



## John Sheppard

July 23, 1945 - May 19, 2025

John Sheppard, age 79, of Kankakee, formerly of Auburn, passed away Monday, May 19, 2025 at the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno with his wife, Janet, and his son, Scott, by his side. He was born July 23, 1945 in Springfield, the son of Alva & Flossie (Alderman) Sheppard. He was the last of 6 children.

John attended Auburn schools and graduated in 1964. He joined the United States Air Force and married Joyce Dolenc of Auburn. They had three sons, Michael, Scott, and John. They divorced in 2000. In 2009 he married Janet Newtonson Coble.

After the Air Force, John worked as a Supervisor at a Power Plant in Marquette, MI and at Wisconsin Electric. He enjoyed playing golf. John was a volunteer at the food pantry. Most of all, he loved to see his grandchildren as often as possible.

He was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Kankakee.

Surviving are his wife, Janet Sheppard of Kankakee; three sons, Scott (Lisa) Sheppard of Sherwood, WI, Michael Sheppard of North Fond Du Lac, WI, and John (Angie) Sheppard of Oshkosh, WI; two step daughters, Jennifer (Terry) Forman of Bloomington and Deidre Coble (Brian Boiken) of Clifton; four

grandchildren, Peter Sheppard, Lily Sheppard, Ashley Sheppard, and Matthew Sheppard; five step-grandchildren, Reagan Panozzo, Giacomo Panozzo, Gianni Panozzo, Giona Panozzo, and Emma Forman; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. John is preceded in death by his parents; siblings; grandson, Grant Sheppard; step-grandchildren, Isaac, Ethan, and Hannah Forman; and daughter-in-law, Shawna Sheppard.

Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. until the time of the 3 p.m. funeral service on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at Schreffler Funeral Home in Kankakee. Rev. Scott Henley will officiate the service. Cremation rites will be accorded following the service. Inurnment will be held at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Asbury United Methodist Church or to the ACOM Food Pantry.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **22**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

MAY **22**. 3:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

BE

“ Janet and John’s sons, I am so sorry to hear about John. He and I worked together very closely in the 87th FIS in MI. He was a good friend, honest, integrity, and always working for his troops. I pray God’s strength and peace on you all.

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**Bill Eldridge** - August 18, 2025 at 07:11 PM

SS

“ Working with John at WE Energies was a pleasure and knowing him made our lives richer. Sympathies to his family and to all who knew and loved him.

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**Susan Sorelle** - June 15, 2025 at 01:10 PM

LM

“ Another good man gone. He was my friend. Sympathy for his family. Really sorry to hear this.

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**Larry Montgomery** - June 13, 2025 at 07:46 PM

MN

“ So sorry to hear about John, He was my training supervisor when I started at Presque Isle Power plant and my Maintenance supervisor when he retired. I miss our talks. RIP Buddy. My sincere condolences to the Shepard Family. My thoughts and prayers to you all.

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**Mike Niemi** - May 23, 2025 at 01:30 PM



“ So sorry Janet, by all accounts John sounded like a really good guy.

*Jerry the Mailman*

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**Jerrold Bjick** - May 22, 2025 at 11:16 AM

SP

“ John and I were on many trips together as he was in charge of safety and I was the union representative for safety at the Presque Isle Power Plant. Many hours of windshield time conversing with him. He was always very pleasant and I considered him a good friend. May you rest in peace John, we will meet again.

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**Scott Prudom** - May 22, 2025 at 09:11 AM

CB

“ We worked closely with John at Presque Isle Power Plant. He was always respectful, generous and caring. If you needed help, John was there. He truly enjoyed people and went above and beyond to do a good job. Great work ethic and faithful friend. Our sincere sympathy and prayers to John's family. He will be missed.

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**Carolyn and Joe Beauchaine** - May 21, 2025 at 08:35 AM

BG

“ I will miss you John! I remember when I was youth leader at church you were always there for us! When we painted and put new floor in the youth room. Helping us with our scarecrows each year putting up and taking down. You support some youths on mission trips. You always told me if you need anything just let you know and you would make it happen. I appreciated you. Rest in peace now John you deserve it. Becki

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**Becki Gossage** - May 20, 2025 at 08:10 PM