



# John J. Collins

DEC 30, 1959 - AUG 4, 2013



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## **John J. Collins**

DEC 30, 1959 - AUG 4, 2013

**J**ohn J. Collins, 53, passed away in Costa Rica on August 4, 2013. He fell off a ladder on July 29, 2013, hit the back of his head on the floor and never recovered. John grew up in Jamesville, NY and graduated from Jamesville-Dewitt High School. He moved to California and sailed the Pacific Ocean for many years on The Monatue, a 170 foot sailboat. John married Marianne Breslan, they had one daughter, Margaux and traveled around the world. Always first class: Indonesia, China, India, Galapagos Islands, Australia, Chile, Poland, New Zealand and Easter Island. He attended the University of California, Berkeley College. John was a computer programmer, had a Captain License, bought and sold real estate, he could build a house and custom build a boat. An excellent swimmer, he would dive off a mountain into the ocean, could hold his breath for five minutes and dive for pearls with the natives.

John is survived by his loving wife, Marianne; one daughter, Margaux; father, Thomas J. Collins; mother, Mary Collins-Triggs; mother-in-law, Irene Teterin of Costa Rica; step-father, Marvin Triggs. He was the grandson of James and Mary Kenny, Genevieve and James Kearney Collins, both from Syracuse, both deceased and the nephew of Sister Annemae Kenny C.S.J. of Latham, NY.

He also leaves behind 4 brothers, Thomas J. (Kathy) Collins of San Rafael, CA; Edward (Teddy) Collins and Stephen P. (Jennifer) Collins of Jamesville, NY and Joseph P. (Virginia) Collins of Clay, NY; 4 sisters, Carolyn (John) Hobbs of Lynchburg, VA; Joanne June of Jamesville; Louanne Collins of Forestport and Monica Merola of North Syracuse along with 26 nieces and nephews and 7 great-nieces.

Family and friends are invited to attend a memorial service in celebration of John's life on Sunday, September 1, 2013 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Rd. (corner of Buckley Rd.) North Syracuse, NY.



# Events


**John J. Collins**

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## Service

 **Sunday**, September 1, 2013

 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM ET

 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**  
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212





## Tribute Wall

**John J. Collins**

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**Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home** shared a **Tribute Video**.



August 3 at 8:00 PM



**Linda Herrick** posted:

I live in Novato, CA. I did not know John, but did know his brother Tom, wife Kathy and the girls. If he was anything like his brother, Tom, he was a wonderful addition to the human race. My heartfelt condolences go out to the whole Collins family. Linda Herrick

August 31 at 2:23 PM



**Beth Hanson** posted:

John was an amazing man. I had the great privilege of working with him and Marianne at Via Diva, and my memory of him is that of a strong and very capable man of many talents, not the least of which was his excellent sense of humor which is one of the many fine qualities that made it a such a pleasure to share any day with him. Almost every day there was a trail of visitors to see John and hang out with him because he was just such a wonderful fellow and so knowledgeable in so many areas. He was so interesting to talk to because he was genuinely interested in so many diverse things, and really good with people, too - no wonder the role of ship's captain suited him so well. But more than that, he was such an able captain of the good ship John Collins. I miss you, Mistersea...and the only comfort that I take in your passing is the knowledge that you really did live your life to the fullest - spinnaker unfurled - there are few that actually dare to do that. With great affection and many fond memories, Beth Hanson

August 29 at 6:52 PM



**Gary Boisseau** posted:

We were very sorry to hear of your loss, Please accept our condolences for your loss. Gary & Karen Boisseau & Joan Knapp

August 29 at 10:28 AM



## Tribute Wall

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DB

**Delphine Bastide** posted:

Dear Marianne, Margaux and Collins family, please allow me to express my deepest condolences. I am out of words to tell you how deeply sadden and sorry I am to hear of John's passing. With genuine sympathy, Delphine Bastide

August 28 at 12:16 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Collins family.



August 28 at 12:12 PM

Jl

**Jane Blakley-Izzo** posted:

Collins Family - I am so sorry for your loss. I remember you all from childhood in Eastwood. Johnny was the cute baby brother when you moved into the neighborhood. My first introduction to him was when he was about 2 years old, running up the street naked with a can of Raid, laughing his head off. Moose (Tommy) was trying to chase him down. Turns out he had escaped while Mom was tending to the other little ones and was on his way to Grandma Kenney's a block away. (Still not sure how the lack of clothing and spraying of insecticide factored in to it all, though.) It sounds like he never lost his sense of humor and adventure. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Rest in peace, Johnny. Jane Blakley-Izzo Minoa, New York

August 20 at 6:15 AM

GV

**George And Joyce Vibbert** lit a candle in honor of John.



August 19 at 5:53 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RM

**Robin Medler** posted:

Mary, Mr. Collins, Carolyn, John's wife and daughter, all of you, I was so saddened to read in the paper yesterday of John's passing. The Collins family was my family during High School. John was a kind fun loving individual and he did great things with the 53 years he was given. My heart breaks for all of you. Fondly, Robin Moskal Medler

August 19 at 5:12 AM

BT

**Brad And Judy Tenhave** August 29 at 11:54 AM

We are so sorry for your loss of a loved one. Please know that we are thinking about you all. Brad and Judy Tenhave

DW

**David A Wagner** posted:

R.I.P. Way to young . You will be rembered.

