



## John E. Rice

January 16, 1946 - December 19, 2021

John E. Rice, (known to those who loved him most as “Papa”), passed away surrounded by his family the afternoon of Sunday, December 19, 2021. John was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1946 to Norman and Annabelle Rice. His family later relocated to Florida. As a young boy, he enjoyed spending the summers at his family’s fishing resort on Diamond Lake in Atwater, Minnesota. His time at the resort ignited his life-long passion for fishing and mechanics. In 1963, he joined the Navy. He often shared stories with his grandboys of the artillery on the ship, the places he traveled and his time in California. On July 6th, 1988, he married the love of his life, Kathy. They moved to Bostwick, Georgia where together they spent countless hours creating their home. He enjoyed bringing to life the ideas she dreamed up. From building porches to playhouses, there was nothing Papa couldn’t do with Kathy by his side. Each day after work, he would walk in the house and kiss her hello. After retirement, he enjoyed spending time on the lake camping and sharing his love of the water with his grandchildren. Although truthfully, he probably spent more time baiting hooks and taking fish off the line than actually fishing himself. Papa loved Publix birthday cake as dessert on any given day. Krispy Kreme doughnuts came in a close second. Papa will be remembered by his family for his huge heart, his sly smile, his generosity, his unwavering patience, his vast knowledge but most of all for the devoted love he had for his wife and daughters. John is preceded in death by his parents, Norman and Annabelle Rice. He is survived by his wife Kathy. His daughters Sharon (Dennis) Huff,

Rhonda Hardy, Bonnie (Rex) Hardy and Jessica (Luke) George.  
Grandchildren: Alexis Sexton, John Parks, Ethan Hardy, Takoda Hardy,  
Jasper Hardy, Cash George, Cohen George, Sequoyah Hardy and Callie  
George. Great Grandchildren: Everleigh Parks, Harper Parks, Kiley Sexton,  
Montana Parks and Auggie Sexton His beloved sister Kay Diana "Timmy"  
Rice Discher, His 'brother' Eric (Tanna) Discher and nephew John Hesse.  
Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 209 South Hammond Drive,  
Monroe, GA 30655. 770-267-2594. You may sign the online guest registry at  
[www.stewartfh.com](http://www.stewartfh.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *John E. Rice*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *3 files added to the album Best Man*



**Eric** - March 04, 2022 at 10:27 AM



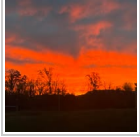
“ *My entire life he has been with me. It won't be the same without him. His life was finally complete with Kathy and her girls. Uncle John, you will always be with me. Love, Eric.*

**Eric Discher** - December 22, 2021 at 07:15 AM



“ *I'll see you on the other side "papa"  
Save me a seat by the fire! – Dellena Rice*

**Dellena Rice** - December 22, 2021 at 04:09 AM



“ I am thankful for my father who loved me, cared more for family than himself, and always new how to fix just about anything. Thank you dad. I never lacked in want or needs. I pray your rest finds you and keeps you. I pray Jesus has you in his arms. I LOVE YOU FOREVER!!

Your son,  
Douglas John Rice



---

**Douglas Rice** - December 22, 2021 at 12:23 AM