



John Lee Springberg

June 15, 1943 - November 15, 2024

John Lee Springberg of Cadillac passed away on Friday evening, November 15, 2024 at Whispering Pines Assisted Living in Lake City, Mi. He was 81. John was born June 15, 1943 in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia to Phyllix and Ollie (Iser) Moyer. John was then brought to the Cadillac area and adopted by Clarence and Mildred (Kilgren) Springberg at the age of seven after losing his mother to childbirth delivering his 16th sibling.

On August 5, 1961 at the Covenant Church in Cadillac he married his childhood sweetheart, Karen Edith Swanson and she survives him along with their daughters, Julie (John) Snider of Cadillac, Kim (Dewey) VanderVlucht of McBain; grandchildren: Tanya (Tony) Sanger, Travis Snider, Amy (Kyle) Moore, Josh (Jessica) VanderVlucht, Jake (Kayle) VanderVlucht, great-grandchildren: Colton, Brodyn, Attilie, Evellene, Jaelyn, Jaxon, Jillian, Jace, Jayda; siblings: Alta, Betty, and Mary.

John graduated from Cadillac High School in 1961. During his time in high school, John played varsity football and basketball for the Vikings. After high school he founded Springberg Distributing. John also founded, sang vocals and played keyboard for Nickel Plate Band, which traveled and entertained from 1969 to 1989 all over the Midwest. John was also very active in real estate, owning multiple residential rental properties, eventually transitioning to commercial development. He built and developed five Adventure Island

Amusement locations, Days Inn, Holiday Inn Express, and the Hampton Inn all in Cadillac and the Days Inn in Ludington. He never minded swinging a hammer or getting dirty himself.

After retirement, John and Karen enjoyed traveling with friends and family. Winters were spent in Treasure Island, Florida with their many close friends. While "Papa" John enjoyed all traditions that involved his family, his favorite tradition by far was having his grandchildren bring his great-grandchildren to visit him and "Nanny" Karen in the warm weather.

John was preceded in death by his parents; and siblings: Irving, Herb, Gerald "Sonny", Kathleen, Pattie, Merna, Virginia, Phyllix "Dutch", Barb, Lester, Billy and baby Glen.

Memorial services will be held 3:00 PM Sunday, December 8, 2024 at Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services in Cadillac. Visitation will be prior to the services from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Cremation has taken place and burial will be at Maple Hill Cemetery in Cadillac on a later date.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan Cadillac Chapter or The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC 8. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601
info@petersonfh.com

Memorial Service

DEC 8. 3:00 PM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

Tribute Wall



“ I worked at Treasure Island Beach Club for many years and always looked forward to John and Karen's visits. He was such a cantankerous, sweet and funny guy. John never pulled punches. If he had something to say, he said it. I had some of the most interesting conversations with John. He knew something of interest in just about any subject you could bring up. We all will miss him terribly.

Allison Hendry - December 29, 2024 at 09:35 AM

KF

“ Kevin, Donna Moore and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Lee Springberg.



Kevin, Donna Moore and Family - December 06, 2024 at 12:23 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Lee Springberg.



December 04, 2024 at 01:12 PM

MH

“ Mary Anne and Todd Heller purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of John Lee Springberg.



Mary Anne and Todd Heller - December 04, 2024 at 11:24 AM

TF

“ The Burns Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of John Lee Springberg.



The Burns Family - November 26, 2024 at 03:11 PM

WR

“ Wilton R. purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of John Lee Springberg.



Wilton R. - November 24, 2024 at 04:42 PM

MR

“ We are so sorry to hear of John's passing. Last time I saw John was at Sonny's 80th Birthday party in Fostoria. Before moving to Texas we went to Cadillac & had several days of fun. Especially beating John and Les at euchre 90% of the time! We all laughed so much! It is a good forever memory. Much love to all of Johns family.

Mary Van Ryn - November 21, 2024 at 07:51 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Lee Springberg.

November 21, 2024 at 07:46 PM



“ "Angel" Glitter lantern was purchased for the family of John Lee Springberg.



November 21, 2024 at 07:46 PM



“ Craig and Missy Eisenga and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Lee Springberg.



Craig and Missy Eisenga and family - November 21, 2024 at 06:34 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of John Lee Springberg.



November 20, 2024 at 08:34 AM

TD

“ *Tim, Janet and Sue Dixon purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Lee Springberg.*



Tim, Janet and Sue Dixon - November 19, 2024 at 08:41 PM