August 18 at 3:41 PM

EH

**Elyse Harold** posted:

Chere Marianne, Nos pensees sont avec toi et Margaux ainsi que la famille. Il n'y a pas de mots pour signifier la tristesse que nous avons pour vous . John a quitte ce monde trop tot et sera manque par tous les siens. Il sera toujours votre arc en ciel. Nos sympathies les plus sinceres. Elyse & Gerry Harold

August 18 at 8:39 AM

JB

**John Brayman** posted:

To the Collins Family, I am saddened and sorry to hear of your loss. I remember the days when you still lived in Eastwood, all the fun we had together as kids. John was truly an inspiration and kind loving person, He will be Dearly missed and not forgotten, My prayers and thoughts go out to the whole family. God Bless you all.

August 18 at 7:45 AM



## Tribute Wall

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CB

**Callie Barr** posted:

Our thoughts And Prayers Are With Your Family During This Time Of Sadnes. Callie, Tim And Terri Barr

August 18 at 4:05 AM

KH

**Kurt V. Harer** lit a candle in honor of John.

Hi: my name is Kurt Harer from Constantia, NY. I knew John in High School, and thoughtvery highly of him, and do remember his sister Lou-Anne a little bit. This is quite a shock to me, and want to express my deepest and heartfelt condolences to the Collins Family.From reading his obituary, he was quite talented. God Bless you John, as I know you arewith our Lord, our God now. Rest in Peace, you were one of the good ones.



August 16 at 7:20 PM

PF

**Paula Fava** posted:

You ARE the light now John! May you continue to shine as brightly from the beyond as you did here on this Earth ... for everyone's life you touched. Marianne & Margaux ... my love flows to you both & with you both. Know that I will be in Jupiter with you ... as soon as you need. Please don't hesitate to call ... anytime, now or into the future. You all were there for me with Donnie's passing ... and, I am forever grateful & indebted. With all my love & blessings, Paula

August 16 at 2:04 PM

MD

**Morgan Doyle** posted:

Tom Sr. and family -- Gone too soon, but it was a life well lived. I always enjoyed hearing about Johns's travels. Please know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers as he embarks on this latest adventure. With deepest sympathy -- Morgan Doyle

August 16 at 12:12 PM



## Tribute Wall

**John J. Collins**

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DG

**Danielle Gallagher** posted:

So deeply sorry to hear about John's passing. My husband and I met John and Marianne in SF through our friends Ed and Nancie. John was a warm, funny and interesting person. He'll always be in the hearts of everyone that knew him. Our condolences to Marianne, Margaux and John's extended family and friends.

August 16 at 9:48 AM

CR

**Charlie Rodrigues** posted:

Tom.....very sorry to hear of your loss, Sincerely, Charlie Rodrigues

August 16 at 9:40 AM

ED

**Emily Dain** posted:

Our condolences to all the Collins family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sincerely, Greg McKnight and family

August 16 at 7:19 AM

LI

**Lisa** lit a candle in honor of John.



August 16 at 7:03 AM

LI

**Lisa** posted:

My heart goes out to your family and friends. Although it had been years since we last saw each other reuniting with you on FB 2 years ago just wonderful. I loved following your and your families adventures and lived life vicariously through your journeys. I know you are now enjoying the endless blue sky and calm seas and can only imagine the new journey you are taking. RIP John, you've sailed away but will always remain.

August 16 at 6:57 AM



## Tribute Wall

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JC

**Josephine Campbell** posted:

Tom Sr, and family, So sorry to hear of John's passing, you are all in our thoughts and prayers.  
Josephine Campbell & Al Brisson.

August 16 at 6:35 AM

TC

**Therese Carroll** posted:

Thoughts and heartfelt prayers to the entire Collins Family. We were saddened to hear of John's passing. He lived life to the fullest! God Bless you all. Therese & Vinnie Carroll

August 16 at 4:12 AM

MV

**Mark Vanslyke** posted:

Lou Lu and Monica, I am so sorry for your loss. I lost contact with John since high school but often thought of him. He was a good friend and always had a good attitude and a perpetual smile. I read about him sailing around the world and thought maybe he had the right idea, life is short and he always made the most of it. He will be missed. Take care, I will pray for you all. Mark Van Slyke ( Viking) mvanslyke@msn.com

August 16 at 2:09 AM

JS

**Joe Sabo** August 29 at 7:26 AM

Tom Sr. and all the Collins Family my Heart goes out to you for the loss of John. He was my Captain, my Friend, and like a Brother to me. We shared many adventures together at sea and his Adventurous Spirit and never ending humor brought light to the stormiest sky. He lived life to the fullest and brought much joy to all who knew him. He had the Spirit of the Manutea Bird that is called the " Little White Bird of the Everlasting Sky" He will be missed but his Spirit lives on in all of us. When I was depressed and homesick and I asked how he could joke about the worst possible situation no matter how bad things were. He just said " weather Good Or Bad, this too will pass " and just walked away and let me dwell on that. That stuck with me from then on. Bon Voyage Captain John, Fair winds and following seas.



## Media

**John J. Collins**

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a **Tribute Video**.

August 3 at 8:00 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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