



John J. Mroczek

March 16, 1944 - June 30, 2024

Johnnie Joe (John) Mroczek 80 years old of Rensselaer passed away Sunday June 30, 2024, at home surrounded by his family.

John was born to Robert and Ethel (Joseph) Mroczek March 16, 1944, in Rensselaer, IN. John was the middle child of the family with a sister, Anna, older and a sister, Carolyn, younger. John lived on the same city block his entire 80 years. John was always a very hard worker, mowing lawns after school and in the summers and working many long hours in the large fields north of town as a kid to earn money for what he wanted and needed.

As a teen John loved to go roller skating for Saturday evening fun and relaxation, and on June 6, 1961, at Bazz's Roller rink he met a young girl named Kathy Redgate. It was love at first sight and they were married August 15, 1963.

John and Kathy were blessed with two amazing children Barbara, in 1964, and Michael in 1967.

John and Kathy with Barb and Mike spent the young growing up years traveling through many states on their annual vacations and various weekend excursions. Many favorite memories were made of visiting national parks & state parks and camping in their pick-up camper and then mini-motorhome

camper. John and Kathy's favorite phrase reminiscing about their younger years is, "our kids grew up seeing this country from border to border and ocean to ocean... on a baloney sandwich!" John worked hard, sometimes two or three jobs to provide the means for the fun of spending quality time with the family enjoying the blessings of this beautiful country we live in.

Anyone who knows John, knows he loves old cars, Wheel Horse tractors, and most anything with a motor that needs tinkering with! Over the years John managed to fill up a couple of good-sized buildings with his cars and tractor collection. This is a passion he has passed on to all three of his grandsons Nathan, Dylan & Dalton. Even after the cancer was taking a toll on his body John took the Hospice Chaplain, Rich Stoll, out to the garage to check out the Model A. On another of the Chaplain's visits when John was too weak to go outside, he insisted Mike take the Chaplain and show him a few more cars in the big toolshed.

John & Kathy continued to enjoy traveling after the kids were grown up and they became empty nesters. The camper was sold, and they decided that motels could be nice and at times a lot less work. They continued to take several trips each year as time and money permitted. Road trips through the western US was probably their favorite destination, but then MI UP was pretty cool also, and until Hurricane Michael destroyed it they had a favorite beach destination on the Gulf of Mexico in FL. Excursions on old steam powered tourist trains were also a huge enjoyment for them, soot in your face and hair and all that along goes with those huge black steam engines! And last but certainly not least... some of their most favorite trips were "getting their kicks on old Route 66"! John and Kathy were blessed to enjoy so much of this beautiful country.

John retired from White Castle Bakery in January 2022, following 23 years of service, just two months before his 78th birthday, as I said earlier John was

always a hard worker and loved his work. John also worked 32 years at Northway Products and several years prior to that at Saint Joseph's College.

John was affiliated with the Bethany Evangelical Free Church where he enjoyed keeping the planters full of beautiful flowers all summer long. John and Kathy also hosted a huge bon-fire/weenie roast for many years inviting the entire congregation, as well as friends and neighbors to spend an enjoyable evening around a blazing bon-fire.

John is survived by his wife of nearly 61 years Kathy, daughter Barbara of Rensselaer, son Michael, wife Kim of Monticello, 3 grandsons Nathan Mroczek, wife Deanna, of Rensselaer, Dylan Mroczek of Monticello, Dalton Mroczek, partner Hannah of Rensselaer. Great grandchildren Cameron Grzych, Morgan Mroczek and Jonathan Mroczek all of Rensselaer. He is also survived by his sister Anna, husband Bud Eisele of TX, brother-in-law Don Curnutt, wife Sharon of Monticello, brother-in-law Bill Boles of Elkhart. numerous nieces and nephews, John & Brenda Eisele, Tim & Carmin Eisele & family, Linda & Steve Jennings & family, Randy & Cindy Cook & family, Rick & Viola Cook & family and Roger & Sue Cook and family.

John was preceded in death by his parents, his in-laws Clarence & Ruby Redgate, his sister Carolyn Boles, his beloved granddaughter Caylynn Mroczek, sister-in law Eileen Cook-Reid, niece Christine and gr-niece Candace.

Friends may call on the family on Friday, July 5, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM CT at Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer. A funeral service will follow at 1:00 PM CT with interment at Memory Gardens Cemetery of Rensselaer.

Memorial contributions may be made to Franciscan Hospice.

