



John J Riordan

December 27, 1956 - September 28, 2024

John J. "JJ" Riordan, age 67 of Kankakee passed away on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee. He was born December 27, 1956, in Kankakee, the son of John F. and Leta R. (Bailey) Riordan.

John loved music and was a musician by trade. He was an excellent writer, arranger, keyboardist, and singer. John was a founding member of "Rhodes", "Freefall" and "Stage Left." In recent years he played with "Hooligans" and "Main Street Band." John regularly attended jam nights with local musicians.

John was a 1975 graduate of Herscher High School.

Surviving is one stepdaughter, Catherine Biel of New Jersey; one sister, Cyndy Riordan of Kankakee; two step grandsons, Brian and Austin; several aunts and cousins.

John is preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., Friday, October 4, 2024, at Schreffler Funeral Home, Kankakee. Graveside service will follow at 12:00 p.m. at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Kankakee. Pastor Karl Koeppen will officiate the graveside service.

Memorials may be made to Family Wishes.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

2000 E Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 4. 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

OCT 4. 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

JL

“ I was very sad to see that John died. I played in Rhodes when they got the band back together. In my home office, I have a framed picture of the first job we played at the K of C Hall. John had played trumpet and switched over to keyboard. As a senior in high school, I took the trumpet spot. I had a great time with him and the others, on and off the stage. At that point, he had only written two songs which we played. “Fly Away” is the one I remember still. I was amazed that he wrote all the charts for the horns by buying an album, playing it back several times and writing down what he heard. He had an amazing talent. Jeff Leone



Jeff Leone - October 04, 2024 at 08:16 AM

DJ

“ A memory that stuck with me the most was when John would be writing scores for the Herscher High School Marching band at the same time we were holding practice for the band Rhodes in the living room of the Riordan home. John loved everything about music whether we were practicing, playing a gig or helping out the high school marching band. Durl (played bass in Rhodes) ... I considered John one of my best friends and enjoyed being around. He was the leader of Rhodes in my view and gave us direction with the music we played and how we played it.

Durl Jensen - October 03, 2024 at 04:10 PM



“ John, thanks for coloring our world with your unique self. Remembering many great times together. Myra

Myra Devine - October 03, 2024 at 01:04 AM

VT

“ Vern And Joyce Tucker lit a candle in memory of John J Riordan



Vern and Joyce Tucker - October 02, 2024 at 03:31 PM

VT

Our deepest sympathies to the family.

Vern and Joyce Tucker.

Vern and Joyce Tucker - October 02, 2024 at 03:32 PM

VI

“ *Graduated with John and he played with Rhodes at my wedding.*

Vickie - October 01, 2024 at 11:47 AM