



## John Ethan Biel

July 25, 1955 - May 8, 2022

John E. Biel (Johnny), age 66, passed away suddenly, but peacefully, on Sunday, May 8, 2022 at his home in Royal Oak, MI. John is a U.S. Navy Veteran who enjoyed talking about his time stationed in Guam and the Phillipines. John was a loyal and trusted employee at William Beaumont Hospital for 41 years in various departments. He was a loving son, brother, Uncle, Cousin, and friend to many.

John was an avid gardener who took pride in his beautiful flowers and lawn. He enjoyed travelling to visit his sisters, numerous nieces, nephews and friends. John will always be remembered as a kind, generous, thoughtful man who never forgot a birthday or Anniversary. John will mostly be remembered for his humor. He always made us laugh in good times and bad. Gone too soon, "Johnny Angel."

He is preceded in death by his parents Alfred and Lucy Biel. He is survived by his sisters, Beverly (Don) Pierce of Flagler Beach, FL; Sandra (Jack) Harmon of Beverly Beach, FL; and Brenda (Rob) Russillo of Smyrna, DE. Nephews and nieces Jason (Stacy) Pierce, Mary (Doug) Reed, Katherine (John) Boudakian, Dominic Russillo, Gabrielle Russillo, Joseph Russillo, and Luke Russillo.

John will lie in state on Saturday, May 21, from 9:30 am until time of Funeral

Mass at 10:00 am at St. Mary Catholic Church, 730 S Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48067.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

MAY **21**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
730 S. Lafayette Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ I am saddened to think of the loss we all have endured with the loss of this great soul. John was the life of the party . Always there to make you smile and have a good laugh. I was his cubie neighbor and lots of conversations and laughs . He always remembered everyone’s birthdays with his signature Godiva chocolates You will be missed my friend . Fly high sweet Angel 🙏 you will be missed by all .

Donna Adams - May 22, 2022 at 10:54 AM

TB

“ I worked with John at Beaumont many years ago and am very sad to learn of his passing. I enjoyed our talks about the politics of the day; and will always remember his kindness, sweetness, & wonderful sense of humor. May he rest in peace & I will pray for his grieving family.

Tina Buggert - May 21, 2022 at 06:50 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Ethan Biel.



May 19, 2022 at 09:56 PM

DC

“ Dear Biel Family,  
"Deepest Sympathies" from our family. I was saddened to hear of the passing of my WBH BSC friend JJ once known as my 'work husband'. I am blessed to have known this Angel on earth. We were cubie buddies sitting next to each other with a short partition separating us. Passing notes and joking each day would get us in trouble with management as we would laugh too loudly. Birthday gifts were cards and Godiva chocolate. John's infectious laughter made our task to introduce the EPIC System to our Therapy Billing department so fun. Our long walks were relaxing rain, shine or snow. On one of those walks John and I were almost run over by a deer crossing our path. John often comforted me during a time in my life at that was ever changing and challenging. John was kind and offered support as I was a single mom of 2 boys Bryan and Colin. The 3 came to adore each other. My BSC friends surprised me with an engagement celebration. My future husband Dave met John and expressed his thanks for his friendship and support in my life. John attended our wedding celebration at our home in Owosso. We shared our love of "Sex and The City" by going to see the movie and after had a Cosmo at Red Robin. I will forever cherish the Cosmo glasses he gave us for a wedding gift. John was there for my sister Marilyn and our family at our mother's recent passing offering his love and support. John and I were planning to enjoy another Cosmo together soon. I will be forever thankful for his friendship. May you be with all of our Angels in heaven. Love, Diane Carson



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Diane Carson - May 19, 2022 at 01:47 PM

MT

“ When I received the news of John's passing I had just put away birthday cards that I had displayed from my recent birthday. Amongst those cards was a beautiful card from John. Although I have been retired from Beaumont for a few years, John and I remained in touch through cards and texts. Our last text was also on my birthday. There are so many great memories of our friendship and years working together. Most of them are filled with laughter. We shared many interests which kept conversations easy. I will never forget that John took time off work to support my sister Diane (who had also worked with John) and I and attended our Mother's funeral recently. His presence and compassion helped ease the pain of that difficult day. My husband Bill and I wish sincere sympathies to all of John's family. He always spoke of all of you with love and pride. And also of his parents before their passing. Rest with the angels John. You were one of them.



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**Marilyn Tallenger** - May 19, 2022 at 08:59 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Ethan Biel.



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May 19, 2022 at 12:06 AM



“His” onsite office ladies purchased the Healing & Hope Sympathy Basket for the family of John Ethan Biel.



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**"His" onsite office ladies** - May 18, 2022 at 03:13 PM



“Beautiful in Blue” was purchased for the family of John Ethan Biel.



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May 17, 2022 at 05:21 PM



“Our fondest memory of cousin Johnny was him speaking at our wedding 47 years ago. And lots of childhood memories of his kindness and loving ways.....may the holy angels lead you into paradise. Rod/Denise Cane

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**Rod Cane** - May 16, 2022 at 05:30 PM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket” was purchased for the family of John Ethan Biel.



