



John P. Bender

May 24, 1943 - September 18, 2022

John Patrick Bender, age 79, passed away suddenly on September 22, 2022. He was born in Detroit, MI on May 24, 1943, to Martin Francis Bender and Marion Bender. Both parents and his brother Timothy Bender predeceased him. John leaves behind three children from a marriage with Diane Bender Wilkerson: Julie Bender, Sean Patrick Bender (Ashley) and Emily Bender McConnell (Michael). He also leaves three grandchildren Liam Patrick Bender, George Patrick Bender and Nell Hendrick Bender.

After graduation from Salesian High School in Detroit John entered the Salesian Brothers Seminary. However, he decided this was not his life's work. Then he entered the Wayne State University School of Mortuary Science and became a licensed funeral director. Several years later he met another funeral director who was in law school. They worked on weekends taking witness statements for a law firm. This led to the formation of a licensed adjusting company. When this friend graduated law school, John took over the company which prospered over the next two and a half decades as a result of his entrepreneurial spirit, social gifts and loyal staff. John never ran out of stories about his many travels, boating adventures, race car team and love of cars especially corvettes. Life then took a turn and the peaks turned into valleys. During the last years of his life John battled Parkinson's disease. He remained as active as possible and stayed close to his faith, family and friends until he was called home.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Sunday, November 13, 2022, from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home in Royal Oak, Michigan. Private burial service at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Share a memory at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

NOV 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak

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