



## Mr. Joel Thomas Findlay of Lake Barrington

May 20, 1986 - June 8, 2020

Joel Thomas Findlay, 34, of Lake Barrington, Illinois.

Loving son of Russell and Sheila Findlay; cherished brother of Russell (Kim) Findlay Jr., James (Jaime) Findlay II, Sherell (Brian Lantz) Findlay, Adam (Gina) Findlay and Amanda (Scott) Unter; devoted uncle of Brendon, Landon, Lindsey, Taylor, Jimmy, Ella, Kayla, Rhianna, Jaxon, Evelyn, Scott Jr., Colton, Wyatt and the late Timothy.

Marine Sergeant Joel Findlay was a decorated Marine Corps Veteran who was a hero up until his death. He served two tours of duty during “Operation Enduring Freedom” in Afghanistan leading his “Fire Team” into battles over and over. Joel’s final act of heroism was his request to donate his organs to keep an organ recipient alive.

When Joel entered a room, the room was changed forever. Smiles were bigger and brighter; jokes were a little funnier and the love everyone had for their country was a little more sincere.

Family and friends will meet Friday, June 12, 2020 from noon until the time of a Military Honors Service at 3:00 P.M. at Morizzo Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 2550 West Hassell Road (Northeast corner of Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, IL 60169. Interment will be private at Abraham

Lincoln National Cemetery.

This Life Tributes page has been created to make it easy for Family and Friends to share memories, photos and videos.

For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you raise your glass to toast him one more time or make a donation in memory of Joel Findlay to Operation Restored Warrior (<https://www.operationrestoredwarrior.org>) ...an organization fighting PTSD. The VA crisis line is 1-800-273-8255.

# Cemetery Details

## Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood

20953 West Hoff Road  
Elwood, IL 60421  
(815) 423-9958  
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/abrahamlincoln.asp>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 12. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services, and Cemetery Memorials  
2550 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
(847) 752-6444  
[ross@morizzofuneralhome.com](mailto:ross@morizzofuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Morizzo Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Joel Thomas Findlay of Lake Barrington*



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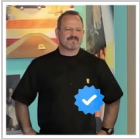
**Morizzo Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 11, 2020 at 05:34 PM



“ *Mr. Joel Thomas Findlay of Lake Barrington*

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November 04, 2022 at 06:54 PM



“ *I met Joel in North Chicago in 2019. We were there with other veterans who had struggles with PTSD. Joel was an awesome man. My condolences to his family.*

*Joel and another Marine (Kevin) and I had talked about traveling together to visit Asia and scuba dive and just enjoy life more. Sadly, both of their lives have been cut short. I made it here by myself, to the Philippines and a day doesn't go by that I don't think of you, Joel!*

*Semper Fi!*

*-Jose N Harris*

*US Army Special Forces (Veteran)*

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**José Harris** - June 18, 2021 at 09:07 PM

TH

“ *Offering our deepest condolences during this difficult time.*



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**Those of us at Morizzo Funeral Home** - June 26, 2020 at 12:08 PM

SF

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Sheila Findlay** - June 12, 2020 at 11:02 PM



“ *Sincere condolences to the entire Findlay family. I am very sorry for your loss. Joel was an amazing loving and caring son, brother, Uncle and friend.*

*As we pray for you, your family and friends...*

*Please keep and carry these precious people in their sadness and loss. Cover them with your great wings of love, give their weary hearts rest and their minds sound sleep. Lord, lift their eyes so that they may catch a glimpse of eternity, and be comforted by the promise of heaven.*

*Katherine Findlay*

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**Katherine Findlay** - June 12, 2020 at 05:37 AM

Allison Gray

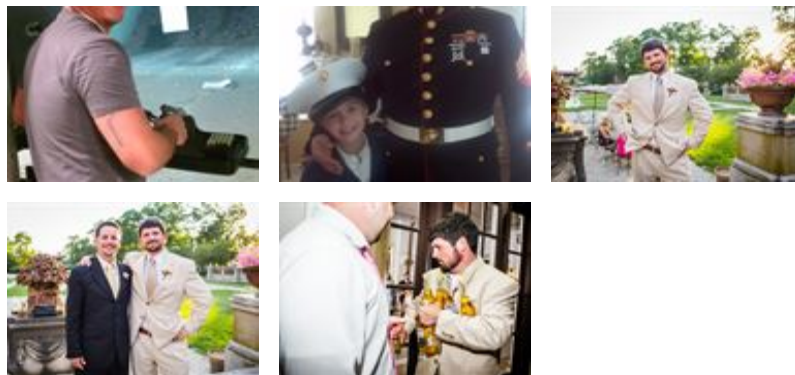
“ I can't even count how many times I've bragged about my cousin the Marine. I will always hold close to my heart the memory of Joel honouring Grandpa, not to mention Aunt Donna (my mom) "teaching" Joel how to do shots in Grandma and Grandpa's basement the night before.



