



John C. Mueller

January 3, 1943 - August 9, 2024

John Charles Mueller, age 81, passed away on August 9, 2024, leaving a legacy of wisdom, humor, and love. He was born in Elmhurst, IL on January 3, 1943, to John Edward Mueller and Elizabeth Murphy Mueller. His journey through life was marked by a love of learning and good conversation, appreciation of nuance, a connection to the physical world around him that was expressed in his design and craftsmanship, and steadfast devotion to family.

When John was eleven, he and his family moved to Royal Oak, MI. He would remain in Michigan the rest of his life, where he built a life with his family. A graduate of the University of Detroit High School, he followed the influence of the Jesuits to the University of Detroit, where he found his calling in architecture and teaching.

John's professional life reflected his talent for design and his love of teaching. While he practiced with distinction his whole career, he devoted 37 years to passing on his knowledge to others as a beloved professor and mentor. As a student of his at the University of Detroit Mercy wrote, "He'll teach you things you won't understand the importance of for years. His dedication to design and craft are second to none."

Throughout his life John found other ways to express his talent and pursue his

interests. His hands were as skilled in woodwork and carpentry as they were in architectural design and drafting, beautifying the places where he and his loved ones lived. He loved to read, an inspiration for many great discussions. He became an accomplished cook, spoiling his friends and family with his culinary skills. For him a meal was best enjoyed with a bottle of good wine and conversation.

John loved spending time with his family, and looked forward to the many summer trips they made together to the family cottage in Manistee. He was the beloved husband of the late Antonina "Toni" Mueller, whom he cherished and stood by. He was also the adored father of Alexandra "Alex" Mueller, who couldn't have asked for a more wonderful dad.

John was also the dearly loved brother of Michael (Patty, and the late Pamela) Mueller, Betsy (Jerry) Pease, Paul (Laurie) Mueller, Carl Mueller, and Marty (Marty) Bouveron, and was uncle to many dear nieces and nephews.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate John's remarkable life during a visitation on Wednesday from 2-8 pm at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. A funeral service honoring his life and legacy will be held on Thursday at 11 am at the funeral home. John's memory will forever be cherished by those who knew and loved him. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Carmel Cemetery - Manistee

Manistee, MI 49660

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 14. 2:00 PM - 8:00 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/>

Funeral Service

AUG 15. 11:00 AM (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/>

Tribute Wall

JO

“ So sorry to learn of John's passing. Please accept my condolences. He was a great guy and an amazing teacher, but most of all a lover of people.

Joe Odoerfer - August 15, 2024 at 07:31 PM

KM

“ Friends at the High and UD. Just a real nice guy. RIP John

Ken Monroe - August 15, 2024 at 06:06 PM

MW

“ When I worked as a librarian at Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham John was a regular and favorite patron. I always enjoyed chatting with him when he visited, especially but not exclusively about books. He was a voracious reader and a lovely man. Love to his family as they mourn his passing.

Maria Williams - August 15, 2024 at 11:49 AM

DJ

“ He was an extraordinary human being. He was a delightful patient and a friend. I consider it an honor to have been his doctor in the last few years of his life.

Dr. Jakary - August 14, 2024 at 05:32 PM

AR

“ *The Gassmann family has many fond memories of growing up with all of the Muellers, especially John, who was the same age as our brother, John. Our sincere condolences to the family. May he rest in peace.*

Anne Gassmann Rosenfeld and Rita Gassmann Alves

Anne Rosenfeld - August 14, 2024 at 03:32 PM

DF

“ *Debbie (Vickers) McKinney and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John C. Mueller.*



Debbie (Vickers) McKinney and Family - August 14, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John C. Mueller.*



August 14, 2024 at 12:23 AM

ML

“ *Mike & Sheryl Lamarand planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John C. Mueller.*

Mike & Sheryl Lamarand - August 14, 2024 at 12:23 AM

JG

“ Please accept our sincere condolences. John, we have so many fond memories from our time at UDM. Your thoughtful approach to design, calm nature and great deal of patience will be fondly remembered for many years to come. We yearned to hear your stories and enjoyed your quick wit whiling away the afternoon in studio. You will be greatly missed, but know your legacy lives on in so many former students you helped guide. Rest easy. Jake + Krysten Gehring

JG - August 13, 2024 at 10:08 PM

CA

“ Cecelia & Daniel Van Antwerp purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of John C. Mueller.



Cecelia & Daniel Van Antwerp - August 13, 2024 at 07:52 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of John C. Mueller.



August 13, 2024 at 05:05 PM

PM

“ I knew Johnny as a far away cousin. But his smile, kindness and humor were, to me, his best and most memorable traits. Sure wish I had been able to spend time with him. A wonderful and talented individual.

Pam Murphy - August 13, 2024 at 04:42 PM

GM

“ Sincere sympathy to the Mueller family from the Murphy family in Ireland. We were lucky to meet John in 2012 at his brother’s Carl’s Corner Lake home in Upper Michigan. RIP John. Gerry and Dorothy Murphy

Gerty Murphy - August 13, 2024 at 03:33 PM

SD

“ I first met John as a middle school friend of his daughter Alex in the middle 80s. As I grew up and developed a love of art and architecture he was a great mentor and I enjoyed spending time at their houses in Birmingham & Manistee filled with inspiring architectural details and things that he built. I headed to architecture school in California, but always looked forward to visiting John, Tony, and Alex and getting fresh inspiration. Much love to the family. I will miss him.

Sarah Deeds - August 13, 2024 at 01:13 PM