



## John Patrick Pelegrino

June 6, 1969 - February 22, 2022

John Patrick Pelegrino, a resident of Royal Oak, passed away on February 22, 2022 at the age of 52. A son of Wayne and MaryJo (nee Reed), he was born on June 6, 1969 in Livonia. John earned his bachelor's degree from William Tyndale College and made his career as a salesman for Gale Publishing.

John was infamous for his dad jokes and cheesy puns. A Michigan State fan (Go Green!), he enjoyed watching college football, basketball, and soccer. John loved to study American history and was an active member of the Royal Oak Library. He decorated his house for every holiday and summer season. An accomplished runner, John participated in many 5Ks for charity. During the summer John turned 50, he ran in ten different 5Ks, all while receiving treatment for cancer. He was the toughest man you could meet, and kept fighting to his last breath. John's daughter, Sophia, was his entire world. He lived for her and loved her dearly.

Beloved husband of the late Margaret. Loving father of Sophia. Dear brother of Edward (Jenni), Elizabeth Cooper, and Joseph (Jennifer), and brother-in-law of Mary Beth (Denis) Hilton, Barbara (David) Phillips, and Mark Teasdale. Godfather and uncle of Penny Lane (Andrew) Jernigan, and uncle of Justin, Owen, John and Alex. Dear friend of Evie Oster. Doting owner of dogs Winston and Yoda.

A visitation for John will take place on Friday, February 25, from 2:00 until 8:00 pm with Sharing of Memories at 7:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors, 705 W. Eleven Mile Rd. (4 blks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak, 48067. John will lie in state on Saturday, February 26, from 9:30 am until time of Funeral Mass at 10:00 am at St. Mary Catholic Church, 730 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak, 48067. The Funeral Mass will also be livestreamed at the following web address: <https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/John-Pelegrino/#!/PhotosVideos/00000000-0000-0000-0000-0000000000001/WebcastVideo> (please note that technical issues with the WiFi connection at the church may preclude a real-time livestream. If technical issues are encountered, a recorded version of the Mass should be accessible within a few days via John's online obituary here at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com)).

Donations in John's memory may be made to the Colorectal Cancer Alliance, 1025 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 1066, Washington, DC 20005 or to the Friends of the Royal Oak Library, 222 E. Eleven Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48067.

John's family would like to thank his colleagues and friends for all their support through John's journey.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **25**. 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/>

## Sharing of Memories

FEB **25**. 7:00 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/>

## In State at Church

FEB **26**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

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

## Funeral Mass

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FEB 26. 10:00 AM (ET)

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

## Livestream of Funeral Service

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FEB 26. 10:00 AM (ET)

<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/John-Pelegrino/#!/PhotosVideos/00000000-0000-000>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of John Patrick Pelegrino*



**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - February 25, 2022 at 03:23 PM

AM

*The sound is awful all static!*

**amy moulton** - February 26, 2022 at 10:09 AM

MS

*Rest In Peace John.*

**MaryEllin Santiago** - February 26, 2022 at 10:31 AM

WS

*We apologize for technical difficulties on this webcast and will be looking to post a cleaner version of John's service later today. Sorry again for the sound interference.*  
*- Wm. Sullivan & Son*

**Wm. Sullivan & Son** - February 26, 2022 at 10:33 AM



*the important thing is that we are here. I can make out some words*

**Scott Bloom** - February 26, 2022 at 10:35 AM



*Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the world  
Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass  
Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God's recreation of the new day  
Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the world*

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**Scott Bloom** - February 26, 2022 at 10:37 AM

EM

*Video not very good but being part of it is. Rest In Peace John. Prayers for your Sophia. Give Margaret that kiss you've been holding.*

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**Eleanor Michniewicz** - February 26, 2022 at 11:03 AM

AO

*Thank you for sharing your life with us, John. We grieve because we were so blessed. Now fly away home, dear friend. Anne*

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**Anne Okon** - February 26, 2022 at 11:11 AM

KB

*“ Always had that bright smile. Rest in Peace John*

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**Karen Bailey** - September 16, 2022 at 10:46 AM

GL

“ Thanks for being a bright light in our world John.  
You were an amazing man.  
May God wrap His loving arms around your family, especially your daughter during this very difficult time.

