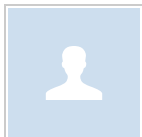
November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ After reading about Jack's life there is no doubt that memories of his adventurous spirit will live on in everyone's heart. May you find comfort in the memories you have of him and in time feel a sense of a peace and comfort in being one of Jack's loved one. Our Deepest Sympaty The Skalstad Family##imported-begin##Bob##imported-end##

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November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ The years and miles have intervened since we last saw each other a long time ago, but I have fond memories of spending time with Cousin Jack and his family whenever they would visit Aunt Mary and Uncle Paul. Although he shunned attention, he was a true hero to me and to the other cousins who were much younger and who always looked up to Jack. My heartfelt condolences go out to Jan, Toni and Jill and their families.

*John Francis Denison  
Franklinton, LA##imported-begin##John Francis Denison##imported-end##*

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November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Hello, I am the daughter of Harold Austin and the granddaughter of Dorothy Shields, Aunt Mary's younger sister. Aunt Mary was so dear to me and I met Jack on several occasions, most recently in 1999. I have fond memories of that meeting and send my love to you all. We live in New Jersey and were up in Mohawk about two years ago and visited Aunt Mary's house and her grave. I got to share it with my children and tell about the love that was abundant in her home. I wish you all the best and send my condolences as you grieve during this time.##imported-begin##Heather Austin##imported-end##

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November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My acquaintance to Jack came through a e-mail with mutual friends. When I first e-mailed him, and questioned if he remembered me, he wrote back: "Hey Little Kid, I sure do"! Our Mothers were girlfriends, and he would see me at his parents house, when he came home on leave. His parents were wonderful people, and loved him so very much. Last when he was in Mohawk, we laughed on how much has changed. He said the sign said "Downtown Mohawk", he wanted to know when did it get so big, that it had to be divided into sections. When he e-mailed me to tell me of his winning the new Vet, you could read the excitement in his message. Then he had to send me a picture of "His Fleet". I'm sorry girls for your loss, I'm sure you will miss him greatly. He spoke often of all three of you, he loved you all deeply. God Bless You All, "Little Kid" I really am much younger than he, by 15 yrs. He just knew my family that well.##imported-begin##Marsha Hisert Shahoud##imported-end##

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November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I was saddened to read Jack's obituary in the Herkimer Telegram. Too bad not to have seen him in such a long time. I am having a Mass said for him on Dec. 21 in Newport.##imported-begin##Varnum Harris##imported-end##

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November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ We first met Jack at the Classic Corvette Club of Orlando. Jack was a great lover of jokes and we exchanged many over the years. I miss his wry sense of humor and his viewpoint on numerous things. He was a kind and considerate soul. We will miss him greatly.##imported-begin##Richard & Gabi Mayer##imported-end##

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November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM