



## John Paul Clarke

November 27, 2019

John Paul Clarke passed away peacefully on November 27, 2019 at the Baptist Health Lexington Hospital, Lexington Kentucky, after a strong and courageous battle with ALS. John was 56 when he died having been born on June 28, 1963. He was the son of Joseph W. Clarke, Jr. and the late Marie Rabena Clarke. He is survived by his wife Suzanne Farmer Clarke, his children Hannah and Jack , his brothers Joseph (Jeannie) , James (Lisa) and Jason (Debbie) and sister Maria Kolimago (John). John is also survived by many loving cousins, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and friends.

John was raised in Haddon Township with summers in Sea Isle City. After he married, his family resided in Moorestown NJ for many years before moving to Lexington Kentucky a few years ago. He also had a summer home in Sea Isle City, NJ.

John was a prominent practicing attorney licensed in NJ and Pa. with offices in Haddonfield, Cherry Hill and Sea Isle City. He was the owner of State Line Abstract Title Agency. He was a Graduate of Saint Joseph's University and Western Michigan University Thomas Cooley Law School, Lansing, Michigan.

John loved life and was an avid golfer, fisherman, body surfer and skier. He enjoyed ice skating, was a nature lover and loved working on his homes, boats and bicycles. He coached many youth sports programs in Moorestown.

He loved music and had a playlist he played on his eye recognition computer. He was a sports enthusiast, a true unwavering fan of Saint Joe's, Eagles, Phillies, Sixers and more recently Lexington Catholic, Kentucky and South Carolina. Over the years he was known as the Big Kahuna (body surfing champ), King (home coming), best looking, coach, counselor at law, Johnny Boy, "the genuinely nicest person I ever met", best friend, bartender (earlier summers at Fred's), animal lover, "a true gentleman," "Bro" and on and on. In his younger years he learned about fishing and boating working at Pier 88 in Townsend Inlet and he enjoyed working the infield at the Kentucky Derby.

John was a long time member of the Townsend Inlet Yacht Club, Laurel Creek Country Club and member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Moorestown.

John had a fabulous sense of humor and a welcoming smile that said, you're my friend. He loved everyone and everyone he came in contact with loved John. His father asked him recently, "Johnny, why does everybody love you so much?" His response was, "Pop, its because I love everybody." He never ever complained about having ALS. He said "God has a plan." He said to his brother Jim, " Hey Bro, just roll with it." He fought as hard as he could, as said by Piera the head of research at Jefferson's ALS clinic "with courage, dignity and resilience, always thinking of his children, siblings and family." His children were his world. He was so proud of them. His goal was to see Hannah graduate and to see Jack play more Lacrosse. He can't now physically but he'll surely be there in spirit. The suffering is over. He's body surfing above the clouds, running free, sipping some bourbon and is at peace and refreshed within the embrace of his mom in the presence of God. Like his mom he sure "had a way about him." Rest in peace, dearest Johnny, we love you, we miss you but we'll see you soon. We can now add a new name for John: he is SAINT JOHN. If he's not in Heaven we're all in trouble.

There will be a visitation on Wed. December 18, 2019 from 6 to 8 PM at the Lewis Funeral Home, 78 E. Main Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Mass to celebrate John's life will be at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church , 42 W. Main Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057 on Thurs. December 19, 2019, at 10:30 AM .

In Lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the ALS Association in John's name.

# Cemetery Details

**PRIVATE INTERMENT**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

DEC **18**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Lewis Funeral Home  
78 E Main St  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
(856) 235-0009  
lewisfh@msn.com  
<https://www.lewisfuneralhomemoorestown.com>

### Mass of Christian Burial

DEC **19**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Good Counsel  
42 West Main Street  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
(856) 235-0181  
<http://www.olgcnj.org>

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ There are many times, we as human, really don't know how much someone means to us, until they're gone. John touched my heart, life, soul, mind, and spirit, more than anyone that I've known. In this lifetime with him was short. There is not a week that goes by, that I don't think of him. John was a spiritual beacon in my life, for my kids, and my grand-daughter. The short time I was with him, I am now cherishing it. I cry a lot of times that I wished, hoped, and could get back the times, I was with him. All we have of him now, are precious memories. Ones that'll be forever cherished, till God calls us home.

