



John Oswald

APR 5, 1933 - MAR 28, 2022



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John Oswald

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John Joseph Oswald, 88, passed away at his home on Monday, March 28, 2022, 8 days before his 89th birthday. He was born in Minden City, Michigan on April 5, 1933 to the late Raymond and Sarah Oswald.

One knew when John, or “Coach,” entered a room even if not hard of hearing. He told the best stories and had a great personality. He had a presence, some people call it. One either loved John or he drove you crazy. One consistent trait, however, was his ability to find something in common with anyone. To make conversation with complete strangers was a gift he had and it was admired.

Most of John’s adult life was spent as a teacher helping students and student-athletes. If one was lucky enough to have been coached by him the terms THERE IS NO “I” IN TEAM, STRIKE 3, YOU’RE OUT, GO TO THE HOOP, REBOUND and HANDS UP are indelible in your minds. If you knew John these were the words that he used for over 40 years.

John retired from teaching and coaching after 30 years. His last 27 years were spent working at Chippewa Hills High School in Remus, Michigan. However, he did miss his students and Chip Hills wanted to hire him back so he spent another 10 years teaching and mentoring. After retirement John was a baseball umpire for many years.

He loved his Michigan State Spartans, and all sports in general, but his love was basketball. John and his best friend, Richard Woodworth – Woody – bought property together establishing a hunting cabin known as “The Ritz” and an annual golf outing. John was well known for his antique tractors that he and his brother, Robert Oswald, took to the Buckley Old Engine Show every August for 20 years, what fun we had.

John was a member of St Michael’s Catholic Church in Remus, Michigan for many years.

John was united in marriage to Sandra Cortner (Sandy) on August 19, 1995. John loved to travel. In the last 10 years John and Sandy traveled in a motor home and antiques to the point we couldn’t



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sleep in the motor home because it was so full.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 26 years, Sandy, his children, Julie Oswald, Joel Oswald and Janna Oswald, his brother Robert Oswald of St Clair Shores, Michigan. He also has 11 grandchildren, Claire, Lily and Grace Topalian, Casey Magnan, Joel Jr., Jarred, Jordan and Hannah Oswald, and Jerome Jones, father of Michael and Tyler Jones. There are also 13 great grandchildren and one great great grandson.

He also has 2 step sons, Scott & Chad Cortner and 2 step grandchildren, Katelyn and Kyle Cortner. John is preceded in death by his, parents, Raymond and Sarah Oswald, his first wife, Jean Oswald, mother of his three children, sisters Mary Messing and Shirley Booms, his brothers James Oswald, Father Ray Oswald, and Richard Oswald.

John served in the Korean conflict in the 39th 2D Infantry of the U.S. Army from December 1, 1954 to November 24, 1956.

A Resurrection Mass will be held Saturday, April 2nd at 11:00 with open visitation at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Remus, Michigan.

Family only visitation will be Friday, April 1st from 4:00 to 5:00 at Janowicz Family Funeral Home, followed by open visitation from 5:00 to 7:30 with Rosary at 7:30.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Michael's School.






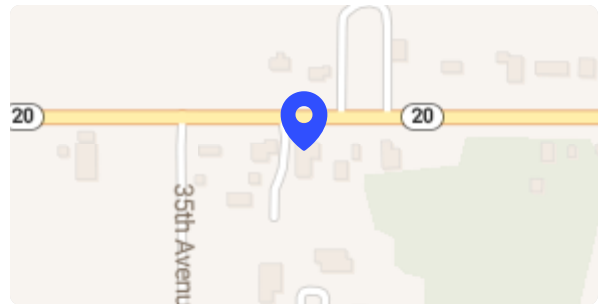
Events

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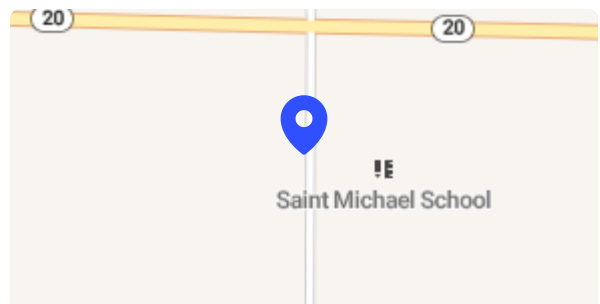
Viewing

-  **Friday, April 1, 2022**
-  5:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET
-  **Janowicz Family Funeral Home**
469 W. Wheatland Ave., Remus MI 49340






