



## John Ted Karpowicz

March 1, 1961 - February 20, 2017

Karpowicz, John Ted (March 1, 1961 - February 20, 2017). It is with heavy hearts and profound sadness that we announce the sudden death of John Karpowicz on February 20, 2017 in Washington, Michigan. John was the loving father of Josh (of Canton, Michigan) and Lauren (Byron) Quine (of Colorado) and grandfather to little Audrey, dearly beloved son of Teodor and Maria Karpowicz, and dearly beloved brother of Alicia (Karpowicz) Dorn (Jim Smrekar), Teresa Karpowicz, Irene (Karpowicz) Spedaliere and Liz (Karpowicz) Taylor. He was greatly loved and will be dearly missed by his nieces and nephews Paige Dorn, Andrew Dorn, Elizabeth Van Rooy, Amelia Spedaliere, Domenic Spedaliere Jr. and Maxx Karpowicz. He will also be missed by many friends, especially Andrew and Joel and relatives in Toronto and Montreal. He also leaves behind his dog, beloved and faithful companion, Koda.

John grew up in St. Catharines (Facer Street area) and loved playing soccer, volleyball, hockey and sports in general. He was also an avid golfer and outdoorsman. In his younger years he was a member of the Canadian Polish Society and also played hockey with Our Lady of Perpetual Help (O.L.P.H.) Church team. He attended St. Catharines Collegiate High School before studying Engineering at Waterloo where he graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Later he obtained his MBA from the

University of Michigan, Dearborn. John was a former engineer with General Motors in St. Catharines and most recently with General Motors in Michigan.

Family and friends are invited to a celebration of John's life on March 4th, 2017 from 12:00-3:00 pm with a memorial service at 3:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Development at Common Ground, Attn: Loma, 1410 S. Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 or online at: <<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/commongroundhelps>>

Share your memories on the Tribute Wall Tab at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com) <<http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com>>.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAR 4. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Memorial Service

MAR 4. 3:00 PM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall

JH

“ So sorry to see this. John and I lost touch after I left Canada in 1989 and I just thought of him today and did an online search only to find this. John and I were on the same engineering course at Waterloo and shared an apartment for the last two terms of university. He was learning to play guitar so I heard many hours of Bruce Cockburn, Neil Young and the Beatles! I also had the privilege to go and see him perform live at one of the local bars one night. in 1985 we had a great camping trip out to Nova Scotia. We had some real laughs together. I'm sorry that this has come so late but I just want to wish my sincere condolences to his family and friends.

*John Hill*

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**John Hill** - May 31, 2023 at 09:35 AM

AS

Thank you so much for sharing this 🌸

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**Alicia-John's older sister** - February 24, 2024 at 09:30 PM

CF

“ It is with profound sadness that I share my condolences to John's family. I only just found out when I was looking at something on facebook. I met John as a 16 year old girl at Fosters driving school in St. Catharines. I was going to learn how to drive. John already had his license but took the course to reduce his car insurance premiums. He use to drive me home after class in his dads old blue station wagon. I have many wonderful memories and pictures of John. We connected via facebook a number of years ago. In 2014 he was in Toronto on business and we had an opportunity to have dinner together - 23 years since we had seen each other. I am so thankful I got to see him again. He was truly a great man and I am better for having known him. Liz, Alice, Teresa and Irene who know me from so many years ago, I am truly sorry for your loss. I am truly heart broken.

Love

Corinne Fast

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**Corinne Fast** - November 15, 2020 at 12:57 PM

AS

Thank you so much Corinne. It means so much to read your kind words. Thank you ❤️

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**Alicia-John's older sister** - February 24, 2024 at 09:35 PM

TR

“ It is only yesterday and many years later that that I learned of John's passing and I am so deeply saddened by the lose of a great person and a natural born leader that we all looked up to. We played together on the O.L.P.H church league hockey team. John could keep up an incredible pace, I remember many times our coach Stan looking over at John on the bench and say we need a goal now. John would look straight ahead and just nod his head. Next whistle John would go through the team and score, it didn't matter who we played, he could score at will. Then he'd come back to the bench, sticks banging the boards and him smiling that big smile.

We knew he was smart, focused and dedicated to accomplishing anything he put his mind to so studying Engineering at one of the best schools in Canada was right where he deserved to be.

The last time I saw John was at Ricci's Tavern many years after our hockey days. He was immediately complimentary, smiling, asking about yourself and what was new. That was the essence of John and who he was, a genuine, honest, caring person.

In my travels with the RCMP all over Canada and the world you might meet a person like John once in your life, to provide a standard of character and decency to live by, and you would be a better person for it.

Thank you for the lesson's and guidance John, I will never forget them. My heartfelt condolences to John's family and his many friends.

