



John Amrhein

April 2, 1948 - May 16, 2026

William "John" Amrhein Jr., age 78, of Chesterfield Township, Michigan, formerly of Sterling Heights and South Lyon, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 16, 2026, in Troy, Michigan.

He was born on April 2, 1948, in Howell, Michigan, to his late parents, William John and Wanda (née Verellen) Amrhein. He was a proud 1966 graduate of South Lyon High School and went on to build a remarkable 55-year career as a master electrician and dedicated member and serving many years on the retiree board of IBEW Local 58. Throughout his life, John believed in hard work, service, and commitment to his community.

John also devoted many years of service outside of his profession. He served for 40 years as a Board Member of Christian Financial Credit Union, helping guide and strengthen the organization through decades of growth. He was equally proud of his 20 years with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, serving as a Vessel Inspector where he found great purpose in helping keep boaters and waterways safe.

On August 7, 1970, at St. Edmund Catholic Church in Warren, Michigan, John married the love of his life, Julie Fischer. Together they built a life filled with love, laughter, family, and lasting memories, sharing 55 wonderful years of marriage.

He cherished time spent with his wife, children, grandchildren, and friends that always felt like family. John's children referred to him as "MacGyver". He could build, repair or fix anything and his services were always in need! He enjoyed family outings and gatherings, boating adventures, traveling, golfing, spending winters in Florida, and appreciating life's simple pleasures - especially a great glass of red wine or an ice-cold beer shared among good company. His warmth, humor, and easygoing nature made him someone people naturally gravitated toward.

Above all else, John treasured his family and was a loving and devoted husband, father, papa, brother, and uncle.

John is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years, Julie (nee' Fischer) Amrhein; his children, Amy (John) Pierce, Kristyn (Brent) Cubitt, and David (Lisa) Amrhein; and his cherished grandchildren, Abby, Ellen, Margaret, Caroline, John, Camille, and Madilynne.

He is also survived by his siblings, Diane (the late Bud) Wynings, Thomas (the late Deborah) Amrhein, and Terry (the late Jim) Isanhart; his brother-in-law, Larry (Jan) Fischer; along with many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Wanda (née Verellen) (Phil) Marentay and William John (Betty) Amrhein Sr.

John's legacy is one of dedication, service, generosity, and love for family. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him, but the memories he created and the lives he touched will continue to live on in the hearts of those who loved him.

Friends and family will gather to celebrate John's life with a memorial gathering and mass on Friday, May 22, 2026 at St. Hubert Catholic Church 38775 Prentis Street, Harrison Township, Michigan, gathering at 10am until time of mass 11am.

Inurnment Resurrection Cemetery Clinton Township, Michigan.

In memory of John donations to: MCREST 215 South Main Street, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 ~ <https://www.mcrest.org/give> or Trinity Lutheran Church - SSS Program- 45160 Van Dyke Ave., Utica, Michigan 48317 ~ <https://www.trinityutica.com/give>

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

MAY 22. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Hubert Catholic Church
38775 Prentiss Street
Harrison Township, MI 48045

Memorial Mass

MAY 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Hubert Catholic Church
38775 Prentiss Street
Harrison Township, MI 48045

Tribute Wall

PM

“ I am so sorry to hear about John. He was a wonderful individual and I am honored to have known him. Ron and I send you our deepest condolences to you and your family. RIP dear Friend. - COMO Patti Mitrowski & Ron Mitrowski

Patti Mitrowski - May 21 at 08:53 PM

BM

“ Please accept our condolences, Julie. Vicky and I will miss John and his participation in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. We will keep you in our prayers for John and the family.

BRIAN MARKO - May 21 at 11:48 AM

JD

“ My condolences to the family, John was a wonderful person. My prayers for John and the family. Joann D'Angelo (Bruder)

JoAnn D'Angelo - May 20 at 12:55 PM



“ I met John and Julie when they brought John's Jule into our marina. I was surprised by how much John reminded me of my late Uncle Bob! He looked JUST like him, acted an awful lot like him, and even spoke like him! Could've been his brother!

There's a fairly large group of friends at the marina, "The Bouvier OGs" lol! We go on several boating "rendezvous" each year and John's Jule was almost always apart of the group. I'd like to go on and on about the crazy antics we get up to on these trips... But I will spare everybody. If you were there, you know! I have lots of great memories, thanks to John!

Some days, it would just be rafting off out at Munchies. Passing drinks and hors d'oeuvre between the boats. Swimming on the sandbar, or floating on a raft.

It was easy to talk to John. He had so much wisdom to share! And was patient and happy to educate (which was ALWAYS appreciated!). I told him once, sitting around a bonfire, that I thought he might have missed his calling... He should've been a teacher!

Many of us in the marina, counted on John to help us stay safe out on the water. He did a USCG safety inspection on our boat at the start of every boating season. Patiently going over items required, making sure they were ready if needed and giving suggestions for items not necessarily required, but good to have at the ready. Cuz, ya never know! Proud to say, 'Magine That passed his inspection every year!

