



John "Dutch" Edward Huizenga

July 6, 1934 - October 20, 2020

John "Dutch" Edward Huizenga, age 86, passed away suddenly on October 20, 2020 at Ascension Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on July 6, 1934 to Samuel and Irene (Bokholdt) Huizenga. John had a great love for God, his family and his country. John sought a life of service first by serving his country as a Chaplain's Assistant in the US Army; then by serving the various communities in which he lived as the president of the homeowner's association in Orland Park, IL; participating in the Neighborhood Watch Program in Grand Junction; serving as a Columbia Twp. Trustee; and as part of the Honor Guard for American Legion Post #160, a role of which he was extremely proud. John was an outspoken supporter of all those who have served and are currently serving our country, especially his grandchildren. John was a gifted musician who played both the organ and the accordion. Not able to read music, John played both instruments "by ear" and never passed up an opportunity to play his accordion, whether it was for residents of a local nursing home or an impromptu Christmas concert at Liz's house. After all, who doesn't enjoy a good polka. John's proudest accomplishment was his family. He married the love of his life, Carol (nee Schwenn) on February 18, 1961, and they would have celebrated 60 years of marriage this coming February. Together they raised four very strong-willed girls. They often joked they were the cause of his significant hair loss. John will be sadly missed by his wife of 59 years, Carol; daughters, Debra (Jeff) Harjes, Brohman, MI, Elizabeth Robertson,

South Haven, MI, Susan (Dean) Davis, Norton Shores, MI, Dawn (Tim Purk) Huizenga, Grand Junction, MI; 8 grandchildren, Carolynn (Steven) Freeman, Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX, Billie Gardner III, Brohman, MI, POC3 Brittiny Gardner, US Navy, Virginia Beach, VA, Patrick Gardner, Savannah, Georgia, Hannah (Michael) Garrison, Hastings, MI, SGT Benjamin Robertson, US Army, Ft. Bragg, NC, Nicholas and Zachary Davis, Norton Shores, MI; and 3 great grandchildren, Katrina Chapman, Grand Rapids, MI, Leigha Chapman and Wyatt Freeman, Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX. The family wishes to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the first responders of Columbia Township Fire Rescue for their diligent efforts and exemplary care of our father. Visitation will be held November 1, 2020 from 2-4pm with a memorial service immediately following at The First Congregational Church; 54138 CR 388; Grand Junction, MI. Masks are required. Private family graveside services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bangor American Legion Post #160 or Blue Star Mothers of Southwest Michigan #179. Arrangements by the Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

First Congregational Church of Grand Junction
54128 CR 388
Grand Junction, MI

Memorial Service

NOV 1. 4:00 PM (ET)

First Congregational Church of Grand Junction
54128 CR 388
Grand Junction, MI

Tribute Wall

JA

“ *John and Carol were always good to my brothers and me. I will always see them as family. Hate to know they're both gone. Never forgotten*

Jake - December 23, 2020 at 05:10 PM

KR

“ *Krista lit a candle in memory of John "Dutch" Edward Huizenga*



Krista - December 03, 2020 at 10:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John "Dutch" Edward Huizenga.*



October 30, 2020 at 11:14 AM

DB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family for their loss.*



Daniella Bloodworth - October 26, 2020 at 05:05 PM

RF

“ I met “MrHuizenga” at a sleepover with my new friend, Liz. I was astonished at how tall he was through my 10year old eyes. Surely he was a giant!

Yes, my 54 year old eyes can see that John was, indeed, a giant; a giant of kindness and optimism, a giant of faith and loyalty, and a GIANT of patience and love with/of family.

It is only with the fondest memories that I say “Til We Meet Again.”

Rita Buskirk Francisco - October 23, 2020 at 04:20 PM

DH

Mr. H as I called him at Walmart was very nice; we both talked about Neighborhood Watch. He will be missed my friend. GOD bless the family.

Dorothy Holmes - October 23, 2020 at 10:53 PM

SP

I worked with John at Walmart. He was such a joy to work with. He loved telling jokes & making people laugh. He never met a stranger. He will be surely missed. Praying for the family. Sorry for your loss.

Sharlene Petty - November 08, 2020 at 06:43 PM

RK

“ Johns passing leaves our community in sadness. He selflessly volunteered his time and talents helping and watching out for everyone. His cheerful personality, his stories and jokes always seemed to help us have a brighter day. We'll miss you old friend !
Ron and Texanne Kreiger

Ron kreiger - October 23, 2020 at 02:58 PM

SW

Sorry to hear about the passing of John but I am certain that he is standing next to my husband Ken, singing in the heavenly choir!

Stella Waller - October 23, 2020 at 08:33 PM

DA

John will be miss he was a good co worker take care

darcy - October 28, 2020 at 10:23 PM

MS

“ Prayers to John's family. He was a lot of fun to work with. John put a smile on my face whenever he was around with his funny stories and his jokes. Us ladies in the office especially liked to see his reaction when it was someone's birthday and we had cake! He definitely liked the sweets. I would always tell him that I was going to tell Carol. He was never a dull moment. Thank you for your service John! You will be missed.

Missy Sell - October 23, 2020 at 11:48 AM

CH

“ Sorry to hear about John's passing. He was a wonderful neighbor and big patriot. I will miss our chats and seeing his love for our veterans and country.

Chris Hodgman - October 23, 2020 at 09:33 AM



“ Sorry to hear of John's passing. He was a wonderful friend and neighbor. His presence and support in our community events will be greatly missed.

Charles Reinholtz Family

Charles Reinholtz - October 23, 2020 at 12:06 AM

BF

“ Very Sorry to hear the news of Johns passing. He loved his community and worked hard everyday to make it better. John will be missed and thought of often.

Brian Kreiger & Family - October 22, 2020 at 04:27 PM

BK

Brian Kreiger & Family

Brian Kreiger - October 22, 2020 at 04:28 PM

KW

Sorry to hear of John's passing. I only knew him from his drive thru's of the neighborhood and his concern for everyone's safety. Sympathy and prayers for the family.

karen will - October 24, 2020 at 04:38 PM

SS

I am so sorry for your loss! I knew John from working with him at Walmart! I worked with Carol, Dawn, and Liz as well! I wish I could give each one of you a hug! You are all in my prayers! 🙏🙏 Love, Sonya Sylvester

Sonya Sylvester - October 25, 2020 at 04:25 PM