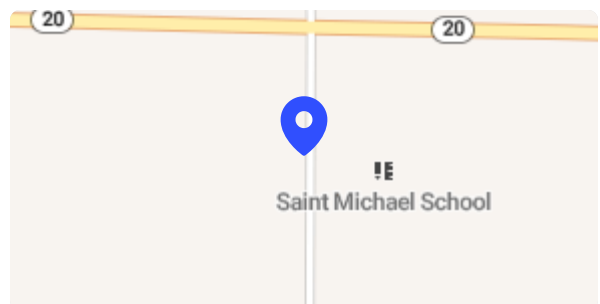
Viewing

-  **Saturday, April 2, 2022**
-  10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
-  **St. Michael's Catholic Church**
8929 50th Ave., Remus MI 49340



Service

-  **Saturday, April 2, 2022**
-  11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET
-  **St Michael Church**
8929 50th Ave, Remus MI 49340





Tribute Wall

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MB

Michael Beebe posted:

Condolences to John's family and friends. John was an ever friendly caring person, who was willing to extend a helping hand, share and become involved. I was lucky to be a friend of this remarkable person. Mike Beebe

April 2 at 9:17 AM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Oswald family.



March 31 at 3:21 PM

RF

Romano Family posted:

I met John shortly after I started dating my wife. I had heard stories of my wife and her family going to the farm, feeding pigs, riding tractors and checking out the Ritz. The first time I went to the farm. John treated me like family. This was a testimony to his character and how much he loved my wife, Kate whom he lovingly called Katie. Every time we went to the farm John would want to give us something. An antique, something from his woodshop he had made or vegetables from the garden. Stories of John happened often in my home. John had given us his childhood dinner table, so stories were often told at dinner with my family sitting around the table. John's nature was kind, giving and generous. This was evident by the way he treated people in his daily life. Today John looks down on his family and friends from Heaven engulfed by GODS saving Grace.

March 31 at 9:46 AM



Tamra Figg Kemp posted:

Your positively contagious outlook on life will be missed dearly. When I was around You I couldn't stop smiling. You made every situation into a reason why it was happening and had a optimistic view. Your knowledge of sports was second to none and I learned so much from you. I will cherish officiating softball with you, even though we spent our whole check at the bar after! I can't sum up our friendship in 1 paragraph but I'm so grateful we always stayed in touch and reconnected these last few years. You have so many astonishing qualities- But this is my take on your amazing life of giving, caring and living life to the fullest- KINDNESS-is more than deeds- it is an attitude, an expression, a look, a touch. It is anything that lifts another person. That's YOU John "OZ" Oswald!! will miss you dearly! You're in the most amazing place right now- I know so. Your Faith is strong and so is God.

March 31 at 7:11 AM



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Mary Mcneilly posted:

John will be missed by all. He was a great friend. Hugs and prayers to Sandy and the family.

March 31 at 5:51 AM



Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Oswald family.



March 30 at 6:47 PM



Gary Moore posted:

John and I shared a countless number of great times together and he could always share the tales of them with other people. One adventure we had came up often and we both never forgot it. A friend of ours shot at a deer with his rifle in the swamp behind John's house. Shortly after he received an emergency call and had to leave for home 150 miles south. He looked briefly for the deer, but found nothing. He did take a little time to describe where the deer was when he shot. The next morning John and I both hunted for a while out of the blind and then started looking for the deer. We eventually got lucky and found a drop of blood about the size of a pea. Then a little more blood. After about 75 yards of tracking we found it. We were elated and patted ourselves on the back because at the Ritz we give it our best to find the game we shoot at. This is just one of the many precious memories I shared with Oz.

March 30 at 1:37 PM



Megan S posted:

When I was little I was terrified of John because he was tall and talked very loudly! I remember him letting my sister and I ride Daisy and Duke back when he had the halfingers, and I found out it was Daisy I should have been scared of.

March 30 at 9:23 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Oswald family.



March 30 at 7:22 AM



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NJ

Nila Jane posted:

There are no words to explain what a special human John was. He was a great teacher, coach, and friend. John was always smiling, always kind and would help anyone in need. I will forever miss him, and his grand hugs! Fly High my dear friend!

March 30 at 6:57 AM

FS

Fred Sprague posted:

John always gave all of us coaches the best encouragement! Always positive, always positive! He will be missed by many!

March 29 at 3:09 PM

AH

Angela Cook-Hoekwater posted:

I'm so sorry for your loss.

March 29 at 3:04 PM

TR

Tracy Ruell sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Oswald family.



March 29 at 1:35 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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