

Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery Inventory

State and Water Streets, Dover DE 19903

Lot Number: 118 Space: G

Find A Grave # 34313787

Name: **Dobbins, Major John Wilson**

Birth date: May 11, 1932 Death date: February 25, 2009 Burial Date: March 9, 2009 Age: 76
b. Los Angeles, CA

Spouse: Sandra *Hamsher* Dobbins

Children: Michael Dobbins

Parents: Fletcher H. Dobbins and Helvetia *Pujol* Dobbins

Siblings: Geraldine *Dobbins* Shipley; Vicki *Dobbins* Lewis; Patti *Dobbins* Carter

Residence: Smyrna, DE

Cause of death/Burial/Obituary: Parkinson's disease; Casket with military honors; see next page

Service/occupation information: Major, US Air Force, Korea + Viet Nam; educator

Officiate: Celeste O. Cox

Lot Owner: John Wilson Dobbins; F & G – only 2 spaces in Lot 118

Marker: On same granite base as wife

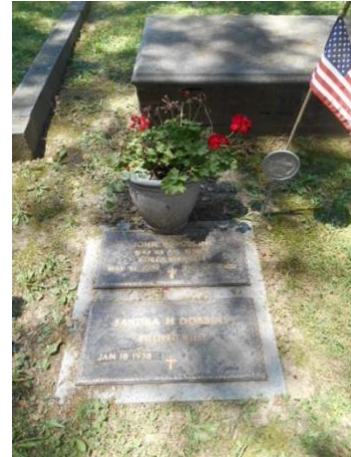
Inscription:

John W. Dobbins
Maj US Air Force
Korea Viet Nam
May 11, 1932 + Feb. 25, 2009

DIMENSIONS: H 0" x W 24" x D 12"

STYLE: veteran's marker

No repairs needed



Inventory date: April 23, 2020 Recorder: Ellen Richardson

Obituary obtained from findagrave.com on February 8, 2021:

John Wilson Dobbins of Smyrna, DE formerly of Dover died February 25, 2009 at Bay Health Medical Center, Dover. His age was 76.

Born in Los Angeles, CA he was the son of the late Fletcher H. and Helvetia Pujol Dobbins. Mr. Dobbins was graduated from El Monte High School and in 1950 entered the US Air Force. He later graduated from Delaware State College where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree and received his Masters Degree from Washington College. As an enlisted man in the US Air Force he served as a Radar Technician and reached the rank of Master Sgt. He attended Officers Candidate School and eventually served as a Navigator Bombardier. He had served as Ground Training Officer and Commander of the Transportation Squadron at Dover Air Force Base. He was a veteran of both Korea and Vietnam Wars and retired from service in 1971. Upon retirement from the Air Force he served as a teacher of English at the Lake Forest High School from 1975 - 1980 and Wilmington College (University) 1980 until 1996 and was an Adjunct Teacher of English at Wesley College. He was a life member of the Military Officers Association, The Del-Vets and the Dover Air Base Museum. He was a Founding Member of the American Air Museum of Great Britain and a member of the Irish Society. John enjoyed travel, golf and boating and will be remembered by his close friends as a 'real party boy' who truly enjoyed people.

Besides his parents he was predeceased by a sister Geraldine Shipley. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Sandra Hamsher Dobbins of Smyrna, DE; his son, Michael Dobbins and wife Eve of Tampa, FL; 2 sisters, Vicki Lewis of Fall Brook, CA and Patti Carter of Whidby Island, WA; 2 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren along with 6 nephews and 1 niece.

Services will be held Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 3 pm in Christ Episcopal Church State & Water Sts. Dover. Burial will take place in Christ Church Cemetery.

Family suggests donations in his memory to Delaware Hospice 911 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, DE 19901 or to the Michael J. Fox Foundation For Parkinson's Research, Church St. Station PO Box 700 NY, NY 10008-0780.

Remembrances from his wife Sandra:

“John attended military schools for electronics training, officer candidate school, Delaware State College for a teaching degree and Washington College for a master’s degree in English.

John had a charismatic personality with a terrific sense of humor. He loved to interact with people. He had short dark hair, brown eyes and was always smiling.

December 7, 1968 was the night we met at the DAFB Officers’ Club. It was the same day he divorced his first wife. It was love at first sight for both of us. We were married for 39 wonderful years.”