



John L. Copley

September 10, 1949 - October 2, 2011

Dateline: Grafton

John L. Copley, 62, died peacefully at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, October 2, 2011 at his home with family by his side. Born September 10, 1949 in Alton, he was the son of Robert and Nancy (Graves) Copley of Godfrey. Mr. Copley was a meat and poultry inspector for the State of Illinois Department of Agriculture. He served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam and was a member of the Godfrey Congregational Church. He was a member of the Elks Lodge in Jerseyville and served as a board member and past president of the Jersey Community Unit School District 100. On February 14, 1998 in St. Louis, MO, he married the former Janet Fowler. She survives. Also surviving are two sons, Robert Joseph Copley and his wife Katherine of Madison, WI, and Erik Thomas Copley of Jacksonville, IL, one granddaughter, Maci Katherine Copley of Madison, WI, one sister, Susan Grothaus and her husband David of Fayetteville, AR, and five brothers, Christopher Copley and his wife Ginny of Grafton, Timothy Copley and his wife Mary Lou of Godfrey, Jeffrey Copley and his wife Sheila of Pana, Joel Copley of Rochester, NY and David Copley of Godfrey. He was a dear son, father, husband, brother-in-law, uncle, great uncle and friend to all. Private graveside services will be on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at Godfrey Cemetery with full military honors by the Alton VFW Post 1308. A memorial visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. until time of memorial service at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 6, 2011 at the Godfrey Congregational

Church. Reverend Jerry McCaskey will officiate. Memorials may be made to the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) or the Jersey Community Unit School District 100 Foundation. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements.

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Tribute Wall



“ *John L. Copley*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *John L. Copley*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Bob and Nancy and the Copley clan; I am so sorry I could not make the memorial service, but that was the run through for Vintage Voices. I always looked forward to John's political insights whenever we met and he will be truly missed.*

Kerry Miller - October 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Even though it happens all the time, death is something we will never get used to. It's just something we have to deal with because of the sin we inherited from our first parents Adam & Eve.*

(Romans 5:12) Our loving heavenly Father promises that the dead will live again and also that one day death will be done away once and for all. (Isaiah 26:19) This is something I know everyone can look forward to. My sympathy is with you.

A. Jackson - October 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ Janet,

I am very sorry for your loss. I like to believe that when we lose someone close to us they still live through us and give us strength. I hope you will stay strong with all the blessings and memories.

Elsie Luo - October 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Dear Nancy, Bob, and Family,

I was so sad to hear about John passing away. What a wonderful, fun, kind person he was...my life is much richer for knowing him. I can still hear his beautiful voice, singing in the High School musical.

His body is done, but his soul lives on, and his memory lives on in all of us.

Blessings & Love ~ Patty

Sandpoint, Idaho

Pat Titus DuBuisson - October 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Aunt Janet, you weigh heavily on my heart today. You and all of Uncle John's family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Sarah Thompson - October 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ Janet

I am so sorry for you loss. I'm thinking and you and your family. May your heart and soul find peace and comfort.

Gwen Reber - October 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Janet, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my prayers.

Tina Miles - October 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Janet and family,

Our heartfelt symapthy to you at this time of loss of your dear husband/best friend. Please know you are in our prayers and may you feel the arms of Christ surround you with comfort.

Cindy Heidorn - October 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the Copley family during this time of grief. We also celebrate the life of a caring man who made our lives happier along the way.

Jack and Barb Wepler

Barb Mendenhall Wepler - October 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Dear Nancy, Bob, Janet and all those Copley kids I once knew. I am so shocked about John's death and so saddened for your loss. Please know that all of the Cronk family remembers him fondly and extends our sincere sympathies to each of you.

Connie Cronk Linn - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ Dearest Janet,

We were so sorry to hear of John's passing. God has ended John's suffering and taken him home. I pray that God will send you the strength and peace you need during this time. Please know that you and the boys are always in our thoughts and prayers.

Perry, Sandy and Jacqui Rogers - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ Dear Janet,

Words cannot express my feelings for your loss. I considered John my friend and will always remember our phone conversations while he waited to talk to you.

My prayers are with you and the family. If there is anything I can do, ask and consider it done.

Love,

Aaron

Aaron Jolly - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Janet,

You are in my thoughts and prayers. I wish peace for you and your family as you navigate this difficult time of loss.

Kim Rokyta - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Janet,

My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family during this difficult time.

Take Care!

Sherri Mank

Sherri Mank - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ JOHN WAS ONE OF THE MOST FUN. HAPPY, LIKEABLE PEOPLE I'VE EVER KNOWN..I'VE KNOW ALL THE "COPLEY" MY ENTIRE LIFE" THEY ARE ALL WONDERFUL CARING PEOPLE AND FRIENDS... MY HEART GOES OUT TO YOU JANET AND NANCY AND BOB....BUT KNOW HE IS OVER HIS LONG STRUGGLE HE HAS HAD LAST FEW YEARS.....HE IS PROBABLLY UP IN HEAVEN SING AND PLANNING A PLAY LIKE HE DID IN ALTON LITTLE THREATRE.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL. WE WILL MISS HIM BUT NEVER FORGET HIM....I AM SO GLAD HE WAS PART OF MY LIFE.

A FRIEND ALWAYS,

SUSAN DARR GARRISON

GODFREY, IL.

SUSAN DARR GARRISON - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

IS

“ *Extending deep and heartfelt sympathy to you and your family.*

Imola Szilagyi - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *Janet, Erik, & BJ,*

I am so very sorry for your loss. You are all in my prayers. Cousin John will be missed. I am thankful for he is no longer suffering, but am aching for you all.

Love & Sympathy,

Jennifer

Jennifer Copley-Thompson - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ *Janet,*

My heartfelt sympathy on the loss of your husband. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Jane Nothaker

Jane Nothaker - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Janet, I am so sorry for your loss. You, as well as the Copley Family are in my prayers.

Karen Rose - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Our deepest sympathy to the family. Although we only knew him for a few years, he was a kind and gracious man, full of energy and enjoyed life. May you continue to have fond memories of him in your heart.

Ray and Jill Podraza - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ I am so sorry to hear of John's passing. I wish there was something i could say to take the pain away. Your family has always been a wonderful part of my life and wanted you to know I am deeply saddened by your loss and so sorry for the hurt in your hearts. I am here for you. Love you all, Kimmy (told Daddy in my prayers to watch over him till he gets used to his wings...)

kim willis - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Very sorry to hear of my friend John's passing.... we had known each other since second grade at Godfrey Elementary school. The Copley family is like a "Godfrey Landmark" and will endure these unhappy times. My thoughts are with you all..... Dave

Dave Wickenhauser - October 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ I am honored to have known John Copley and to have him as my brother-in-law. He was a fighter that never gave up even when the odds were against him. He was a good father to his two sons and a good husband to my sister Janet. John was the type of person that was fun to be around and yet dedicated to his public service on the school board. He will be missed by many as his soul moves on to a better, more peaceful life, that his Lord has promised him.

Richard W. Fowler - October 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM