



Richard F. Hawthorne, of Fitchburg

April 7, 1953 - March 29, 2025

Fitchburg – Richard F. “Sarge” Hawthorne, 71, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 29, 2025 in Sterling Village.

Sarge was born in Fitchburg on April 7, 1953, a son of the late Francis and Anne (Riordan) Hawthorne. After graduating from High School, he proudly served his country in the US Navy during the Vietnam Era. After nearly four years of service Sarge was honorably discharged and upon returning home, began his career in Fire Service. He was appointed to the Fitchburg Fire Department on February 21, 1978 and spent most of his career working on Group 2, Ladder 3 at Headquarters, until his retirement on March 4, 2009.

Sarge loved to travel with his family; whether it was to Disney World, or the National Parks he always enjoyed creating an itinerary. Sarge enjoyed going to fire conventions and train shows with his son Zachary, often driving the back roads, and never the same route twice.

He enjoyed watching football, listening to 60's music, and he especially loved his golden retrievers. He will be greatly missed.

Sarge is survived by his loving wife of 16 years, Karen (Goguen) Hawthorne of Sterling and his son Zachary Brousseau of Fitchburg.

He was predeceased by his brother J. Barry Hawthorne in 1996.

Calling hours will be held in the Isabelle & Anderson Funeral Home, 316 Clarendon St., Fitchburg, on Tuesday, April 8 from 10am-12noon. Burial will follow at the MA Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, Winchendon.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Fitchburg Fire Fighters Relief Association, 33 North St., Fitchburg, MA 01420.

Cemetery Details

Massachusetts Veterans Cemetery

111 Glenallen Street
Winchendon, MA

Previous Events

Calling Hours

APR 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Isabelle & Anderson Funeral Home - Fitchburg
316 Clarendon Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 343-4407

Burial

APR 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Massachusetts Veterans Cemetery
111 Glenallen Street
Winchendon, MA