*Terry Russel*

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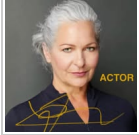
**Terry Russel** - May 05, 2020 at 02:50 PM

AS

*Thank you so much for this. Your kind words are very appreciated ❤️*

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**Alicia-John's older sister** - February 24, 2024 at 09:37 PM



“ <https://youtu.be/PfKwNb1RdIY>  
*My Brother John Loved the music of Ron Sexsmith. Here, Ronny posted this beautiful tribute to John and our family. Please visit the link ... and say a prayer. In Loving Memory of a Wonderful Person...  
John Karpowicz*

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**Liz Taylor** - February 03, 2019 at 02:14 PM

GS

“ *I Remember him always smiling  
Great person to work with to bad he is gone*



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**George Skendi** - April 11, 2017 at 01:42 PM

AD

“ *Alicia (Karpowicz) Dorn lit a candle in memory  
of John Ted Karpowicz*



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**Alicia (Karpowicz) Dorn** - March 30, 2017 at 07:24 AM

CR

“ *Our deepest sympathy for the family of John!! He was a good man,  
One of the great neighbors of the Gary Street family!! He was  
always very kind and offered a helping hand to his neighbors. He  
always made the kids on the block feel really special at Halloween  
when he packed bags of goodies for all of them!!  
Condolences from Gary Street!!*

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**Chris Riney** - March 03, 2017 at 08:23 PM

LA

“ Love, Lauren, Byron and Audrey purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Ted Karpowicz .



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**Love, Lauren, Byron and Audrey** - March 02, 2017 at 06:44 PM

KV

“ To the Family . . .

*John helped so many people that he never even met, when he embarked on his hip resurfacing journey. Through an online forum, John was almost always available with his engineering expertise and sharing his research with many of us, across the world, including myself, easing our fears while leading the way on his own adventure.*

*John, we'll never forget your warmth and generosity that touched so many. You are our hero.*

*Kathi*

*Appleton, WI (Surfacehippy)*

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**Kathi VanBerkum** - March 02, 2017 at 11:26 AM

MY

“ I knew John through my brother Andrew. John was always a part of my younger years as he came to my grade school graduation and later on in life my wedding in St.Catharines. We kept in touch as much as we could. A treasured memory was my only trip to Michigan with my wife. John invited us out and treated us to the Lions vs Vikings game. I look at that picture from time to time and remember the great time! Josh was with us too! John will be missed immensely. Blessings to all of his family in this sad time.  
Mike Yap and family.

Mike Yap - March 02, 2017 at 10:53 AM



I'm deeply saddened to read of this loss. To Josh; my thoughts and wish for peace are with you always.

Sherry Moses - April 13, 2017 at 09:54 AM



What a shock! John and I were great friends at the University of Waterloo and he was the best man at my wedding in October of 1984. We had drifted apart and I hadn't seen him for 15 years. I stumbled across a post on my Facebook account last night that Bev had posted shortly after his death. We are deeply saddened by his death and wish we could have been there for the family.

Rest in peace Karp!!

Dean & Anne Burgoon  
Prescott, Ontario

Dean Burgoon - December 12, 2017 at 05:44 PM

JK

“Wow! It was unbelievable to read that John had died. We shared the same birthday so at this time every year I would think of John — and with Facebook, I could send him birthday wishes. He was a year younger and a friend of my brother, but at some point he got bumped ahead a year. I knew he was a pretty smart guy.

*Like many of those leaving memories, we were part of the Facer Street kids and attended St. Joseph's and St. Alfred's with John. I also have great memories of him from hockey.*

*For many years, my dad was the coach for Our Lady of Perpetual Help so we always had a run of hockey players through our living room when they needed a ride to practice or a game — kind of a dream for a teenage girl! My memories were of John walking down to our house for a ride every Tuesday. He'd arrive fully dressed and chat while my brother's ritual was to strip down and dress in the living room! It was nice to see John had more manners than my brother! I think that must have come from having all those sisters. John was always polite and respectful. Even then I realized how hockey was a great way for him to do guy things.*

*Again, so sad to hear that he's gone and I won't be sharing my birthday with him — but I won't stop thinking about him on this day every year for all of my birthdays that remain.*

*Joanne Bulanda Keenan  
Hamilton, ON*

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**Joanne Keenan** - March 01, 2017 at 06:33 PM

DK

“I met John back in the 90s online. Over the years, we kept in touch here and there. We talked a lot by phone. He was a great man and will be missed

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**deb kliegl** - March 01, 2017 at 03:54 PM

LF

“ Love always the Pizzacalla Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Ted Karpowicz .



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**Love always the Pizzacalla Family** - March 01, 2017 at 09:59 AM

ED

“ My condolences to the Karpowicz family. I did not know John but I do know his sister, Alicia. May the Lord guide you all in your time of need. Love Enis

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**Enis Davis-lewars** - March 01, 2017 at 09:03 AM

JT

“ I just found out about John's passing and am still in shock as I'm sure so many others are as well. My deepest condolences go to all his son, sisters, mom and dad and all the rest of his family. John and i were neighbors for yrs and yrs and he was like the brother i never had. We had so much fun together and he will be missed by a lot of people. So sad, so young. Rest In Peace John.

