



# Guenther Griebau

JUN 21, 1937 - AUG 25, 2021



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## **Guenther Griebau**

JUN 21, 1937 - AUG 25, 2021

**S**gt. Maj. Guenther Griebau, USMC (RET) passed away on August 25, 2021, at the age of 84, at his home in San Bernardino, CA. Born in Hamburg, Germany on June 21, 1937, to Hans B. and Helene Anna Maria Griebau, Guenther was the second of three children.

In 1949, Guenther and his father emigrated to the United States where they made their home in Chester, CA. In school, Guenther excelled in sports and in becoming a true American. In 1956, he enlisted into the Marine Corps where he proudly served his country for 26 years. He loved the Corps and everything it stood for. His career took him to many countries throughout the world, including Vietnam, where he was a part of the Saigon Embassy Marine Corps Security detail assigned to protect the ambassador at the American Embassy in Saigon, Vietnam (1969- 70). Guenther retired from the Corps after 26 years, but his service didn't stop after he took off the uniform.

In the ensuing years, he enjoyed working at Budweiser and Toyota of San Bernardino, co-owning Pacific Coast Traffic School, and heading up the Jr. Police Academy at the Lytle Creek Elementary School in San Bernardino. His passion, however, was volunteering. He loved helping people and organizations that he believed in. He worked tirelessly raising money for various veterans' groups, Santa Claus, Inc., the Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee, the Lighthouse for the Blind, Western Regional Little League, and many, many others. He wanted to make a difference and he did.

Guenther is preceded in death by his father, his mother, his sister, Inge, and his beloved pups Duchess, Crystal, and Walker. He is survived by his wife, Martha, sister, Marianne Scherlitzki, daughter, Heidi Fischer and son-in-law, Lee Fischer, daughter Cindy DeMaio, son Mel Chamberlain and his fiancé, Chris Turner, grandson, Robert DeMaio and wife, Raeline, great-grandchildren, Riley and Reece, and many, many lifelong friends.



## Obituary

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Services will be held on Friday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. at Riverside National Cemetery. The service will be live-streamed via the Bobbitt Memorial Chapel Facebook page.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee and the Lighthouse for the Blind, San Bernardino, CA.

“As long as we remember a person, they’re not really gone. Their thoughts, their feelings, their memories, they become a part of us.” – James Cronin (The Twelve) Saigon

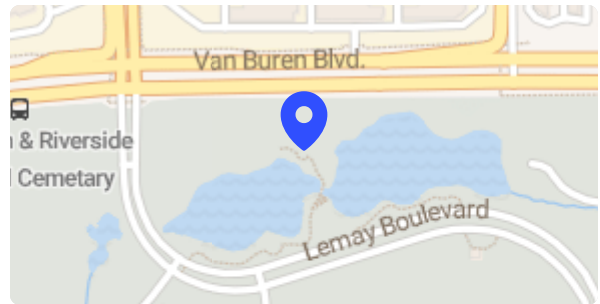


# Events

**Guenther Griebau**  
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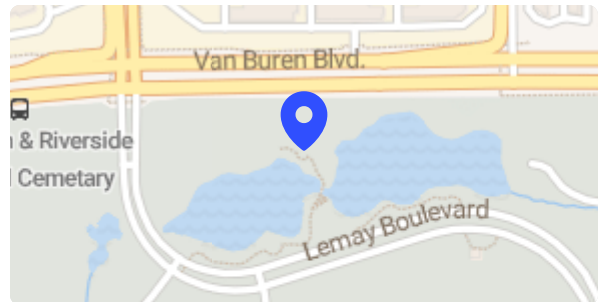
## Service

- Friday**, September 17, 2021
- 10:00 AM PT
- Riverside National Cemetery**  
22495 Van Buren Blvd, Riverside CA 92518



## Cemetery Details

- Riverside National Cemetery**  
22495 Van Buren Blvd, Riverside CA 92518
- (951) 653 8417**





## Tribute Wall

**Guenther Griebau**  
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**Col Wayne Morris USmc (Ret)** posted:

I have just learned of this sad news. The Sergeant Major was my First Sergeant when I commanded a company in 3dBn9thMar on Okinawa in 1975-76. He was my literal STRONG right arm. Altho I am a former SNCO myself, I relied on his strong counsel to keep me on the straight and narrow given my hands-on leadership style. There would be times when he came into my office, secured the hatch, sat down and said, "...Skipper, you had three good ideas today, and this isn't one of them"...! What a fine man and Marine! We followed each others' career progression thru the years. I am proud to call him my Friend! Semper Fidelis, W. V. Morris Col USMC (Ret) MustangMudMarine

November 28 at 12:50 PM



**Bob Jimenez** posted:

He was my father's assistant coach in Little League with the Yankees. He was instilling pride in you even back in 1955-56! He was in Chester when my father, an ex-Marine passed away. I watched as he was laid to rest. God Bless him for his well-lived life. I will always think great thoughts of him. A great friend.

September 25 at 1:51 PM



**John And Janice Conway** posted:

We were deeply saddened to hear of Guenther Griebau's passing. There are few people that make a difference in his world and improve other people's lives... but Guenther certainly did! His generosity, humor, and constant desire to help others cannot be replaced. This community and all the people he helped throughout his entire life will surely miss him. Guenther left a legacy for others to follow. But admittedly, there is no one like Guenther. May the Lord bless his soul and bring comfort and peace to his family and those that loved him.

September 17 at 6:25 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Griebau family.



September 15 at 4:40 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Raymond Donegan** posted:

My name is Raymond Donegan. I am a retired Marine. SgtMaj Griebau was my drill instructor when I went through boot camp in 1964. He was a true leader. I remember him telling the platoon that he was preparing us for the possibility that we may have to serve in combat one day. His training served me well during my combat tour in Vietnam. Even though I never saw him for the past 57 years, he had a profound influence in my life and maturity into manhood. There are some people that you respect and never forget. My regards to your family and loved ones. If it was not for COVID I would be there paying my respects on Friday.

September 13 at 3:33 PM



**Judy Chidester** posted:

Guenther was one of "my" Marines. I was so happy to be included in the Saigon Marine Security Guard Reunions. He and Marty were fun, friendly and oh, so welcoming. His last gift of a special "plated" rose remains special to me. His memory will live on for a long time with me and this group.

September 11 at 9:19 AM



**Yolanda Castro** lit a candle in honor of Guenther.

Guenther, I have been honored and blessed with great pleasure to have known you. Everytime you went in to Quiel Bros, you gave me a good laugh. 😊 Even after the Quiel's retired and closed the shop, you kept contact and continued the bullying over my Wonderful Dodgers. Lol 😂 I am going to miss you, the laughs you gave me, all your wonderful sports pools you coordinated, your fundraisers, printing your 49er game schedule and the Naval Academy Football schedule for you, even though you were a Marine at heart, 🤝 you loved Football and Baseball. I will miss you sharing your wisdom, stories, and hearing your colorful words about how you feel on certain things, weather it be sports or politics to say the least, Lol. I am going to pray for your soul, 🙏 that it rests in peace all the way in heaven and for Marty and your family during this difficult time. 🙏 Your friend, Yolie



September 11 at 2:51 AM



**Michael Gile** posted:

My surrogate "dad", a Marines' Marine, condolences to Marty and daughters, I'm here for you, Semper Fidelis, Michael and Mai Gile

September 10 at 3:28 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Guenther Griebau**  
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**Larry Thrift And Family** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Griebau family.



August 30 at 9:33 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Guenther by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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