



John "Bird" Hanson

May 19, 1944 - September 24, 2015

John C. Hanson

RACINE-John Charles Hanson, age 71, passed away Thursday, September 24, 2015, at Froedtert Hospital and Medical College of WI due to heart failure.

John, known to his friends as 'Bird,' was born May 19, 1944, in Racine, the youngest son of Ralph and Alice Hanson. John married his wife Sharon in 1975, who survives him along with their two daughters, Laura and Jennifer, both of Milwaukee, WI; his son-in-law Justin Williams and his grandsons Jaedin and Marshall John. He is also survived by one brother Bill Hanson and Janice O'Rourke of Eagle, WI; his sister-in-law Mary Hanson of Elkhorn, WI; three nephews and four nieces, three great nephews, five great nieces and many faithful friends who loved him during his life. Also surviving him are all of his South Dakota relatives. John was preceded in death by both of his parents, his brothers Alan and Bob Hanson, and his father-in-law, Frank Fisher.

John attended Sacred Heart Catholic School; St. Catherine's High School; M.A.T.C. and the University of WI, Oshkosh. He spent his whole life in Racine, and made lifelong friends from the neighborhood on Spring Street where he grew up, as well as at Sacred Heart, St. Cat's, his card games, fishing trips and golfing.

In 1966 he was drafted into the United States Army and served until 1968. In January, 1969, he was hired to work for the City of Racine Health Department. From 1972 until 1985 he was Director of Air Pollution Control for Racine County. In 1985, he moved to the Racine County Department of Planning and Zoning, and in 1993 he graduated from UW - Parkside with a Bachelor's degree in Geography. John retired from Racine County Public Service in 2000 and enjoyed his golden years golfing, traveling to golf and watching golf on television. In addition to his love of golf, John never missed a chance to spend time with his wife and daughters, or his namesake, Marshall John, whom he affectionately nicknamed, "Little Buddy." He loved going for a drive, stopping for a sandwich with friends or family, and musicals. An avid sports fan, John religiously followed all Wisconsin sports from high school to professional, especially the Packers, Brewers, and Badgers. John was a generous, selfless and kindhearted man who will be deeply missed.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2201 Northwestern Ave. on Friday, October 2, 2015 at twelve noon. There will be a visitation at Sturino Funeral Home on Thursday evening from 5 until 7 p.m. and will continue on Friday at church from 11 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. John will be laid to rest in a private ceremony at Graceland Cemetery.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home
3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
(262) 632-4479
info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Visitation

OCT 2. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2201 Northwestern Ave
Racine, WI

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 2. 12:00 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2201 Northwestern Ave
Racine, WI

Tribute Wall



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John "Bird" Hanson*



Sturino Funeral Home - September 29, 2015 at 11:52 AM

LH

The service and video was so well done. It was so helpful for the grieving process to have so many people show their love and support.

Laura Hanson - October 17, 2015 at 10:39 AM

WE

“ *We are very sorry to hear about John's passing. We got to know him a bit when we moved into Al and Jude's old house many years ago. He was so friendly and always had a smile on his face. Thinking of all of you, The Kelly Family*

wendy - October 10, 2015 at 11:29 PM

GF

“ *We wish so much that We could be there to share in your sorrow and offer hugs and condolences. John was such an amazing Husband, Father and role model. His smile and sense of humor will be sorely missed by all that knew him. We were so blessed to have him in our lives. Know we are praying for you all. Gene and Chrissy Fisher Family*

Gene and Chrissy Fisher Family - October 02, 2015 at 09:27 AM

AS

Thanks Gene and Chrissy!

Aunt Sharon - October 04, 2015 at 02:24 AM

BN

“ *John was so welcoming to our family. We will miss John's smile and friendly humor (about how great the Packers are vs the Bears,) We will do what we can to tell Marshall about him and how much he loved him. Betty & Ben Newhouse*

Betty Newhouse - October 01, 2015 at 02:56 PM

SH

Thanks, Betty and Ben!

Sharon - October 04, 2015 at 02:25 AM

JE

Not much made my dad more happy than seeing our two families embrace each other, especially the last few years of holidays XOXOX

Jen - October 04, 2015 at 01:12 PM

JR

“ *I was very sad to learn of Johns passing. John was a wonderful neighbor always willing to lend a hand and share a story. Always so proud to update on the kids and his golf adventures. My thoughts and prayers to the family. Jodi Runkel.*

Jodi Runkel - September 30, 2015 at 10:33 PM

SH

Thanks, Jodi!

Sharon - October 04, 2015 at 02:26 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - September 30, 2015 at 05:25 PM



“ 59 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - September 29, 2015 at 11:13 AM



“ *The Hannett Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John "Bird" Hanson.*



The Hannett Family - September 27, 2015 at 07:18 PM

RF

“ Ray & Deb Hannett fam; Will & Pam Reis fam; & Janice Fisher purchased the Blooming Garden Basket for the family of John "Bird" Hanson.



Ray & Deb Hannett fam; Will & Pam Reis fam; & Janice Fisher -
September 27, 2015 at 02:10 PM

RF

“ John was a kind man with a big heart. I knew him for over 50 years. He was a good friend. Very loyal and would give you the shirt off his back.
His sense of humor was fantastic.

Loved him.

Rocky and Janice Falaschi

Rocky Falaschi - September 27, 2015 at 01:42 PM

SH

Thanks, Rocky and Janice!

Sharon - October 04, 2015 at 02:27 AM

MF

“ Mary F. purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of John "Bird" Hanson.



Mary F. - September 26, 2015 at 07:42 PM