



John Michael Skorupski

MAY 15, 1949 - APR 25, 2015



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It is with heavy hearts that the large and loving family of John Michael Skorupski shares the news of his death at age 65 on Saturday, April 25, 2015. John was a loyal and hardworking man who loved his family and his life. Born in Cambridge, NY, John lived in Hoosick Falls, Cambridge, Fox Hollow and Babcock Lake, NY, which has always been a touchstone for John's entire family. Some of John's happiest days were spent there, as well as at his hunting camp at Bear Swamp and sailing tropical waters with his life long friend, Capt. Lance. Having spent some of his earlier years in Florida, "in retirement" John moved to Pine Island where he owned and operated the Olde Fish House Marina. With the help of his wife, Ginny, his son, Tom and Tom's wife Jessie and his sister Margaret, it became a thriving business and hub for Pine Island fishermen, artists and musicians. This was the norm for John. In the late 60s, John partnered with Jack Everett, a true friend and mentor, to create Florida Citrus Centers, his first business, followed by his own contracting business, hydro power plant, antique shop, and furniture repair and restoration business. John was a natural born and self taught mechanic who, in his lifetime, owned machines of every description – not just cars and trucks but motorcycles, tractors, bulldozers, backhoes, dump trucks, boats and an airplane. To John, there were no strangers. Wherever he lived, everyone seemed to know him. Approachable and fun loving, John enjoyed a good joke and a great story. He never held a grudge. Helping others was second nature for him and never a problem because he owned a tool for every task. He will be greatly missed by the many who will no longer be able to use "Dial A Dad/Brother/Uncle/Friend" to get advice on everything from home and car repair to life skills. John is preceded in death by his parents, Edmund and Zita Skorupski. From his father John inherited a lifelong love of fishing, hunting, and outdoorsmanship as well as the priceless quality of integrity. From his mother John learned to appreciate antiques and fine things which led to numerous collections ranging from cast iron



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implement seats and weathervanes to antique violins and bows. In addition to his wife of 47 years, Ginny, John is survived by three children, Edmund, Stacia and Tom (Jessie) and eight grandchildren, Eli, Anna, James, Jack, Eva, Steve, Stella and Everett, four sisters, Janice, Anne (Dan), Margaret, and Manya (Brett) one brother, Stephen, many beloved nieces and nephews and a cohort of in laws who were also friends. Of his children and grandchildren, John was especially proud. John lived his life to the fullest and was the captain of his own ship. He would say, "Grieve for me – but don't let it hang you up". An early summer memorial gathering is planned in Hoosick Falls, NY; date to be determined. To honor those who supported and cared for John and his family, donations can be made to the Gabriel House at Mayo Clinic – gabrielhouseofcare.org The family requests that those who loved John give consideration to becoming organ donors. Immediate funeral services are private. Florida friends are invited to John's home at 10545 Habitat Trail in Bokeelia between 1 and 4 PM on Saturday, May 2, 2015 to share memories of his amazing life. Those who wish to share a story, leave a tribute or offer condolences to the family at this difficult time should visit John's memorial webpage at www.fortmyersmemorial.com and sign the guestbook.



Tribute Wall

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DS

David S. posted:

Very sorry for your family loss. John was a wonderful guy and a great loving family man. All the best to your family and god bless you. David Smith

May 22 at 7:08 PM

CC

Connie Cline posted:

Last summer I had the pleasure of spending a couple of nights with John and Ginny at Babcock Lake. One night John and I sat outside watching the sunset and he spun tails of his life that expressed so well his love of life and his good humor. He was quite the self-made man and quite the storyteller! Add to this his generous and kind-hearted spirit and you begin to understand why he will be so missed by those fortunate enough to have known him. He also expressed his deep love and gratefulness for Ginny and his family. My heart goes out to you, Ginny, and to your family, as you adapt as best you can to life and missing this dear man. Connie Connie Cline

May 19 at 12:57 PM

SS

Stacia Skorupski posted:

Lit a candle in memory of John Michael Skorupski

May 15 at 10:27 AM

WJ

Walter Jaronski posted:

Ginny, I am very saddend to learn of John Michael's passing. Since our earlier days at Babcock Lake, John had a commanding presence and was very well liked. I will always remember how kind he was to me. Take care and stay strong. Walter Jaronski

May 12 at 3:32 PM

JC

Jim Cahill posted:

Manya and family Judy and I wish to express our heartfelt condolences to you at this time. A personal visit is not possible at this time, as Judy is in Texas, but you are in thoughts and prayers. May God give you family strength in this your time of need. Jim for the family

May 3 at 10:49 AM



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RB

Ray Boe posted:

One of Life's Sad Moments,...Is When You Hear of the Loss of an Old Friend, and Classmate.John and I were never close,... But He Accepted Me as His Friend.I Hold Memories of John's Laughter and Good Times at Fort Myers Beach.My Sincere Sympathy To Family and Friends.Ray G. BoeClass of '67

May 2 at 11:54 AM

MA

Manya August 9 at 5:52 AM

Thank you Bill. I just now saw this, over a year later.

WS

William Salmeri January 24 at 4:04 AM

I have no idea why or how this obit popped up on my phone but to Manya... I'm sorry to hear of this. Bill Salmeri. (southern Vermont college.

