



Herman “Joe” Kottke

Herman was born in Chicago, IL on November 19, 1951. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corp in 1975. After boot camp he was sent to a 10-week class to train to be an aviation supply clerk. Upon completion he was sent to Okinawa, Japan where he served the rest of his enlistment. He returned to MCAS El Toro and was honorably discharged in June 1982.

He was decorated with Rifle Marksman Badge, Good Conduct Medal, Meritorious Mast and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

After leaving the military, Joe moved to Tustin and went to work as a mechanic at the Chevron Gas Station in Enderle Center. His leisure time was spent playing pool and socializing at a local Tustin bar.

Later in his life his passions changed. He bought a boat and took up fishing. This lasted for about eight years. Sold the boat and took up golf which was his ultimate obsession. He played 2-3 times a week until August 2017 when he suffered a massive stroke which left him partially paralyzed. Three years later he was diagnosed with Leukemia and lost the battle with cancer on June 6, 2021. His ashes will be buried at Riverside National Cemetery.