John was willing to have fun and get silly with the rest of us, but when it came to boating safety? He was all business! Being an airplane pilot, I respected that about John. There is a time and place for fun, but also a time or place for responsibility.

I am certainly going to miss John. I'm going to miss his sage advice. Friendly conversation. Corny jokes. Watching a pro stern-in John's

Julie, in a stiff gusty crosswind at Metro. The group of us riding out a tornado, in the bathrooms at Metro. And all the fun we had on those many trips!

Harley and I want to send our sincerest condolences to Julie and the rest of John's family. We may have lost John, but he certainly has left us with some great memories!

Chris Carver - May 19 at 10:56 PM

JA

“ *What a beautifully written piece honoring such a beautiful life! I wish I could have met your dad. He sounds like an accomplished, wonderful, strong human. No wonder his daughter is the same! Peace, love, and strength to you, Kristyn, and to your family. Love you, Jen Anderson*

jen anderson - May 19 at 12:06 PM

RO

“ *It's with great sadness to hear of your father's passing. My thoughts and prayers to you and your family.*

roseann - May 19 at 10:11 AM

RE

“ *Julie, we are so very sorry for your loss, and pray for peace and comfort. John was one of the 1st people we met in MBR, and we are blessed to know him. The Detroit Lions would be proud to call John a true fan. Many Blessings to friends and family alike. Rina & Kevin Eighmey*



Rina Eighmey - May 19 at 08:54 AM

AC

“ Kissy John, You fought the fight and you fought it well. The Lord said it was time and called you home. We will miss you and your kisses. We are all so happy that you are no longer in pain. Watch over all your family, guide them and keep them safe. We will see you again some day..❤️🙏
Julie and Family, Keep on keepin’ on for John. This is not going to be easy. I know I have seen it and lived it. Do what he would want you to do and carry on his legacy. Look after each other and please call or text me if I can help. Hugs 😊

April Cyrul - May 19 at 08:03 AM

RH

“ John, you were the kindest of souls. I remember sharing time on weekends when I came to your house. I was just a kid but old enough to babysit, lol. You were and remained kind to me, for decades. Your smile was heartwarming. You walked this world with grace and kindness towards everyone. Rest in peace and know what a light you shone during your time on this earth.

Robin Hembree - May 18 at 08:37 PM

DR

“ John, you will be missed! I've got years of great memories, from water skiing on Lime Kilm Lake, to hanging out at their place on Lake St. Clair and drinking beer on his boat! John was always ready with a witty remark or a homey saying. XXX Daniel

Daniel Rosenblum - May 18 at 12:32 PM

DR

“ 2 files added to the album Fond Memories



Daniel Rosenblum - May 18 at 12:27 PM

MF

“ From the day Ro wore that little blue flower girl dress, you guys were “Julie and John”. Sad to think that dynamic duo has, for the time being, been separated.
I’m sure he’s up there looking back on a life well-lived. And I hope you will all soon be able to remember the good times you’ve shared now that his fight is over.
Love to you all.

Maria Fischer - May 18 at 12:08 PM

RY

“ Julie, Amy, Kristen, David and your families,
My deepest sympathy for your loss.
What a good man, his battles are over. Rest in peace, John. Your family has its own personal angel in heaven.
Sincerely and with loads of love, Rosalie Youngblood

Rosalie A. Youngblood - May 18 at 11:27 AM

CM

“ John leaves behind the kind of legacy that cannot be measured simply by years, but by the countless lives he impacted through his generosity, strength, and unwavering sense of purpose. He was truly one of a kind—a man of tireless energy, remarkable resourcefulness, and an unmatched work ethic. John was the original DIY guy long before it was fashionable: from piecing together his own pickup truck from parts of two others, to building his dream home from the ground up with his own hands. If something needed fixing, building, or figuring out, John was already halfway done before anyone else had a plan. More importantly, he was always the first to say “yes” when someone needed help. His kindness was practical, steady, and sincere. John had a wonderfully folksy, almost Will Rogers-like way of offering advice. Even when his words carried a bit of criticism, they were delivered with such warmth, wisdom, and humor that you couldn’t help but welcome them. Most of all, John’s devotion to family was evident in everything he did. He always put my cousin Julie first and worked every day to make sure she was happy, cared for, and loved. Their partnership was built on devotion, loyalty, and deep affection. John lived as an example of what it means to be a husband, father, and friend. He fought long and hard with characteristic determination and grit, but when God called, John answered with the same courage and dignity with which he lived his life. Rest well, John. Your work here is done, but your example and legacy will live on in all of us. Keep watch over us, and keep us in your prayers. With heartfelt sympathy to Julie and the entire family. Love Chris and Jenny Mattina

Chris Mattina - May 18 at 11:15 AM

DB

“ *Julie and family, my sincerest prayers and love to all of you. John was an extraordinary man. I am deeply and profoundly saddened to know he has passed..*

Donna Backes - May 18 at 10:59 AM

JA

“ *Julie and family so sorry for the loss of John. He was a kind and loveable friend. John and him fought the battle. May he RIP. Jackie Ahern*

Jacqueline Ahern - May 18 at 10:28 AM