



Jack R. Hibard

January 20, 1925 - April 26, 2026

Graveside Service with Military Honors will be May 20, 2026 at 11am.

Holy Sepulcher Cemetary

7845 E. Santiago Canyon Road

Orange, CA 92869

A Celebrated Life

In loving memory of Jack Russell Hibard, who passed away peacefully at his home

on April 26, 2026.

Jack was born on January 20, 1925, near Mosinee, Wisconsin, to John and Sophie Hibard. Raised alongside his five siblings during the peak of the Great Depression, Jack learned resilience early on. At just 17 years old, he answered the call of duty and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, joining his brothers Floyd, Charlie, Harold, and George in military service during World War II. Locally celebrated as the legendary “Five Fighting Hibards,” the family endured the profound loss of Harold, who was killed in action at Normandy on June 6, 1944. Jack served with honor in Okinawa and Saipan. While he kept the heavy details of the war private - a choice his family deeply respected - he always maintained his signature sense of humor, jokingly blaming his lack of hair on his two years spent overseas.

After his military service, Jack followed his siblings out west to Southern California. An avid fan of boxing and baseball, he was absolutely certain that if it hadn't been for his height, he would have played in the major leagues. Instead of the ball field, he channeled his incredible work ethic into business, partnering with his brother George to own and manage Spiral Paper Tube and Core Company - a role he relished until his retirement 50 years later.

Jack was the beloved husband of Elizabeth (Libby) Hibard, who preceded him in death in 1998. He was the immensely proud father of Deborah and Donald, and the cherished "Grandpa Jack" to 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind his son-in-law Ron, daughter-in-law Gabby, and former daughter-in-law Rosie, whose dedicated love, humor, and care allowed Jack to remain comfortably at home in his final years.

Beyond his family, Jack's greatest passion was Thoroughbred horses - a journey that began with the purchase of his first horse in 1967 and grew into the owning, breeding and racing of dozens more. While he thoroughly enjoyed the thrill of the winner's circle at Los Alamitos and Agua Caliente, his truest joy was at home, watching newborn foals stand on wobbly legs, growing into young and strong yearlings. In his later years, you would find him exactly where he wanted to be: sitting under the shade trees at home with a beloved dog nestled in his lap, watching his horses graze and gallop, and dreaming with a smile that just maybe, the newest foal would be the one destined for the Kentucky Derby.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PTZ)

Holy Sepulcher Cemetary
7845 E. Santiago Canyon Road
Orange, CA 92869

Tribute Wall



“ Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of Jack R. Hibard



Reflecting on Memories - May 17 at 11:50 PM



“ 2 files added to the album USMC Honor Guard



Reflecting on Memories - May 20 at 05:43 PM



“ 20 files added to the album Graveside Service



Reflecting on Memories - May 20 at 05:43 PM

DM

“ 34 files added to the album *Family Memories Album*



Deb Massaro - May 17 at 07:49 PM

“ To To Deborah, Don, Rosie and each of the Hibard family members:

Today we honor and remember Jack Hibard—a 101-year-old World War II Marine, a devoted father and grandfather, and a man whose life embodied courage, faith, and unwavering service.

Jack served as a machine gunner in the United States Marine Corps, fighting in some of the fiercest battles of the Pacific during World War 2, including Saipan and Okinawa. Like so many of his generation, he answered the call without hesitation. Though small in stature, he stood as a giant among men—steadfast, brave, and committed to defending the freedoms we cherish today.

It was my deep privilege to serve as Jack’s hospice chaplain in his final days. Though his time in our care with Green Meadows Hospice was brief, it was sacred. I had the honor of being at his bedside, bearing witness to the quiet dignity of a life well lived and well loved.

I brought Jack a newly made set and an exact replica World War II dog tags—an exact tribute to those he once wore in service to his country. Though he passed away minutes before I could put them around his neck and thank him for his service, and although he was not able to wear them himself, they now carry forward his legacy and his son Don will wear those tags with pride, and his grandson—who has followed in Jack’s footsteps and is currently serving in the United States Marine Corps—continues the legacy of honor, courage, and commitment that defined Jack’s life.

I have created this memorial website so that family, friends, and all who knew him may share memories, photos, stories, and reflections. In doing so, we keep alive the spirit of a man who gave so much for others.

Today, we say farewell—and we also say “Semper Fi”—to a true American hero who was Always Faithful. A warrior for his country,

and a faithful servant of his God.

*Rest in peace, Marine. Your duty is done, you fought a good fight
and your legacy endures.*

Chaplain Roger Rustad

Roger Rustad - April 27 at 12:25 AM