John, I love you so, so, so much. No one can never take your place in my heart. If only I knew back then, that my Angels have been leading me to you for many years before. The signs were so phenomenally amazing, and pointing me to your direction, I am so sorry Johnny. I love you.

I only have a little peace, knowing, and seeing you in the world of light. As humans, we don't know, nor do we yet know the will of our Creator. I love you so much. I was so fortunate to have spend, such a short time with you. But in heaven, there is no time. No days, no weeks, hours, minutes, nor seconds. I will see you soon. I'm honored to have met you. I will love you so much JPC. And I will love you, as long as I live, and God permits me to remember you.

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**Mhercedes** - March 27 at 03:45 AM



“ John Paul Clarke

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October 09, 2023 at 03:30 AM



“ *John Paul Clarke*

November 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *The Peck Family sent a virtual gift in memory of John Paul Clarke*



**the Peck Family** - December 20, 2019 at 04:58 PM



“ *Blessings on the Clarke family at this difficult time .*

*Dick and Marilyn Kelly*

**Dick Kelly** - December 20, 2019 at 01:26 PM



“ *Sincere sympathy to the Clarke family...Betty Delaney (classmate of Joe at Camden Catholic)*

**Betty Delaney** - December 19, 2019 at 06:20 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Slideshow*



**Lewis Funeral Home** - December 19, 2019 at 06:00 PM

NC

“ So many endless happy childhood memories growing up with Johnny across the street and all the Clarke boys hanging with my brother and myself and Maria and 'little' Jason and fun times down in Sea Isle we would run amuck between the beach and the bay and our parents would go out to dinner with 'their group' we would just have so much fun running around in the dark playing tag and chasing each other not a care in the world. Johnny had such a spark and a smile and was always so sweet and nice and happy and funny. He was so dearly loved by everyone. I'm sure Mrs. Clarke was there to greet Johnny as he entered through the gates. God I loved Mrs. Clarke too..her personality and her beauty, she was truly one of a kind. The Clarks were more than neighbors..they were extended family. They wear their broken hearts with a smile. My deepest condolences to all.

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**Noelita Cuifolo** - December 19, 2019 at 08:26 AM

TM

“ Joe and family- You should never have to bury a child, So sorry for your loss. I know he is now with his mom for Christmas. God Bless - Tommy Metts Stuart, FL

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**Tommy Metts** - December 14, 2019 at 12:53 PM

TK

“ We can't say it much more eloquently than as we remember what Hannah "West" Kutcher shared with us that she sent in her sorrow text to Hannah "East" Clarke shortly after learning of your passing – "I'll always remember the fun your Dad had with mine with their fun competitive comparisons of us as they humorously tried to one-up each other (Hannah ("East" Moorestown) vs Hannah ("West" Moorestown) with made-up crazy accomplishments and worldly achievements of one Hannah to the other when we were kids (accomplishments and achievements, of course that we never really had). We'll miss your Dad" With heartfelt condolences to the extended Clarke family, The Kutcher family.

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**The Kutchers** - December 12, 2019 at 09:08 AM

DK

“ Sending heartfelt condolences to John's family.

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**Deborah Keyek-Franssen** - December 11, 2019 at 06:21 PM

JC

“ We have known the Clarke family for more than sixty years. They are an awesome bunch but John Paul has redefined the word courage for all of us !! Go now Johnny Boy and walk forever with your Mother. Love always, Katie & Joe Convery



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**Joe Convery** - December 11, 2019 at 05:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Paul Clarke.