Allison Gray - June 12, 2020 at 01:00 AM



“ 176 files added to the album LifeTributes



Morizzo Funeral Home & Cremation Services - June 11, 2020 at 04:13 PM

ZD

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



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**Zachry Douglas** - June 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

ZD

“ Too many to share but we would often walk over to Heroz and have some drinks on our down time. We served together in the same squad on our deployment to Afghanistan in 2008. He was a great Marine and even better friend. He will be deeply missed.



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**Zachry Douglas** - June 10, 2020 at 11:59 PM

SO

“ I am dumbfounded. Joel was so full of life. He was a good friend to my son. I pray they all are playing cards again. So very sorry for your loss. Peace be with you.  
Sue O'Neil

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**Sur O'Neil** - June 10, 2020 at 10:34 PM

LS

“ 2 files added to the album Joel the younger years



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**LINDA SALCEDO** - June 10, 2020 at 08:11 PM

LS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**LINDA SALCEDO** - June 10, 2020 at 08:06 PM

LS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**LINDA SALCEDO** - June 10, 2020 at 07:53 PM



“ *I was fortunate enough to serve with Sgt Findlay while at King's Bay. He was one of our armory custodians for awhile that was a die-hard Patriot. A very stern leader that will be missed dearly. Semper Fidelis*

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**Jeff Kidd** - June 10, 2020 at 05:57 PM



“ Sgt J Findlay was one of my section leaders when we served together in Kings Bay. His dedication and passion for training and taking care of the younger Marines was a credit to himself and the selfless attitude he brought to our team. He is now guarding heavens gates.

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**Matt Anderson** - June 10, 2020 at 05:05 PM

WH

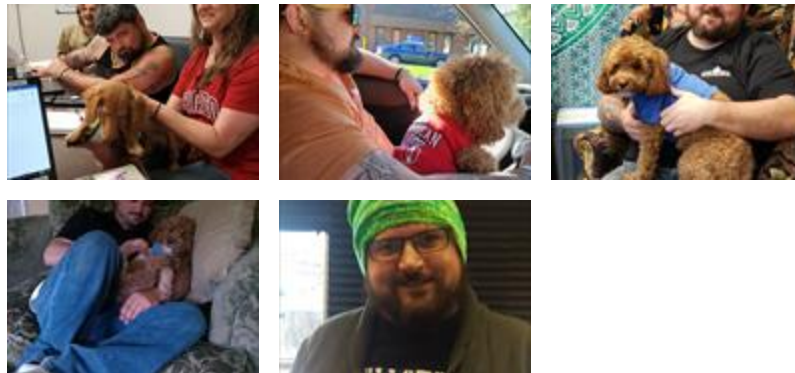
“ You were always a brother to me and supportive friend since elementary school. And the ONLY FRIEND willing to take leave to come see me graduate from Basic Training. I cannot believe your bright light has come to an end. Clearly- God just wanted more of your joy spread around in Heaven vs on Earth. I miss you already.



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**whitney** - June 10, 2020 at 04:05 PM

EJ

“ 5 files added to the album Joel & Real Seal



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**Erica Jensen** - June 10, 2020 at 12:29 PM

CM

“ I did not have the honor of knowing Joel personally however I do know of his heroic life and service because of what Joel's father has told me. Men of Joel's caliber are few to say the least.

*May our dear Lord surround the family with His Love and comfort.*

*Craig Mengarelli*

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**Craig Mengarelli** - June 10, 2020 at 11:36 AM

VR

“ Sincere condolences to the entire Findlay family. I am very sorry for your loss.

*I was honored to have met Joel. He is unforgettable, and he'll always be a bright light in your lives.*

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**Veronica Robie** - June 10, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ I was proud to know he was a Marine. It doesn't get any better in this life. We are very saddened for this family, who always gave so much to others. When we first went to Celebration Fellowship Church, we were with this family every Sunday for dinners, and usually came back to our home in the evening. That taught me how to give, on a different level. We are praying for all of you.

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**James Seabolt** - June 09, 2020 at 11:49 PM

WB

“ Prayers and love to the Findlay family! May God wrap you in His peace and fill your minds with beautiful memories. Love, Mike & Whitney Broska



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**Whitney Broska** - June 09, 2020 at 11:47 PM