



John L. McDaniels

October 3, 1933 - November 17, 2022

John Louis McDaniels, 89, died at 8:17 p.m. Thursday, November 17, 2022 at Alton Memorial Hospital.

He was born October 3, 1933, in Alton, IL, the son of John C. and Carrie E. (Kortkamp) McDaniels. He married the first love of his life, Betty Verble, June 20, 1964. She passed away March 6, 2011.

Jacqueline Wiseman became a close and dear friend after his wife's death. She survives.

A 1951 graduate of Alton High School, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy and a Master's degree in Mathematics Education from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. He was a member of the honor societies, Tau Beta Pi (Engineering), Sigma Pi Sigma (Physics), and Kappa Delta Pi (Education). He was a Registered Professional Engineer in Illinois and Missouri, and a licensed Commercial Pilot. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1954 to 1956 at Ladd AFB in Fairbanks, Alaska.

A research and development engineer at McDonnell Douglas for fourteen years, he specialized in research on outer space projects using cryogenics and vacuum technology. He then taught mathematics for twenty-one years at

Lewis and Clark Community College and coordinated the Engineering Transfer Program and the Water and Wastewater Technology Programs.

He was a 35-year member of the Kiwanis Club of Alton-Godfrey and served as secretary for many years. He was a Distinguished President and Distinguished Secretary of his Kiwanis club. He was a fifty-six-year member of Twelfth Street Presbyterian Church in Alton and served as a Deacon, Trustee, and Elder. Upon the church's closing, John became a member of the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Godfrey. He was a director on the Alton Museum of History and Art Board. John volunteered his time after retirement to his churches, Kiwanis, and SCORE. He was a devoted 25-year member of the Clyde Wiseman's Men's Bible Study. He was a 2008 Man of Distinction awarded by the Alton YWCA. His professional career was recognized by inclusion in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in Science and Technology, and other publications.

John loved to travel with his wife, Betty, with trips to Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and many places in the United States and Canada. The couple enjoyed many summer vacations visiting family on Cape Cod.

In addition to Betty and his parents, he was preceded in death by sisters, Elizabeth Arnold, Virginia Wallace, Elsa McDaniels, and nephews, Jeffrey Arnold and James Arnold.

He is survived by nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until time of memorial service at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 14, 2023 at the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Godfrey. Reverend Jerry McCaskey will officiate. Burial will be private at Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Godfrey or the Alton-Godfrey Kiwanis Foundation, 5118 Staten Drive, Godfrey, IL 62035.

Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memorial Park

Godfrey, IL 62035

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ
1212 Homer Adams Parkway
Godfrey, IL 62035

Memorial Service

JAN 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ
1212 Homer Adams Parkway
Godfrey, IL 62035

Tribute Wall



“ *John L. McDaniels*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *John L. McDaniels*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Many memories together at SCORE and Lewis and Clark Community College. I send my condolences.*

Michael McNamee, Sr - December 28, 2022 at 04:24 PM



“ *Uncle John, you and Aunt Betty were two of the most selfless people I knew. You both loved your family fiercely. You will be missed just as much. Thank you for being a wonderful example for so many young people, including me. I love you*

Karen Verble - December 12, 2022 at 09:31 PM



“ *Uncle John, I can't even put into words what you and Betty have meant to me. I love and miss you so much I still can't believe it. I knew this day would come but not now. Ann and I enjoyed our visit very much with you and Jacqueline last year. You lived a long and wonderful life with Betty and now you can be together again. I am so happy that Jacqueline was there for you and to watch over you. I will never forget all of the words of wisdom you gave me. Rest in Pease! Tracie*

Tracie Hayden - December 07, 2022 at 12:49 PM

MW

Peggy Wedgwood

The best uncle ever. Betty was the best too. Jacqueline., you were/ are a Godsend. Remember John bringing us for a ride in his airplane when Bill and I were newlyweds in 1972. Remember the many visits to Mom and Dad's house on the Cape and all the fun we had! You were the best!!

margaret Wedgwood - December 08, 2022 at 01:38 PM

CB

“ *John was a close friend of my parents, Doris and Harold Hetherington. He and Betty were neighbors and church friends. John and Betty would visit my parents at their summer home in Michigan. I know they're all having fun together once again!*

Carol Bogle - December 01, 2022 at 11:11 AM



“ *What a kind a gentle man you were. Now you can be with the one you have longed for so long, your sweet Betty. I loved you both so much it was a blessing to have you both as a friend.*

Maureen Kolkmeier - November 30, 2022 at 09:16 AM