John J. "Jack" Sheehan



John J. "Jack" Sheehan, Jr. Retired Supt. Lowell Police Department

LOWELL -- John J. "Jack" Sheehan, Jr., 73, of Lowell, retired Superintendant of the Lowell Police Department, whom served as the Chief of Police in Lowell from 1982 until 1995, died Sunday afternoon at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Haverhill surrounded by his loving family.

A respected and loyal member of the Lowell Police for over 28 years, Jack was the last Civil Service appointee to be selected Superintendant based upon his first place score in the Superintendant's Exam.

He was the beloved husband of Frances "Frani" (Taylor) Sheehan, who survives him, and with whom he celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary August 15, 2012.

Born in Lowell, November 21, 1939, the son of the late John J. and the late Mary Agnes (Cotter) Sheehan, he attended St. Patrick Grammar School and Keith Academy.

Jack proudly served his country from 1956 until 1959 as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

Later, he graduated from the University of Lowell in 1976 with a <u>Bachelor of Science</u> Degree in the first graduating class for Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice.

Jack began his career in Law Enforcement in 1964 when he was appointed a Reserve Officer with the Lowell Police Department. After attending the first Lowell Police Recruit Academy at Lowell State <u>Teachers College</u>, he was appointed a permanent Police Officer with the Lowell Police in 1967 by Supt. Peter G. Gouduras.

In 1973 he was promoted to Sergeant with the Lowell Police. Then, he was promoted to Lieutenant in 1977, Captain in 1979 and later Deputy Superintendent in 1981. In each <u>promotion</u> Jack finished first on the competitive exam portion of the testing.

In August of 1981 he was appointed Acting Superintendant of Police and was sworn in as the Supt. of the Lowell Police Department in May of 1982. It was a position he would proudly serve with integrity and honor until his retirement in March of 1995.

He was a past member of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

An avid sports fan, Jack was a former Silver Mittens Champion in the 1950's and enjoyed playing golf with his many dear friends at Long Meadow Golf Club where he was a longtime member. Jack also was a member of the East End Social Club.

However Jack's greatest joy was his family. In addition to spending time with his wife and daughters, he loved being with his six grandchildren and his siblings.

He was known as a loyal friend to many and was an inspiration to all that knew him.

Besides his wife, Jack is survived by two daughters Colleen M. Judge and her husband Ned of Dracut and Kerrilyn Pessin and her husband Daniel of Upton; six grandchildren Edward J. "EJ" Judge, Shelagh M. Judge, Zachary H. Pessin, Jonathan D. Pessin, Aden M. Pessin and Kyleigh B. Pessin; a brother Garrett Sheehan and his wife Julie of Dracut and many nieces and nephews.

He was also the brother of the late Thomas F. Sheehan.

SHEEHAN -- In Haverhill, January 13, 2013, at Hospice House, John J. "Jack" Sheehan, retired Superintendant and 28 year member of the Lowell Police Department. He was the beloved husband of Frances "Frani" (Taylor) Sheehan who survives him. Friends may call at the O'DONNELL FUNERAL HOME, 276 PAWTUCKET ST. at Fletcher from 4 to 8 P. M. Thursday. Relatives and friends are invited to attend his Funeral Mass to be celebrated Friday morning at ST. PATRICK CHURCH at 10 o'clock. His Committal Services will be private. E-condolences/directions at odonnellfuneralhome.com. Those wishing may make contributions in his memory to the Merrimack Valley Hospice House, 360 North Ave., Haverhill, MA or the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place West, 6th Floor, Brookline, MA 02445. Arrangements by Funeral Directors James F. O'Donnell, Jr. and John W. Crane (978 or 866) 458-8768.