December 10, 2019 at 07:59 PM



“ John’s life was far too short but was certainly a life well lived. His smile lit up a room, his humor was infectious, and his kindness had no boundaries. In good times and bad he always had a positive attitude. A true inspiration for all who were lucky enough to know him. During my career at Clarke Law Offices I received many cards which Marie always signed “Love all us Clarkes.” My love and prayers are with “All you Clarkes” at this most difficult time.  
Ellen Keating Forsyth

Ellen Keating Forsyth - December 10, 2019 at 10:30 AM



Thanks Ellen. You're part of the Clarkes.

Joseph Clarke - December 10, 2019 at 02:39 PM



Thanks Ellen. You're part of the Clarkes.

Joseph Clarke - December 10, 2019 at 02:39 PM



“ Courtney lit a candle in memory of John Paul Clarke



Courtney - December 10, 2019 at 09:50 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Paul Clarke.*



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December 09, 2019 at 05:33 PM



“ *I love you Johnny. I am so proud to have had you as my son for 56 years. I am so happy and blessed that I had the chance to see you practically every day of the last 6 months of your life in Sea Isle. I can't believe how you were able to live in your totally paralyzed body, fully aware of everything and as smart as you always were, unable to lift a finger, or scratch an itch or eat or drink or shake hands or hug someone or kiss anyone or lift or move your head or wipe your nose or mouth.. All with no complaints ever and with that beautiful smile and sense humor that made everyone around you light up. I miss sitting with you while you played your favorite music on your eye computer. "My Old Man" by Zac Brown, "Ripple", "Into the Mystic" by Van Johnson and the others,.I miss you saying with your eye computer, " hey poppy wassup" " good night poppy, I love you" "yeah man" " stretch me" "you brought sunshine into my life" to the nurses and when Jim took you in your chair up the boardwalk and around town you said " hey Bro, this is magical". It was inspiring to hear you direct things to be done around your house, garage and yards and for you to direct us from your wheelchair and inspect the job and smile. Everyone loved you Johnny Clarke and how could they not. You loved everyone. A huge part of me died with you. I miss you and love you so much it hurts. Pray for me Saint John. With all my Love forever, Dad/ Poppy*

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**Joseph Clarke** - December 09, 2019 at 05:32 PM

LA

*I will never forget those days and late nights hanging out in sea isle the last few months. No matter how late it was or how tired you were... you would come in to say goodnight to your boy... to tuck him in. When he was preparing for his journey, you were writing down note after note about all the details involved in his care to send along with him. He never gave up and you never gave up. You were right there seeing to it that he was as healthy and as strong as he could be. On July 5th, Johnny emailed me a picture of the two of you on the beach watching fireworks together. This picture meant the world to him. A special bond between a father and son. I'm so sorry for your loss, Uncle Joe. You and Marie raised an amazing man... a Superman. You have a beautiful family. I'm so proud of them and YOU. Xo*

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**Lisa Alexander** - December 10, 2019 at 09:30 AM

JC

*Thanks Goddaughter/niece Lisa. Johnny loved seeing you and your spending so much time with him. Those fireworks were very special.*

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**Joseph Clarke** - December 10, 2019 at 02:39 PM

MB

“*Johnny was a beautiful man inside and out. Those are the facts of his life and they are undisputed. If you are lucky enough to have been touched by his friendship, his compassion, his loyalty and his love, then his story will never end. He will be in your heart forever. John P. Clarke is one of a kind. I will always be proud and grateful that he considered me his friend. Luv you buddy, always. Mason & Tracey*

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**Mason Bradley** - December 09, 2019 at 01:59 PM

JC

*Amen Mason*

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**Joseph Clarke** - December 10, 2019 at 02:37 PM

CR

“ Our families lived down the st from one another and have become close as we grew up. I will always remember the friendship we shared and your amazing personality! You will truly be missed by everyone and everyone will miss that amazing smile you have! Till we meet again friend rest in peace John.

Christopher and Erika Reynik - December 08, 2019 at 07:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Paul Clarke.



December 08, 2019 at 03:40 PM

DW

“ Denise Clarke Walsh lit a candle in memory of John Paul Clarke



Denise Clarke Walsh - December 08, 2019 at 02:28 AM