Cemetery Details

Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

Memory Gardens
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5125
info@jacksonfuneral.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 5. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer
250 N. McKinley Avenue
P.O. Box 70
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5123
info@jacksonfuneral.com
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

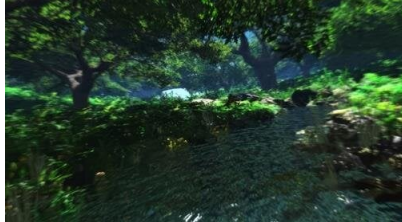
JUL 5. 1:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer
250 N. McKinley Avenue
P.O. Box 70
Rensselaer, IN 47978
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Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of John J. Mroczek



Jackson Funeral Chapels - July 03, 2024 at 05:32 PM

DO

“ Kathy, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. I didn't know John, but he was surely a wonderful fellow, husband and father. I remember you from attending school with you in our younger days in the Rensselaer Schools. Life took us in different directions, but hopefully, before our days are over, we'll have the opportunity to connect once again. Take care, and my deepest sympathy to you and your family, Dorothy Gilbert Lefler

Dorothy - July 05, 2024 at 04:12 PM

GE

Well mom and Jon can fix all of God's cabinets.

Gabriel Edwards - July 07, 2024 at 09:11 AM

JF

“ Joyce F. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Mroczek.

Joyce F. - July 05, 2024 at 11:31 AM

SJ

“ *Just a humble man who knew no strangers to offer a helping hand. Uncle John shared his gifts and talents with his family and community. What a wonderful smile. His laughter was infectious and always made you forget your troubles. Wonderful memories.....prayers for comfort and peace to Aunt Kathy and the family.. Forever in our hearts....*



Steve & Linda Jennings - July 05, 2024 at 09:03 AM

JC

“ *Jade & Tanya Casteel purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of John J. Mroczek.*



Jade & Tanya Casteel - July 04, 2024 at 11:15 AM

WD

“ *Wendy D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Mroczek.*

Wendy D. - July 03, 2024 at 08:51 PM

WD

“ Wendy Drinnon lit a candle in memory of John J. Mroczek



Wendy Drinnon - July 03, 2024 at 08:07 PM



“ 136 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jackson Funeral Chapels - July 03, 2024 at 12:44 PM

HL

“ Homer And Theresa Lakin lit a candle in memory of John J. Mroczek



Homer and Theresa Lakin - July 03, 2024 at 12:10 PM

LL

“ My sympathies to the family. Barb, I'm sorry to read the passing of your father. I will be thinking of you and saying some prayers.
Linda Scripter Lowry



Linda J Lowry - July 03, 2024 at 10:06 AM

JD

“ So sorry for your loss Kathy and family. May your memories bring you comfort.
Judy Doppelfeld

Judy Doppelfeld - July 03, 2024 at 08:56 AM

CE

“ John and Kathy were so much fun. When my daughters were young we camped several times together. Always great fun so sorry to hear of John's passing.

Cathy Dunlap Epler - July 03, 2024 at 08:50 AM

DG

“ My husband and I enjoyed traveling on motorcycle. We met John and Kathy, I believe it was Colorado, at a motel. We hung out that evening talking. 2 of the nicest people we have ever met on the road.

Dee Gunderson - July 02, 2024 at 10:58 PM

TS

“ I often was included in the bon fires and John made sure I felt the warmth of family as well as Kathy did and the church families. They had a wonderful life and shared it freely. For 26 years I have been lucky enough to be made to feel like family. I was saddened to hear of his passing but know he is at peace and making a spot for resting now as well. He will be greatly missed by all. Prayers of healing and remembrance for all the families at this time.

Terry Saunders - July 02, 2024 at 08:54 PM

TE

“ Loved having Uncle John & Aunt Kathy come to AZ for a visit while on one of their Rte 66 Trips!
We were blessed to visit Uncle John in early June 2024 and hear some of his travels out west... and of which sights we are now enjoying as we speak... SS Badger Ferry ride and now the South Dakota sights! We will miss your laughter and stories, Uncle John... Love and prayers to you, Aunt Kathy, and your family. Love, Tim & Carmin

Tim & Carmin Eisele - July 02, 2024 at 06:48 PM

JM

“ Jerry Miller lit a candle in memory of John J. Mroczek



Jerry Miller - July 02, 2024 at 05:44 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John J. Mroczek.*



July 02, 2024 at 04:43 PM



“ *Dave And Becky (Ulm) Walter lit a candle in memory of John J. Mroczek*



Dave and Becky (Ulm) Walter - July 02, 2024 at 04:31 PM



“ *The White Castle Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John J. Mroczek.*



The White Castle Family - July 02, 2024 at 04:27 PM



“ *Martin's Strawmier purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John J. Mroczek.*



Martin's Strawmier - July 02, 2024 at 04:07 PM

MS

“ *Martin’s Strawmier planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Mroczek.*

Martin’s Strawmier - July 02, 2024 at 04:07 PM