



John Harder

June 2, 1956 - October 23, 2025

Harder, John. June 2, 1956 - October 23, 2025. Age 69. Beloved husband of Joyce. Loving father of Richard, Daniel, and stepfather of Rodney (Ashley) Sultini, and the late Jacquelyn Basaj. He lovingly filled the role of both father and grandfather of Brandon and Nathan Basaj, and was a proud grandfather of Rodney and Dominic Sultini. Dear brother of Nancy (Michael) Kepsel, James (Cindy) Harder, and the late Barbara (the late Ronald) Heckmann. Cherished brother in law of Jerome (Beth) Forton. Treasured uncle of Jennifer, Elizabeth, Jason, Kristin, and Alan. Loving owner of his faithful dog, Charlie.

John dedicated many years to his career as a Correctional Officer with the Macomb County Sheriff's Department, where he formed friendships that lasted a lifetime. He took great pride in serving as Union President for many years, always standing up for his fellow officers.

Outside of work, John poured the same dedication into his own greenhouse business, which he ran successfully while working full time at the Sheriff's Department.

He was especially grateful for his wonderful neighbors and close friends, John and Sandy, who were by his side till the end. His neighbor and friend Ray was always there too, the kind of person who would quietly step in and take care of things, like mowing the lawn, without ever being asked.

Memorial Visitation Friday, November 7th, from 3-8pm with a 7pm Sharing of Memories Service at Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc., (Shelby) 54880 Van Dyke at 25 Mile Rd. Saturday, November 8th, 10am Memorial Gathering and 11am Memorial Service at St. Peter Lutheran Church, 17051 24 Mile Rd., Macomb, 48042 (NW corner of 24 & Romeo Plank).

Please share memories with the family at their online guestbook at WujekCalcaterra.com

Previous Events

Sharing of Memories

NOV 7. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc, Shelby Township
54880 Van Dyke
Shelby Township, MI 48316

Memorial Gathering

NOV 8. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Peter Lutheran Church
17051 24 Mile Road
Macomb, MI 48042

Memorial Service

NOV 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Peter Lutheran Church
17051 24 Mile Road
Macomb, MI 48042

Tribute Wall

EG

“ May he R.I.P. John was always a pleasure to work and serve as union reps with at the sheriff’s department. 🙏😞

Eugene Groesbeck - November 20, 2025 at 03:29 PM

GS

“ John always had a smile on his face, was kind, funny and easy going. My thoughts and prayers are with you Joyce and your entire family.

Gina Smith - November 07, 2025 at 08:58 PM

JR

“ John and Staci Remejes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Harder.

John and Staci Remejes - November 06, 2025 at 11:17 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Harder.



November 06, 2025 at 11:17 PM

FF

“ From your nieces, nephews and families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Harder.

From your nieces, nephews and families - October 31, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of John Harder.*



October 31, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ *Melanie lit a candle in memory of John Harder*



Melanie - October 30, 2025 at 04:17 PM



“ *I was best friends with his son Rich growing up. I don't have any recent memories, but a few decades ago Rich and I would help out at his greenhouse. He was always fair and easy to work for. There was something special about him, and wherever he is now, that place is better for it.*

Matt Charbonneau - October 28, 2025 at 05:19 PM

JB

“ I worked with wonderful men and women at the sheriff's department. John shared more than a birth month, we shared a lifetime of memories. From the night he lit my pony tail on fire at the Hut to the many perimeter checks we made, John was always ready with a hand, a joke, a smile a beer and a Marlboro. The shenanigans that we (t mac, pater, randy, John, myself and others) got into was epic. At his side for most of those shenanigans was Joyce, the love of his life. I regret losing contact with you my friend, I am grateful that we were able to reconnect recently if only only on the phone. All I know is during that hour long call the years melted away and you were once again that guy who I always loved like a brother. Rest easy brother until we meet again.

John Berger - October 27, 2025 at 09:57 PM

GS

“ John was one of the nicest men at the Sheriff's Dept. He was kind, funny and always had a smile. Joyce, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family. Gina Smith

Gina Smith - October 27, 2025 at 08:35 PM

SD

“ John was a generous, caring ,kind man and friend. He accompanied me to the county bldg. to make sure I was getting the best I could out of my retirement and pension. I have many great memories of John. It was a joy seeing him at Eastern market selling his wreaths and roping. I can vouch for the quality and craftsmanship he put into making them. Rest in peace, my friend. Prayers of peace and comfort to Joyce and his family during this difficult time.

Suzanne Doty-Kolioupoulos - October 27, 2025 at 07:59 PM

James Gelios

“ One of my fondest memories is of John giving me my "certificate of Appreciation" certificate when I retired in 2001. He was the union president then but had been my VP when I was union president. He was very well liked, level headed and a valued friend. Condolences to his family and may he now RIP. He will be missed.

James Gelios - October 27, 2025 at 06:19 PM

James Gelios

“ 2 files added to the album Big John Harder



James Gelios - October 27, 2025 at 06:14 PM

EC

“ John was a really good guy and always busy doing things making wreaths etc...someone you could count on when things got “stupid” in the blocks. My condolences to the family. Eddie Colorida

Eddie Colorida - October 27, 2025 at 05:48 PM

PP

“ John was a wonderful guy, great partner and friend. Praying for Joyce and the family.

Pamela Peck-Gagne - October 27, 2025 at 05:18 PM