



John Hancock

March 4, 1936 - November 17, 2015

John Hancock, 79, Kankakee, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning (November 17, 2015) at Floyd Memorial Hospital, New Albany, Indiana. He was surrounded by his children when he left to be with the Lord.

Visitation will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday (November 19, 2015) at Schreffler Funeral Homes in Kankakee with a graveside service in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Goreville, IL at 1 p.m. Friday afternoon.

John was born in Goreville, March 4, 1936, in his parent's home on the family farm. His parents, Ernest and Ora Hancock are deceased. He was the youngest of four children.

John attended a one room school house near his home where his father was the teacher. He later attended Vienna High School, Vienna, Illinois, where during the fall of his senior year he met the love of his life, Marie.

Their first date was to attend a school play. He picked her up and started on their way to school, when the side of the road gave way and the car turned over with everybody piled on top of each other. Everyone escaped without harm. That's when they fell in love.

They married within a year (July 22, 1954) and began their family the next year. Five children were born over the next eight years.

Surviving are four sons and one daughter, Dusty (Janis) Hancock, Salem, Ind., Scott (Karen) Hancock, Morton, Bryon (Dorothy) Hancock, Milwaukee, Wis., Kip (Brenda) Hancock, Carol Stream, and Cindy (Jerry) Casey, Edwardsville. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren, Matthew (Stephanie) Hancock, Lora (Matthew) Buckley, Justin (Dana), KT Hancock, Andrew (Julie) Hancock, Micah and Derek Hancock, Jerry Lee (Allison) Casey, Jessica Casey, Erin and Kirby Hancock.

John was the proud grandfather to ten great-grandchildren. Preceding him in death are his wife and partner for over 60 years, Marie, who died March 2015; his parents, two brothers, Jim and Jack Hancock; and one sister, Pam Moore.

John began working at Amberg File, Kankakee, in 1958 as a machine operator and janitor. With a growing family of four boys and one girl he worked all the hours he could. Never one to dodge his duties he continued to be recognized for his work ethic and common sense, serving as supervisor, engineer and production manager over the years - even as the company changed owners from Amberg to Boorum-Pease and finally Esselte. Even after his retirement he was called back to work relocating company machinery from the east coast to the Kankakee plant.

A talented carpenter John, Marie and the children built the home they have lived in for almost 50 years. He also built homes and performed other major remodeling jobs for friends and family. John was that rare person who was a finish carpenter who could also frame.

A farmer in spirit, John always had a large garden that supported the family. He and Marie shared a love for all the bounty of the earth and fostered that appreciation with all they met. John was always concerned that future

generations would lose touch with the earth.

To honor John's memory, memorials are requested in lieu of flowers to: Heifer International, 1 World Avenue, Little Rock AR 72202.

Help people who need a hand up. Help other people by supporting agricultural understanding.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Grove Cemetery

Happy Hollow Rd
Goreville, IL 62939

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 19. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Graveside Service

NOV 20. 1:00 PM (CT)

Cedar Grove Cemetery
Happy Hollow Rd
Goreville, IL 62939

Tribute Wall



“ *John Hancock*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *To the Hancock family, prayers are sent on loss of your father and mother. Only met a few times but cherish all those family memories! Their families will carry on the family traditions. Especially Dusty and Janis, they are farmers in the heart*

Vicki Harling Shulist - November 25, 2015 at 12:16 PM



“ *It was a privilege to know John and Marie! I'm so glad that attending church was our connection. They were wonderful, warm hearted, gardeners that taught me some new stuff! I especially loved the Garden Club she created at church. They were both such good people. They are sorely missed! They were our friends!! My sympathies to all the family, but you will carry on because of their blessings in your lives!!*

Laura & Dan Sanor - November 20, 2015 at 06:36 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of this, my thoughts and prayers to the family.*

John Bessette - November 20, 2015 at 02:38 PM



“ *Dusty, Scotty, Bryon, Cindy and Kip, I'm so sorry to hear of your father's passing. Thoughts and prayers from our family to yours.*

Bob Benn

Robert Benn - November 20, 2015 at 11:05 AM

BM

“ *The Facebook group Kankakee Westview Oldies But Goodies and the Westview Class of 75 extend their deepest sympathy to the Hancock family on the loss of mom and dad Hancock. May your memories be nothing but the best and their love live on with you for all time.*



Bill Maass - November 19, 2015 at 09:23 PM

JM

“ *So sorry for the loss of your father so soon after your mother. My husband, Carl Mullinax also passed away suddenly on October 10th so their is a big party going on for the Royster family. I wish I would have known more about your father - he seemed like a good hard working and caring person - exactly what this world needs. I am sure these traits are in each of the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of these wonderful people. My sincere condolences.*

*Jane Mullinax
Erie, PA*

Jane Mullinax - November 19, 2015 at 08:14 PM

SD

“ I worked with John & Marie at Ambergs for 13 years with Marie being my boss for about 8 of those years. It was so sad to lose Marie and now to lose John in such a short period of time has to be terrible for the family. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.
Steve & Becky Dandurand

Steve & Becky Dandurand - November 18, 2015 at 04:06 PM

BP

“ Love and prayers for the whole family from Beverly Perkins who shared many cups of coffee and many donuts on Sunday mornings after Church with John, Marie, and my husband Royce. We settled world and local affairs every week!! John and shared an interest in telling stories and memories of long ago. Blessed to have known John and Marie

Beverly Perkins - November 18, 2015 at 03:15 PM

CL

“ I worked at Ambergs and Esselte with John for many years. So sorry for your loss.

Carla Lamb - November 18, 2015 at 01:38 PM

JJ

“ Jeff & Melissa Jeremiah purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of John Hancock.



Jeff & Melissa Jeremiah - November 18, 2015 at 10:59 AM