



John Kowalyshyn Jr.

APR 28, 2025



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Introvigne
Funeral Home, Inc.

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John Kowalyshyn Jr.

APR 28, 2025

John Kowalyshyn Jr., a devoted family man, dedicated community servant, and lifelong sports enthusiast, passed away peacefully on April 28, 2025, at the age of 93. Born on May 4, 1931, in Willington, Connecticut, he was the beloved son of the late Mary (Gladzys) and John Kowalyshyn Sr.

John spent many years working at Stafford Ginger Ale before concluding his career with the Town of Stafford Public Works Department.

On April 12, 1952, John married the love of his life, Elinor Spusta with best friends Barry and Jackie Bradley by their sides. Together, they shared 64 wonderful years of marriage before her passing.

A proud and loyal member of the West Stafford Fire Department, John joined in 1952 and served faithfully for decades, including ten years as Fire Chief from 1979 to 1988. Among his proudest achievements was helping to build the pavilion at the firehouse alongside his close friends, Buddy Burke and Karl Gordon—a lasting testament to his deep commitment to service and community.

A passionate New York Yankees fan and enthusiastic supporter of UConn Men's and Women's Basketball, John rarely missed a game. His love of sports was rivaled only by his love for his family.

John is survived by his sons, John (Scott) Kowalyshyn and his wife Leigh, Shawn Kowalyshyn and his wife Kim, and his daughter-in-law Cheri Kowalyshyn. He was a proud grandfather to Jacob and his wife Brittany, Shawn and his fiancée Michelle, Ashley and her husband Dan, Luke and his partner Kathryn, and Kate and her husband Jimmy. He also leaves behind his cherished great-grandchildren: Grace, Isabella, Sophie, and baby Scarlett, expected to arrive in September.

John's circle of love extended beyond family to dear friends, especially Rod MacDonald and his wife Pam, whose friendship meant so much to him in recent years. He is also survived by many



Obituary

John Kowalyshyn Jr.

nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents and his beloved wife Elinor, John was predeceased by his son Keith Kowalyshyn, his grandson Brady Kowalyshyn, his sister Anna Furness, and his brothers Stephen and Lawrence Kowalyshyn.

John will be remembered for his unwavering dedication to others, his quirky sense of humor, and above all, the boundless love he had for his family, friends, and community.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, May 2, 2025 from 9:00-11:00 A.M., with a funeral service to take place at 11:00 A.M., at Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., 51 East Main St., Stafford Springs, CT. Burial will follow in West Stafford Cemetery, Stafford, CT. Memorial donations may be made to the West Stafford Fire Department, 144 West Stafford Rd., Stafford Springs, CT 06076. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com



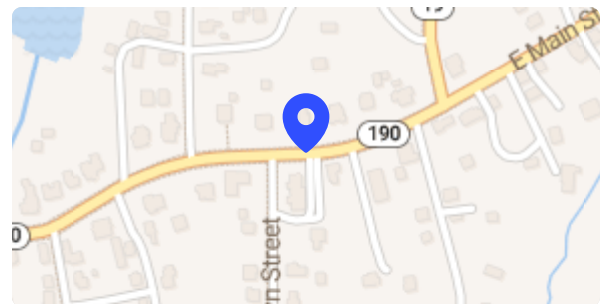
Visitation

- 📅 **Friday, May 2, 2025**
- 🕒 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
- 📍 **Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc.**
51 East Main St., Stafford Springs CT 06076



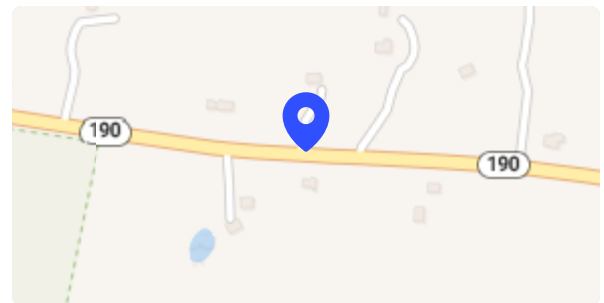
Service

- 📅 **Friday, May 2, 2025**
- 🕒 11:00 AM ET
- 📍 **Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc.**
51 East Main St., Stafford Springs CT 06076



Cemetery Details

- 📍 **West Stafford Cemetery**
Chestnut Hill Rd., Stafford Springs CT 06076





Tribute Wall

John Kowalyshyn Jr.

JM

Joe And Francine Mccaughey lit a candle in honor of John.

May 16 at 3:17 PM



EN

Ed Nelson lit a candle in honor of John.

May 12 at 3:03 AM



EN

Ed Nelson May 12 at 3:03 AM

May God Bless you and hold you close.

DS

Debbie Curnan Smothers lit a candle in honor of John.

May 10 at 1:31 PM



CD

Carl & Nadine Dalbon lit a candle in honor of John.

May 10 at 10:40 AM



TV

Ted Vonasek lit a candle in honor of John.

May 4 at 12:34 PM



JD

Judith Delbene posted:

We're very sorry for your loss. John and Judy DelBene

May 3 at 1:02 PM



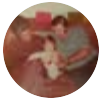
Tribute Wall

John Kowalyshyn Jr.

