



John J. Nowak

March 31, 1950 - May 8, 2021

John J. Nowak

March 31st, 1950-May 8th, 2021

John J. Nowak passed away, 71 years old, on May 8th, 2021. He was the son of John J. Nowak Sr. and Anna (Sentipal) Nowak. Predeceased by his brother Edward Nowak. Survived by his beloved daughter Kathyryn Nowak, his sisters Mary Heindorf, Dorothy and Richard Pierce, Helen and Keith Peacock, and Anne and Jerry Meek; also including many cousins, nieces and nephews.

John grew up on his family's farm in Diamond, New York. He graduated from Pace University with his doctorate degree. John was a devoted attorney for the NYS Attorney General for over a decade. He loved farming, hunting, fishing, and motorcycles. Anything to do with the outdoors, he loved.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 22nd 2021 at 978 New Scotland Rd., Albany NY 12208. Memorial Hours are between 1pm-5pm. Please bring your best photo, story, or memory of John. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Mohawk Humane Society or your favorite local Nature Reserve.

Tribute Wall

LP

“ John was my best friend for many years, from when we met at SUNY Binghamton in 1968 to living one mile apart here in Albany. We became a constant in each others lives, always keeping in contact and over the last few decades talking at least a few times weekly. For me, today is another day without John.

I agree with Beth, John was bigger than life. Sharon and I and our boys always called him Big John. It's hard to count the number of times John helped me to accomplish tasks and figure out issues. He was a resource. And he was always there for me and others.

For John, the sun rose and set on his daughter Katie. John was always trying to be a good father, always talking about Katie, always worrying over Katie and always doing what he could for her. Lord knows he tried his best.

For those who knew John, he will be missed with some unanswered questions. But there is solace in knowing that John is resting comfortably and at peace. Go with love Big John...

Loch Phillips and family.

Lochiel Phillips - May 21, 2021 at 10:31 PM

ST

“ *Kate:*
Your dad loved you to the moon and back! I was there when you were born; your dad was laughing and crying! He couldn't look at you and hold you enough. When you graduated from the CIA..... there it was again. Pride and love for you written on his face.
Remember the good times!
Sandra Thompson.

Sandra Thompson - May 21, 2021 at 07:01 PM

EJ

“ I was so sorry to hear the news of John's passing. Haven't seen him in many years. Very unfortunate because he was great man. Many memories of up on the farm with him helping my dad and Grandpa with things that needed to be done. Potatoes, wood, hay and general repairs. He would play the guitar and sing by the chunk stove in the living room. The dog would follow him everywhere. I'm sure right now he's up there with my dad and our sweet daughter that we lost several years ago teaching her how to catch trout in a clear stream running through a beautiful field like up on the farm. I'm sorry for your loss Katie, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Edward J Nowak, Jr - May 19, 2021 at 10:47 PM

BT

“ My friend John was a truly unique, hard working, no nonsense "old school" individual and we shared almost 50-years of adventures & commorodity together.

I first met John after I discharged from the Marine Corps...partying in the early years (70's) like we were invincible. Riding our motorcycle's and living life in the "fast lane"! I will always remember the "Farm Party's" that he would host up on the Tug Hill for all of his friends.

The "Farm" was John's safe space that he knew & loved so well; where I met his amazing Dad and the team of Belgium Horses that pulled the plow & wagons working the farm; surviving in this formidable place in upstate NY where the snowfall is measured in feet...not inches!

After John worked his way thru law school and passed the bar, he married the love of his life and became a very proud Dad. He cherished his every waking moment loving and mentoring his most treasured possession in this life; his little girl Katie...and she was definitely a chip off the ole block; at his side cooking, working firewood, gardening, canning veggies, butchering deer, freezing fish, producing maple sirup, etc, always at his side!

I really got to know John on our many hunting & fishing trip adventures over the years that we shared with our good friend Mike Maynard (R.I.P.) This is when we would sit and talk for hours around the campfire at night, or the ice-fishing shanty on a lake in the Adirondacks, or the many deepsea fishing trips in Gloucester and Maine; solving the world's problems and sharing the "nuts & bolts" of almost every detail of our daily lives; the good, the bad and the ugly! It was on those trips that each of us came to understand that the friendship bond that we shared was very special...and one of the things that I miss the most today as I adjust to my trailing years on this earth, without either of them to call and chat...like the good ole days.

May you Rest in Peace my friend and may all of the good memories sustain Katie and all of John's family and friends...

Bob Tittlemore - May 18, 2021 at 07:01 AM

BL

“ *John was a larger-than-life person who has left us with larger-than-life memories. My deepest sympathy to all his family. May he be at peace.*

Beth Lapo - May 17, 2021 at 10:05 PM

MV

“ *I knew John since I came to Binghamton University in 1972. He was a true friend and the world will miss him.*

Michael J Vernarelli - May 16, 2021 at 07:16 PM

RT

“ *My deep sympathy to Kate and the Nowak family on John's passing. Back in the day he grew the best tomatoes and gave great gardening advice, which I still use. I hope memories of happier times will bring you comfort and peace.*
Resa Tanner

Resa Tanner - May 15, 2021 at 08:16 PM

DD

“ *Deepest sympathies in the passing of your dad Katie. He loved you and was very proud of you. Love to you and Johns family.*
Diane Delmonico

Diane Delmonico - May 15, 2021 at 02:02 PM

JH

“Katie, your dad loved the outdoors. I was enthralled with his adventure stories about hiking, canoeing and traveling with Marvin and Burt. I remember him being at Dryden Farm back in the day when mom and I rode there. Katie, he was a good man and you were his most precious treasure. I'm sure he is safe and happy in heaven. We love you.

joann hoose - May 14, 2021 at 06:12 PM