*Joe Tota*

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**Joe Tota** - March 01, 2017 at 01:53 AM

CD

“ *Karpowicz Family,  
Please accept our deepest condolences for your loss.  
May you cherish all the memories and remember that God only  
picks the best flowers for his garden above.  
Cheryl Charkowy (Durney) and Linda Charkowy*

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**Cheryl Charkowy Durney** - February 28, 2017 at 09:22 AM

K(

“ *I was so very sadden to hear the news about John, he was a  
wonderful person and I have many fond memories of him teasing  
his dear sister Liz and I when we were mere teenagers . May the  
memories you have help you through this difficult time. Cherish the  
time spent together and his memory will live forever in your hearts.  
Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers, our deepest and  
heartfelt condolences. May God Bless John and all of you today,  
tomorrow and always.  
All our love,  
Krystyna, Serge, Carmine and Teresa Spedalieri*

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**Krystyna Spedalieri (Spera)** - February 27, 2017 at 12:46 PM



“ *Dear John,  
We've never met - but you have raised an incredible son - Josh -  
whom I am have the privilege of working with every day. Thank you  
for blessing the world with him. And may you have peace as you  
watch over him.  
Sincerely,  
Angie Mohr*

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**Angie Sheffler Mohr** - February 27, 2017 at 12:44 PM

TM

“ I am terribly sorry to hear of John's passing. This news comes as a big shock to me as John seemed like a healthy guy. Although I worked with him for only a short time at GM Global Propulsions Systems in Pontiac, I feel I got to know him pretty well. I really enjoyed talking with him and sharing life experiences. He was a smart guy and a dog lover. We were both Lead Cost Engineers and although we worked on different programs, we had a lot in common. He will be greatly missed by all of his GM colleagues. With deepest sympathies, Tom Milewski.

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**Tom Milewski** - February 27, 2017 at 12:10 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of John Ted Karpowicz .



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February 27, 2017 at 09:52 AM



“ My deepest sympathy on the passing of John, may the good Lord be with you all at this most difficult time. Reno DeMita

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**Reno DeMita** - February 26, 2017 at 10:54 PM

LM

“ Met your dad in grade 7 at St. Alfreds School we spent a summer together swimming ,riding bikes just having fun. So sorry for you loss he was a good guy.

*Liz Mazachowsky*

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**Liz mazachowsky** - February 26, 2017 at 03:09 PM

 Kevin  
Hotte

“ *John and I went to Laura Secord together. My condolences to the family.*

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**Kevin Hotte** - February 26, 2017 at 08:59 AM

 Michael  
Coakley

“ *May Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him Oh Lord. As John Shone In Life , So Shall he Forever After. ~ Condolences to The Karpowicz Family ~ Prayers Offered.*



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**Michael Coakley** - February 26, 2017 at 04:47 AM

**BM**

“ *Karpowicz Family:  
I am so very sorry for your great loss!!! I remember John as an intelligent, great guy with a big smile among the wonderful Polish family I grew up with.  
Stay close and be strong. My prayers are with all of you!  
Love, Basia Miele (Baranek)*

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**Barb Miele** - February 25, 2017 at 09:50 PM

KM

“ *To the Karpowicz  
I'm so sorry for your loss  
John and I go way back to grade school on Facer street  
We also played soccer together for the Canadian Polish Legion and  
just hung out  
Great Friend to have  
Again my condolences  
Kevin McCabe*

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**Kevin McCabe** - February 25, 2017 at 06:49 PM

LT

“ *My fondest memories are oldies.... from when we were kids. John used to practice karate on me .... flipping me over his back onto a mattress..... and kicking at my head as I walked down the hall!! (Thank God his accuracy was excellent..... always within an inch.... without taking my head off!! ;-)  
.... ahhhh.... brothers!!  
He also got me into cross-country running and I'll never forget his excitement and encouragement during my first race. It was by the Niagara River... and there were over 200 runners. The race started in a pack of girls... then most of the race was in the forest trails. Towards the end of the race.... we came out of the forest and ran the last stretch ~ towards the finish line. I came out of the forest in third place.... and the look on his face!!!!!!..... I will never forget it!!!!!! He was jumping for joy, and yelling support for me. I was so happy to see his pride for me at that moment. As his "Baby Sister".... that memory is my absolute Favorite.  
I Love You FOREVER John. Rest in Peace.... surrounded by beautiful angels and in eternal joyfulness. AMEN XOXOXOXO  
Love, Liz*

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**Liz Taylor** - February 25, 2017 at 01:43 PM

PV

“ *Karpowicz Family*  
*My heart is aches for all of you. I'm so sorry to hear of John's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*  
*Pete VanRooy*

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**Pete VanRooy** - February 25, 2017 at 12:03 PM

T(

“ *TERESA...I JUST READ THIS AND AM SO SAD FOR YOU ALL. I REMEMBER YOUR BROTHER WELL FROM FACER STREET. PLEASE KNOW THAT AM SHARING IN YOUR PAIN AND PRAYING FOR YOU, YOUR SISTERS AND THE REST OF YOUR FAMILY. LIFE...WHO CAN KNOW. XOXOXO*

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**TERRY DUNK (HAJCMAN)** - February 25, 2017 at 09:57 AM