



John H. Mills

JUN 3, 1940 - DEC 4, 2019



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John H. Mills

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John H. Mills, 79, passed away on December 4, 2019 at St. Joseph's Hospital with his loving wife by his side. John was born in Paterson, NJ, and lived in Liverpool, NY for the past 52 years. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1962, and then moved to Kansas where he served in the US Army as a Captain with the 4th Cavalry Regiment at Fort Riley. John's wife Joyce joined him in Fort Riley soon after she graduated from college, they were married in Manhattan, Kansas as soon as he was given a 3-day leave. He was amused to this day that they were told "If the Army wanted you to have a wife, we would have issued you one." When he finished his time at Fort Riley, John and Joyce moved to Syracuse to be closer to their extended family. He was Honorably Discharged from the Army in June 1972 and was a member of the Cicero American Legion Post #0787. Their only child, Jenny, was born in 1971. The Mills family enjoyed vacationing to Vermont each summer, where they visited with cousins while staying at a camp on 'Franklin Pond' (Lake Carmi). He loved the outdoors, and some of his favorite memories were created when he met up with his father at a fishing hole along the Missisquoi River, and another secret spot in Roscoe, NY. The Mills family always had a great time with each other, especially while Jenny was growing up. They enjoyed hiking Jay Peak, Camels Hump, and the Long trail, as well as fishing, skiing, canoeing, kayaking and camping. He was a phenomenal father and went so far on one Christmas Eve as thumping around the attic while shaking and jingling bells, (which his daughter managed to sleep right through). John was known as a gentle and kind man in his neighborhood, and the doorbell would ring on occasion with a neighborhood child asking if "Mr. Mills could come out and play?"

John could fix anything. He took pride in a well-maintained house and lawn. He very much enjoyed yard work, and this was obvious to everyone that visited. John and Joyce were married for 56 years. They were the love of each other's life. He often called Joyce "A Wizard in the Kitchen." They enjoyed traveling together and took annual trips to Florida and Maine. John followed



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college sports religiously and enjoyed listening to music. Most of all though, he enjoyed spending time with his family.

John worked for more than 30 years as a Plant Manager for Gaylord Brothers in Liverpool, and then for OCPL at the Petit Branch.

He is predeceased by his parents, Malcolm E. and Opal E. (Parsons) Mills, and his sister, Mary Jane Mills Sheely. John is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joyce (Flesher) Mills; his daughter, Jennifer J. Mills of Denver, CO and nephews, Phillip and Paul Sheely.

A Funeral Service in celebration of John's life will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6pm at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Rd. (corner of Buckley Rd.) North Syracuse, NY.




Events


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Funeral Service

 **Wednesday**, December 11, 2019

 6:00 PM ET

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





Tribute Wall

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



December 10 at 4:58 AM



Anonymous sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the Mills family.



December 10 at 7:01 AM



Anonymous sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Mills family.



December 9 at 4:38 PM



Anonymous sent a Heartfelt Memories to the Mills family.



December 9 at 3:49 PM



SM

Silvia Macor posted:

I worked with John at Petit Branch in the 90s. We were the Thursday night team. John was a truly special man. The world lost a great guy. My deepest condolences to Joyce and Jennifer. He talked about you with true love and admiration.

December 9 at 4:58 AM



AE

Art And Peggy Edgarian posted:

Joyce and Jennifer, we were so sad to hear of Johns passing. Our deepest sympathy to you both. Although we didn't know John/your dad, we have heard many stories about what a great life you all had together. With all the fond memories may you both have peace within you to get you through this sad time. Let us know if we can help in anyway. Our love to you both, Art and Peggy Edgarian.

December 7 at 10:36 AM



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DR

Deborah Robinson posted:

Joyce and Jen- we are so sorry to hear of John's passing. We will remember him as a quiet giant . Thoughts and prayers. Deb and Dan Robinson

December 7 at 4:40 AM

MS

Mary Kay And John Schramm posted:

Joyce and Jen: Please accept our sympathy at the passing of John/Dad. I will always remember him not only as a neighbor but the handyman who fixed the leg of my chair. You both are in my thoughts and prayers.

December 7 at 3:39 AM



Media

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

December 10 at 4:58 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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