



John W. Leighbody

June 7, 1948 - September 19, 2022

John William Leighbody was born on June 7, 1948 in Buffalo, NY. His parents, Vera and Gerald Leighbody, delighted in raising a spirited but loving son who befriended everyone he knew. He was a champion high school swimmer, Student Council President and loved his entire Kensington experience. He excelled in leadership in any activity he chose. He admits the best things about attending and graduating from Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA in 1970 were his classmates and bridge.

One of his favorite places on earth was Camp Pathfinder Island (CPI), Algonquin Park, Ontario, Canada. Upon meeting his wife Linda in October 1971 he proudly explained that he spent his six summers “tripping” there. Since it was “The Age of Aquarius” Linda did not realize he meant canoe tripping! They giggled about that frequently. After a whirlwind courtship of nine weeks John took Linda to CPI for their Honeymoon Summer in 1972.

As a Flex-Temp teacher in the Buffalo School System John expanded his repertoire of teaching skills to include History, General Science and Math. He loved his students and they loved him. It was an exciting wonderful time especially since the Leighbody family expanded with the birth of his beautiful daughter Mara Caerleon in 1976 and his handsome son, John Barrett in 1979 – his clone!

But the business world was calling and eventually John moved his growing family to Philadelphia in 1988 to join The Beringer Group. He was greatly admired and respected by the team and their clients. It was with a no-nonsense, calm, and reasoned approach that he counseled clients and helped them make the important decisions that faced them, their businesses and their families. His colleagues and clients alike said he was a joy to work with and incredibly helpful and knowledgeable.

An avid golfer and swimmer John enjoyed life to the fullest and was most proud of his children, JB, his wife Lynn, Mara, her husband, Michael McCabe and his grandchildren: Reese Madalyn, Michael John (Mac) and Declan Charles.

John and his wife Linda's relationship with Good Shepherd started nearly two years ago, and since then, they contributed enormously to the life of this parish. They led the effort in cleaning out the former Thrift Shop, and John helped with Sunday livestreaming and joined the Finance Committee shortly before his illness. John was present at our painting days in the retreat house and was always willing to chip in when help was needed. John's good humor, generosity of spirit, and kindness will be greatly missed.

He was a fantastic husband, a loving proud father, adoring grandfather, the uncle everyone wanted to have, and loyal friend to all whether he knew you five minutes or five decades. John was a fanatic golfer who relished his nickname: The Legend. He felt as passionate about the Buffalo Bills as any Buffalonian...his divine intervention this season is expected.

John died peacefully at home after a short illness on September 19. He was one of a kind: funny, irreverent, generous.

We ask that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Church of the Good Shepherd www.goodshepherdrosemont.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of The Good Shepherd
1116 W Lancaster Ave.
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Tribute Wall

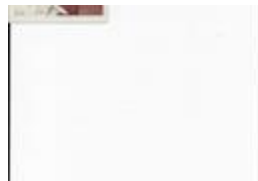
DS

“ John and I were friends and attended elementary and high school together and lived just around the corner from each other. Click on and see the photo I have attached on this page. He was a wonderful person and liked by everyone. I am so sorry to just now learn that he has passed....ironically on my birthday. My deepest condolences to all his family. Dennis Schooley, Kenmore NY

Dennis Schooley - December 22, 2024 at 04:30 PM

DS

“ 1 file added to the album John's Elementary friends at school PS#80 graduation



Dennis Schooley - December 22, 2024 at 03:50 PM

SW

“ Linda, Mara, JB and family,
I was in the last pew at John's beautiful service. I was unable to say hello, but I accompany you in my thoughts and prayers. May your memories keep you connected to John. I always appreciated being in his company.
Love and prayers,
Sister Susan



Sister Susan Walsh - September 23, 2022 at 01:18 PM

Dan
Wilson

“ *Mr. Leighbody couldn't have been nicer to me since the day I met him!!! We shared so many memories at Philadelphia Country Club playing golf and hanging by the pool deck!! Mr. Leighbody was true lefty/south paw 🐾! He had so many great stories and memories at Philadelphia Country Club that he past onto us! I will truly miss his left handed swing and his great personality!!! Thanks Mr. Leighbody for all your advice, jokes, stories, etc.*

Your Friend, Daniel Wilson 🍷🍷🍷

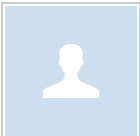
Dan Wilson - September 23, 2022 at 11:32 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of John W. Leighbody.*



September 22, 2022 at 12:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John W. Leighbody.*



September 21, 2022 at 10:28 AM