



John Martin Wilk, Jr.

June 8, 1941 - July 19, 2024

Obituary for John M. Wilk, Jr.

Memorial Visitation Saturday, August 17, 2024 from 4-8pm at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, Inc., 36900 Schoenherr at Metro Parkway (16 Mile). Please share memories with the family at their online guestbook @ Wujek-Calcaterra.com

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation to the American Heart Association (<https://ahatribute.funraise.org/fundraiser/vincent-wilk>)

John M. Wilk, Jr. passed away on July 19, 2024. He was 83. He is survived by his sons Vincent Wilk (Tanya Powell), Matthew Wilk and Martin Wilk, grandchildren Mark, Elizabeth, Aaron and Alexander Wilk, his sister Carolyn Collins, many nieces and nephews, and his second wife's children Sandy and Patrick Johnson. He was predeceased by his wife of almost 40 years (Nina Wilk) and his wife of 16 years (Judy Johnson).

John was born in 1941 in Philadelphia. His mother Jean ran a small convenience store in Northeast Philadelphia and was later a homemaker, and his father John Sr. worked for J&L Steel. In the 1950's, his family moved to Roseville, Michigan, where John later graduated high school. In 1961, he enlisted in the Air Force, serving at Lackland AFB in San Antonio and Rome

AFB in New York, where he was stationed during the Cuban Missile Crisis. John received a Good Conduct Medal before being honorably discharged in 1964.

He then returned to Detroit and enrolled at Wayne State University. One afternoon in the student union, he approached an attractive young woman who was eating lunch and reading a book, and who he thought was somehow disabled (but soon discovering she was merely slouching). Despite that awkward start, Anita (Nina) agreed to a date, then another, and then more still. John and Nina married in 1968. They settled in Sterling Heights had three children.

John graduated from Wayne State, ultimately earning a Bachelor's degree in political science and a Master's degree in teaching. He taught for over 30 years in the Warren Consolidated Schools district, beginning at Cousino HS, then Mott HS, Warren HS, and finally at Sterling Heights HS. His favorite subjects were government and history, and he taught driver's education during the summer. He retired from teaching in 2000 and, sadly, Nina passed away in 2005.

In 2007, John married Judy Johnson, with whom he lived faithfully until her death in 2023. They enjoyed socializing and traveling, particularly to see Judy's son and grandchildren in Phoenix.

At the end of his life, John had the help of wonderful caregivers at home and at the Chelsea Retirement Community. At CRC, he enjoyed frequent visits from his sister Carolyn, her children and grandchildren, and her poodle Frida.

John had a family who loved him and cared for him, was kind and helpful, and always sought to see the best in the people he met. He lived long and lived well. We can all only hope to achieve the same.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

AUG 17. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling
36900 SCHOENHERR RD
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Tribute Wall



“ *Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of John Martin Wilk, Jr.*



Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. - August 16, 2024 at 03:43 PM

SS

“ *Mr. Will was one of my favorite teachers at Mott. I wasn't the best student but he still took time for me. May God bless his family during this difficult time.*

Sharee (Pazdro) Schroeder - August 15, 2024 at 02:30 PM

VW

Thank you, Sharee. Very kind of you.

Vincent Wilk - August 19, 2024 at 11:33 AM

SJ

“ 5 files added to the album John & Judy



Sandy Johnson - August 15, 2024 at 12:51 PM

VW

Sandy, thank you for these. Nice pics. Much appreciated.

Vincent Wilk - August 19, 2024 at 11:34 AM

SC

“ I worked with John at Sterling Heights High School. He was a very kind man and I always enjoyed talking to him. So sorry for your loss!

Suzanne Cassidy - August 13, 2024 at 12:25 PM

VW

Thank you, Suzanne.

Vincent Wilk - August 19, 2024 at 11:34 AM

MM

“ John was a good man who loved, supported & encouraged his children and grandchildren. Maureen & Jim Montgomery

Maureen Montgomery - August 11, 2024 at 07:41 AM



Thanks, Maureen. Hope you and Jim are well.

Vincent Wilk - August 19, 2024 at 11:34 AM