Gigi Lang

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Gigi Lang - February 26, 2022 at 10:49 AM



“ I got to know John much better after I left Gale in 2007. We would see each other at trade shows, and one of us would always seek the other out, just to say hi, etc. The thing that impressed me the most (other than being a truly nice and caring) human, was his strength in the face of adversity. John was simply the best of us. A doting husband, a caring father, and a true friend. The strength he exhibited throughout his health issues, and losing his beautiful wife was astounding. I am truly unsure if I could have been as strong as John.



I last saw John in 2018 when I came back to Detroit for a visit. We had a mini Gale reunion at a pizza place in Royal Oak, and John came, and I am so glad he did.

My deepest sympathies for the family, and especially Sophia during this time.

What I will miss most is his sense of humor, and his puns he would post on Facebook (which I would share, driving my sister, and one special librarian at the U of San Diego, crazy).

I will miss you John, more than you know. And every time I see or hear a pun, I will think of you.

RIP.

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Scott Bloom - February 26, 2022 at 10:22 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.*



February 25, 2022 at 02:15 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.*



February 25, 2022 at 11:55 AM



“ *The Okon Family purchased the Cherished Memories for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.*



**The Okon Family** - February 25, 2022 at 10:59 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.*



February 25, 2022 at 09:04 AM

BV

“ *This is how I will always remember John. This photo was taken before his senior prom in 1987. We had the coolest hair. Rest in peace dear friend.* ”



Barbara Vaden - February 24, 2022 at 09:48 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.* ”



February 24, 2022 at 09:27 PM

'E

“ *'All you need is love' - Mo & Mark Evans purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.* ”



'All you need is love' - Mo & Mark Evans - February 24, 2022 at 04:40 PM

VV

“ Vince & Claire Vessalo purchased the Tranquil Seas for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.



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**Vince & Claire Vessalo** - February 24, 2022 at 04:18 PM

AS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Ann Szymanski** - February 24, 2022 at 02:50 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.



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February 24, 2022 at 02:15 PM

PL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Penny Lane** - February 24, 2022 at 01:46 PM

LA

“ *Oh no sweetie. Prayers and love go out to you and all the family who this amazing man brought so much joy to. He will be with you always*

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**Linda Andrews** - February 24, 2022 at 01:21 PM

MK

“ *I'll keep running those 5k races for you John.*



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**Michael Keck** - February 24, 2022 at 12:53 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Scott Bloom** - February 24, 2022 at 12:16 PM

CA

“ Johnny was and always will be one of my best buddies. Johnny was always so fun to be with. I loved how he dressed like a punk rocker. He had the long army coat and the solid black army boots. I truly think he dressed like that to irritate his dad 😂

Johnny took me to my first Rocky Horror Picture Show. I had no idea what to expect. As I was walking down the aisle before the movie began, Johnny yelled out loud and pointed at me and said “I was a virgin to the show”. Everyone in the theatre began to throw rice at me, playing cards, toast and shit me with squirt guns. It was hilarious. Johnny got me good there !!

One other story out of hundreds. Johnny and I were headed to a party one night and I was driving my 1977 canary yellow mustang II. It was my favorite car I’ve ever had. I guess most people say their first car was the best. Anyway, we get to the party and we get out of the car and some big ugly looking dude spits on my car for no reason. Well, before I even realized what just happened, Johnny slammed him to the ground. The dude limped away with his tail between his legs. That’s just one time out of many that Johnny stuck up for me.

I have a zillion stories with Johnny. 90% have alcohol involved of course 🍷🍺. I want to keep Johnny’s memory alive for as long as I am on this earth, so I will keep telling my “Johnny” stories to anyone who wants to listen.

I plan on telling Sophia my greatest stories with “Johnny Holiday”. That’s what Johnny said his famous name would be 😂.

I’ll always love Johnny. He was the best. He was a huge part of my childhood. He was my navigator wherever we went back in high school. He taught me a lot of things. He was there for me whenever I had some sort of crisis. I’ll miss Johnny my entire life.

-Cliff Alcantara

**cliff alcantara** - February 24, 2022 at 10:39 AM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of John Patrick Pelegrino.*



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February 24, 2022 at 10:17 AM