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May 16, 2022 at 02:32 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of John Ethan Biel.*



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May 16, 2022 at 11:38 AM

NM

“ I am so sorry and shocked at this loss. John was such a very special person. I worked at Beaumont with him for many years. We would walk around the hospital property on our lunch and had so many great talks. In bad weather, we would walk through the tunnels under the hospital. I heard all about his parents, his sisters and his nieces and nephews. We shared a love of travel and he was always going off to California or New York to visit family and friends. His sense of humor was always a relief in a stressful work environment. His kindness and generosity were beyond measure. One year for his birthday (Christmas in July!) all of us in the department bought up as much Binaca breath spray as we could find (as he was little addicted to it! LOL) and presented him with a at least 5 yrs worth of the stuff! He just laughed that wonderful laugh he had. I remember one year when I was still sitting next to him, he came in with his sweater on inside out and backwards. When I pointed it out to him, he just made a joke and fixed it! I reminded him of this often! Every year, we would text or email each other on the Ides of March (another inside joke). He rode his bike to work for many, many years before he finally bought a car. He really enjoyed his bike rides. He was always there for his family and friends. He was so proud of his nieces and nephews! We hadn't been in touch for about 2 years, but this world will definitely be a little less bright without him. My prayers are with his family and everyone whose life he touched. God Bless you John, my friend. You will be missed by many.

Nancy (Ostaszewski) Messina

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Nancy Messina - May 15, 2022 at 09:02 AM

LR

“ *Not everyone is as lucky as my siblings and I to have an uncle like Uncle Johnny. Growing up I loved hearing his Navy stories, especially now that I have my own. I’m gonna miss his visit and his sense of humor at Sunday family dinners. I could always count on him to bring bar chips every time he came to Delaware. We’ll miss you uncle Johnny! I love you!* ”

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**Luke Russillo** - May 14, 2022 at 07:18 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Ethan Biel.* ”



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May 14, 2022 at 04:36 PM

JR

“ I can't believe that Uncle Johnny won't be coming to visit any more. He spent almost every Thanksgiving with us for as long as I can remember. His presence filled our house with laughter, and it was always so great to see the love between him and my mom (Brenda) when they were together. He told us so many funny stories of their time living together, even ones that my mom probably didn't want him to tell! :) He also told us stories about his time in the Navy, especially in Guam, so now I will always keep my eyes peeled for the little green "three-second snake." Uncle Johnny was so thoughtful and never missed an occasion, whether it was a birthday or graduation, I could always count on a card and a text if he wasn't around. It's a shock to lose him so soon and doesn't seem fair, but I know we'll share a laugh together again one day. Love you Uncle Johnny and miss you already!



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Joseph Russillo - May 14, 2022 at 12:09 PM

KF

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your wonderful brother.  
I worked with John for quite a few years at Beaumont and we ate lunch together and walked on our break and at lunch. He is one of the funniest people I have ever met. He kind, caring and joyful. He was truly a happy man.  
A couple of my funny memories of him are when we were walking down the stairs to go for a walk and he was behind me and sneezed so loud in the stairwell that I jumped and stumbled down a couple of steps. We both laughed so hard!  
Another time was when we were walking outside at lunch time and we came across quite a few geese, which was a daily occurrence, and we tried to avoid them. They were chattering so much at us so I quacked back at them. Two of the geese started chasing after John and he was running, screaming and flailing his arms. We laughed about this for years. So do our friends who were right near us.  
My fondest memory of Johnny is his kindness and sense of humor. He was such a good man and a wonderful friend. When I had to retire in 2020, he brought a gift to me and said I couldn't open it or read the card in front of him. So I opened it at my desk. The Gift was a beautiful silver angel that you could put on an end table or china cabinet. He wrote in his card that he considered me his angel. We never had a dull or unhappy moment!! He said he was glad our paths crossed and he wished me the best in my future. I am so thankful our paths crossed too.  
He was an angel to me and he was a good dear friend. I will miss you John ❤️ Kathie.

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**Kathie Furman** - May 13, 2022 at 09:17 PM

SS

*Thank you for sharing. John truly was a beautiful person*

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**Sandy Biel Harmon ( johns sister)** - May 14, 2022 at 02:21 AM

LR

*Not everyone is as lucky as my siblings and I to have an uncle like Uncle Johnny. Growing up I loved hearing his Navy stories, especially now that I have my own. I'm gonna miss his visit and his sense of humor at Sunday family dinners. I could always count on him to bring bar chips every time he came to Delaware. We'll miss you uncle Johnny! I love you!*

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**Luke Russillo** - May 14, 2022 at 07:15 PM

DG

*It's so hard to believe that Johnny is gone. His sister Sandy and I were walking together while still in grade school. She told me her mother always said to them that "family are your best friends." They truly are each other's best friends so he will be sorely missed by them and his many, many friends. I will miss him dearly. He was a joy to be with and his laugh was contagious.*

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**Deb Goodrich** - May 16, 2022 at 08:42 PM