DI

Donna Irish lit a candle in honor of John.

May 2 at 5:43 AM



Richard Deary posted:

Always enjoyed conversations with John,great man

May 1 at 6:52 AM

FG

Fern Greene sent a virtual gift in honor of John.

May 1 at 5:45 AM



PB

Paul Burns lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 9:27 PM



MS

Mike Slattery lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 4:28 PM



SP

Scott And Lynnet Pierce sent a virtual gift in honor of John.

April 30 at 3:53 PM





Tribute Wall

John Kowalyszyn Jr.

RB

Rick And Linda Baker lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 11:49 AM



LG

Leslie Golas lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 11:06 AM



LE

Lisa Greene Everett lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 10:50 AM



LE

Lisa Greene Everett posted:

So very sorry for your loss. May he rest in peace. God bless.

April 30 at 10:49 AM

JM

Joann And Michael Milikowski lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 7:21 AM



PF

Peter Ference lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 5:40 AM



PF

Peter Ference April 30 at 5:42 AM
RIP John God Bless You



Tribute Wall

John Kowalyszyn Jr.

CS

Cheryl Santopietro lit a candle in honor of John.

So sorry for the loss of John. He and Elenor are together once again. My condolences to all of the family members.

April 30 at 5:13 AM



MF

Mandy Fisher posted:

John and Elinor were such good friends to my mom and dad, and she has such fond memories of the kids growing up. We are saddened to hear of John's passing and are sending thoughts of peace and friendship to you all. Gail and Mandy

April 30 at 5:01 AM

JM

Jill Ference-Moulton lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 3:37 AM



EN

Ed Nelson lit a candle in honor of John.

April 30 at 2:57 AM



EN

Ed Nelson April 30 at 2:58 AM

My God Bless you and hold you close.

RT

Ronald Tremblay lit a candle in honor of John.

Ron and Linda Tremblay

April 30 at 2:47 AM





Tribute Wall

John Kowalyshyn Jr.

AH

Angela & Jeremy Heynes sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Kowalyshyn family.



April 29 at 5:42 PM

DN

David Nash lit a candle in honor of John.



April 29 at 5:30 PM

TB

Teresa Tetrault Boivin posted:

I am so sorry to hear of John's passing. I will always remember him and Elinor and the boys at Fire House events. We all grew up together. John will be missed. I'm sure he's catching up with my dad, Sylvan and Richie, Louie and all of the other old timers from WSFD. RIP John!

April 29 at 2:24 PM

BN

Becky Zelonka Nash posted:

Shawn and Kim and to the rest of the family my deepest sympathy on the loss of John. May memories keep him in your hearts.

April 29 at 12:55 PM

MS

Mary Satkowski posted:

Godspeed my beloved "Grumpy Old Polak"..... I'll miss our banter :-)

April 29 at 12:27 PM

RD

Roger And Beverly Dalpian lit a candle in honor of John.

Beverly and I share our condolence to John's family. Roger and Beverly DalPian



April 29 at 12:26 PM



Tribute Wall

John Kowalyszyn Jr.

MS

Mary & Walter Smith posted:

Scott & Leigh, boy do I remember the Ref Sox Yankee "discussions" I had with your Dad. He gave so much to so many. God Bless all of you. Mary & Walter Smith

April 29 at 12:20 PM

DN

Donna Niewinski lit a candle in honor of John.

April 29 at 12:20 PM



LG

Lori A Gianantoni lit a candle in honor of John.

Our sincere condolences to John's family. Steve & Lori Gianantoni

April 29 at 12:11 PM



EW

Edward Webb lit a candle in honor of John.

Shawn and family so sorry for your loss I remember your dad well through little league he will be missed

April 29 at 11:59 AM



NR

Nancy Richens lit a candle in honor of John.

Sorry for your loss.

April 29 at 11:21 AM



HL

Harriet Levesque lit a candle in honor of John.

April 29 at 11:16 AM





Tribute Wall

John Kowalyszyn Jr.

BF

Buz & Donna Festi lit a candle in honor of John.



April 29 at 11:15 AM

AB

Aaron Blanchard lit a candle in honor of John.

My condolences to the family of John .he was one of the best person you could ever meet how work for the town of stafford public works and West Stafford fire department . I'm a ex member of Stafford springs & Staffordville fire department. I remember going there and seeing you a



April 29 at 10:13 AM

AB **Aaron Blanchard** April 29 at 10:15 AM
Around town you will be sadly missed

CL

Chief Richard A. Littell Ret posted:

RIP CHIEF, Thank you for your service and God bless you, may your ride to heaven be a peaceful one. I will always remember you as a fellow First Responders, a fellow Fire Chief, and most of all a great friend. You are missed but never forgotten my friend.

April 29 at 9:54 AM

MO

Mark Ostrowski lit a candle in honor of John.

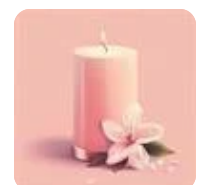
John was such a nice guy. Every time I met him he always had a smile and a hand shake. I'm very sorry for your loss.



April 29 at 8:36 AM

MP

Martha Panciera lit a candle in honor of John.



April 29 at 8:28 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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