



## John Alexander Kamerick

February 18, 2009

John was born on February 5, 1950 in Oskaloosa, Iowa to Golmore and Gladys (Bagley) Kamerick. While living in Melcher-Dallas he worked Flanagan's Grocery as a child. One of John's youngest work memories was having the idea of developing the successful drive up window for the grocery store. John graduated from Melcher-Dallas High School, class of 1969. During his senior year he was State of Iowa Golden Gloves Boxing Champion of 1969.

John, like his father before him, enlisted and served in the U.S. Navy from June 4, 1969 to March 12, 1973 and after an honorable discharge, he moved back to Knoxville. He began to work for Vermeer Manufacturing and after a short time he started his career with the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Knoxville. John began his career as a custodian and then the laundry department, then grounds and transportation, before becoming a pipe fitter and steam fitter. During his 35 year career with Veterans Administration he became a master pipe fitter, steam fitter, certified asbestos remover, and a certified medical gas system and brazier. John was awarded several certificates of achievement above and beyond his duty at the Veterans Administration, including the very prestigious employee of the year award. After a 35 year career he retired in April of 2005.

John married Brenda Lea Sulentich on June 1, 1974 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lovilia. Their 34 year marriage was blessed with two children, Apryle and Natasha.

While working at the Veterans Hospital and raising his family, John also enjoyed volunteering. He was active for ten years with the rural fire department, and for several years he would take two weeks of vacation and take veterans fishing in Clear Lake, Iowa. He was a member of the Masonic Oriental Lodge #61 of Knoxville and the Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Shrine. John also enjoyed several hobbies including fishing, woodworking, NFL Football, College Basketball, NASCAR Racing, flower gardening, yard work, copper sculptures and making birdhouses. He loved his family and playing with his grandchildren. He will be forever remembered as a model friend, husband, dad and grandfather.

John passed away on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Iowa City at the age of 59 years, and 13 days.

John is survived by his wife, Brenda of Knoxville; two children, Apryle Maddy (Mike) of University Park, and Natasha Lambert (Roy) of Knoxville; four grandchildren, Milliejean, Michael John, Perry Luke, and Porschella Lea Marie. He is also survived by four sisters, Sharon Petersma (Richard) of Pella, Carol Jahner of Pensacola, Florida, Debbie Kamerick of Des Moines, and Eileen Kamerick of Melcher.

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Alexander Kamerick*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *John Alexander Kamerick*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I have never met John, but I was reading his obituary & felt compelled to send a note. I feel that the world has lost a special person when we lost John. It sounds like if there were more people like him, the world would be a better place. I lost my husband last year and we lost a very good man then too. I know the sorrow you are feeling and will experience, but I also know that if John was a Christian he is at the feet of Jesus now and in a wonderful place. My sincere sympathy to you and your family in your loss.*  
*Donna from Pella*

**Donna K. Vroom** - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Brenda, Apryle & Natasha~*

*We are so sad with you during this time! John was a very kind hearted man & will be greatly missed. You guys were the best neighbors! :)*

*Our thoughts & prayers are with you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Kevin & Susan Swartzendruber*

*(AKA...Susie Amos)*

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**Susan Swartzendruber** - March 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *Prayers are going up for all of you at this time.*

*John was a good guy!!*

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**Janet Wignall DeGOlyer** - March 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *Brenda, Apryle, & Natasha,*

*I just wanted to tell you all how very sorry I am to hear of your loss. It's been such a long time, but I have so many memories of you all. Going shopping and Brenda signing as my mom so I could get my ears pierced, shopping at fashion bug, and getting Natasha home 2 minutes past her curfew and John grounding us both. There are so many more I could name. John always had a great sence of humor especially when he'd be "checking for assholes" when I'd be talking to Natasha on the phone. I will miss him very much. My thoughts and prayers are with you all! Maggie Mae Phipps-Slykhuis*

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**Maggie Phipps-Slykhuis** - March 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ I never really met the family - but I was one of the neighborhood kids when we all grew up in Melcher-Dallas. Carol & I spent many a day together and John was always there "picking" on us yet keeping us out of trouble. He was great guy. We'll miss him.

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**Patti Hawxby** - March 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ Brenda and Family, although I've never had an opportunity to meet you, I wanted you to know that John and I used to work together at Flanagan's grocery store. We typically worked together on Sunday afternoons. It really didn't make a difference when we worked -- we laughed most of the time, so I'm not sure just how valuable we were to Don and Violet. I haven't seen John since I left Melcher-Dallas in 1968 but I will never forget how wonderful he was. You have all been blessed to have him in your lives and I know that your fond memories will help you through this difficult time. I am praying for you. Please give my deepest sympathies to Sharon, Carol, Debbie and Eileen as well. Sincerely -- Trudy (Jeffries) Gaub

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**Trudy (Jeffries) Gaub** - March 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Life can be so short and very sad when we lose someone we love. I'm thinking of you and wanted to say I love you and hope you are able to find some comfort and support from your loved ones in your time of sorrow. We in Albia are thinking of you. I'll always remember him as a man with sense of humor like no other. John, could always make me laugh.

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**Jill West & family** - March 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ *Our thoughts and prayers have been with you for sometime but especially now. John was a good guy!*

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**Sandy (Hansaker) Johnson** - March 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM