



Johnny L. Crumbey, of Ayer

March 12, 1928 - March 7, 2026

Johnny L. Crumbey, U.S. Army (Retired), of Ayer, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 7, 2026. He is survived by his wife of 71 years and their son.

A veteran of two wars, Mr. Crumbey served with distinction during both the Korean War and the Vietnam War. During combat operations in Korea, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, recognizing acts of heroism in combat.

His military service began in 1946 as a Montford Point Marine, the first African American to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps. In recognition of their historic service and perseverance during segregation, he and his fellow Montford Point Marines were later awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress for distinguished achievement.

After his Marine Corps service, he continued serving the nation in the U.S. Army, eventually retiring after a distinguished military career spanning multiple decades.

Those who knew him remember a man of quiet strength, humility, and deep devotion to his family and country.

Funeral services and burial will be private with full military honors.

Tribute Wall



“ Thank you for your service Mr Crumbey.
Kim

Kim Mousseau - March 13 at 11:06 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Johnny L. Crumbey.

March 09 at 12:41 PM



“ Hero Tribute Blanket was purchased for the family of Johnny L. Crumbey, of Ayer.



March 09 at 12:41 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Johnny L. Crumbey, of Ayer.



March 09 at 11:06 AM



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