MS

Margaret Skorupski posted:

You showed me a lot of things,I learned a lot I didn't know,But you forgot to teach me one last thingHow to let you go,I know you didn't mean to leave me,Sometimes we have no choice,I miss being your little sister,Hearing my name called by your voice,I wish I got to say "I Love You"Before you were given to the sky,If God could grant me one last wishI'd ask to say "Goodbye" You always meant a lot to me,I could never love you less,I Know It's True When They Say"HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST"

May 2 at 10:57 AM

DS

Diane Stoelker posted:

We will always remember John with a smile on his face. The Olde Fish House was always a good time and the home of many fund raisers for the community. John and Ginny were responsible for that. We will never forget how helpful John was when we had the fire. He always had the right tool or machine to get the job done! We will miss him and never forget his kindness!Bill & Diane StoelkerMatlacha, FL

May 2 at 4:55 AM



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DS

Diane Stoelker posted:

We always remember John with a smile on his face. Many good time were had atthe Olde Fish House with John & Ginny. John was so helpful to us when we hadthe fire, thanks to his machine that helped move the heavy stuff to another location!The Fish House has always been the home of The Pine Island Fishing Tournament and so many events that help support the community and John and Ginny were responsible for that. We will miss him very much and will never forget his kindness!Sincerely,Bill & DianeMatlacha, FL

May 2 at 4:26 AM

JA

Jan posted:

I'm very saddened to hear of John's passing and I know he will be missed. I hope you find comfort in knowing he is not suffering , but looks down on us smiling. Peace be with you all.

May 1 at 2:01 PM

BA

Bob Andrews posted:

A FRIENDSHIP WAS BORN OUT OF A COMMON GROUND SHARED IN A MOST UNLIKELY PLACE, SURROUNDED BY A BACK DROP OF NATURE FILLED WITH PEACE AND UNCERTAINTY. IN THE MIDST OF ALL WE FACED INDIVIDUALLY, WE MANAGED TO BREAK BREAD, SHARE STORIES, LAUGHED ALOT & CREATED MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST THE TEST OF TIME. FAIRWELL OUR FRIEND, WE'LL SEE YOU AGAIN WHEN WE REACH HEAVENS DOOR.OUR CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO GINNY AND THE FAMILY.WITH LOVE & FRIENDSHIP,BOB & BETTY ANDREWS

May 1 at 12:11 PM

JA

Jack posted:

Well, My Brother, it's empty with you gone. I will always treasure the adventure we've had. Rest in peace with God.Jack

May 1 at 7:54 AM

AM

Amy Matilda posted:

My deep condolences to all of John's family and friends. May you find comfort in each other, and in your fondest memories.

May 1 at 7:24 AM



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MD

Marcia Goggin & Tom Donahue posted:

Dear Ginny and family, So very sorry for the loss of a wonderful guy. Our thoughts are with all of you. May you keep fun and loving memories close at heart. Sincerely, Marcia Goggin & Tom Donahue

April 30 at 2:01 PM

MA

Manya posted:

He was the best big brother anyone could ever hope for

April 30 at 8:18 AM

SS

Susan Shaw Schneski posted:

Ginny, I am so very sorry to hear of John's passing. You did a wonderful job of caring for him. Hope to see you later at Babcock Lake. Susan Shaw Schneski

April 30 at 6:56 AM

MC

Michael Cutler posted:

I expect that I will always remember John. He was a man to be respected. He loved life and lived it to the fullest.

April 29 at 6:15 PM

PM

Pam Richardson (Mcnally) posted:

All my love and sympathy.

April 29 at 3:36 PM

LW

Lee Ann Thurber Wooddell posted:

Memories??? So many that it goes back to when we were in our teens. A smart, handsome guy, who turned many heads and was a true friend to all who knew him well. He never forgot you, even if he hadn't seen you for a long time. May you be truly happy where you are and may we all meet again, someday, as God intends us to do. Rest In Peace John...

April 29 at 10:42 AM



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SM

Susan Manning posted:

I am very sorry to hear of John Michael's passing. I remember baby sitting John, Janice, and Annie long ago. He was a loving person even then. You rare in my thoughts and prayers. Susan (Butkas) Manning

April 29 at 9:35 AM

AJ

Amanda Jones posted:

We are so sad to hear of John's passing. He will be missed by many. Peace and love to his family. Mark and Amanda Jones

April 29 at 9:09 AM

JO

Joan posted:

It was with great sadness I read of John's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. He will be missed by many. Joan Hockford Warshaw

April 29 at 5:13 AM

BI

Birdi posted:

What a great guy!

April 28 at 6:57 PM

DD

Dawn Davis posted:

I was so surprised to hear of the passing of your brother John. Please accept my deepest condolences. If you need anything, please let me know 🙏

April 28 at 4:40 PM

SC

Shelly Landmesser Cannistraci posted:

Keeping you all close in our thoughts and prayers. Smart, talented, kind and humble, he was a great guy. I always loved listening to his stories! He will be missed!

April 28 at 4:31 PM



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KD

Kay Dellabella posted:

John Skorupski was an extraordinary individual, he was one of the best of the Beach Kids. We all grew up together on Estero Island. At age 16, John worked at my family business, Frank's Beach Gulf Service. God Bless John and the entire Skorupski Family. With Peace, Kay Dellabella

April 28 at 4:06 PM

PH

Pam Hunt posted:

My heart is truly breaking for u n ur fam my dear friend. May he R.I.P. n b in no more pain. God Bless u n ur loved ones ❤️

April 28 at 3:02 PM

GL

Gwynne Leibensperger posted:

So very sorry for your loss. Prayers to all.

April 28 at 12:39 PM

LW

Lee Ann Wooddell posted:

Anne and Family, I was so surprised to read of John's passing. Another former classmate has been given his wings. So many memories that we all shared, from Colia that, I'm sure, will remain in your hearts and help you through the next difficult days ahead of you. Rest In Peace John..

April 28 at 10:00 AM

GS

Gary Simmons posted:

John was a very kind man that gave to the community of Matlacha. He will be missed by all. Gary & Kathleen Simmons

April 28 at 9:55 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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