

Daniel 'Dan' L. Droog

Jan 11, 2013



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Daniel "Dan" L. Droog, 66, of La Crosse, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013, at his home.

He was born Oct. 14, 1946, in Eau Claire, Wis., to Vernon and Beverly (Goff) Droog. Dan was a proud veteran having served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War for "Bravo" Co. 3rd Recon Bn. attached to 26th Marines, Khe Sahn Siege from 1965 until being honorably discharged in 1969. His dedicated service to the USMC was awarded by the following medals: the National Defense Service Medal, four Vietnamese Service Medals, the Vietnamese Campaign Medal, two Presidential Unit Citations, (each of which is equal to the Individual Navy Cross), five Navy Commendation Medals with Combat, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal, and Scuba Qualification. Dan served with MACV (Hue) and in hill fights, 881 and 861 (Khe Sahn).

On Jan. 15, 1972, he married Cornelia "Corry" Van Dam in Safety Harbor, Fla., and they later divorced. Dan was employed at D.S. Electric Supply in La Crosse for 35 years until his retirement in 2007. He was a member of the Thomas Rooney VFW Post 1530, the Roy L. Vingers American Legion Post 52, the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1920, and the Eagles Aerie #1254, all of La Crosse, and a past president, zone chairman, and Lioness liaison for the La Crosse Lions Club. Dan was a past president of the La Crosse Builder's Exchange and was on the board of directors for the La Crosse Plugs. Dan enjoyed shooting pool, golfing, and reading.

Survivors include his two daughters, Jennifer (Tony) Richards of Greendale, Wis., and Shannon (Josh) Leclair of Boston, Mass.; three grandchildren, Jackson Droog Richards, Bryn Cornelia Richards, and Winston Leo Robert LeClair; his mother, Beverly Droog of La Crosse; three brothers, Mark (Julie), Mike (Patty), and Matt (Nancy); one sister-in-law, Diane Droog; best friends, Rebecca and John; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Dan was preceded in death by his father, Vernon; and his brother, David.

A time of sharing will be at noon Sunday, Jan. 13, 2013, at Jandt-Fredrickson Funeral Home, (Woodruff Chapel), 4239 Mormon Coulee Rd., La Crosse. Military honors will be performed after the time of sharing at the funeral home by the American Legion Post 52 and VFW Post 1530, both of La Crosse, and the United States Marine Corps Funeral Honor Guard. Friends may call from 11 a.m. until the time of sharing at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Daniel L. Droog Memorial Fund c/o Jennifer Richards 6418 Riverdale Lane, Greendale, Wis., 53129. Online condolences may be sent at www.jandtfredrickson.com.

Dan would like to give special thanks to the Mirage crew for the support, especially the food makers, Carl Tabbert, Ron Delap, and Mike Mellom for being great friends. To my brother, Mike and his wife, Patty, for the unwavering care and support. To Corry, for being my friend even after being my wife. Finally, to my girls and their families, thank you for all your love and the laughs over the years. I love being Grandpa Dan.

"To all my friends of all the years, thank you."

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