



John Thomas Gunther

March 2, 1935 - May 30, 2014

John Thomas Gunther, age 79, of Sunrise Beach, passed away Friday, May 30, 2014, at Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach. He was born March 2, 1935, in Le Mars, Iowa, a son of the late Claire and Mary Frances (Marx) Gunther.

On August 10, 1960, in Le Mars, he was united in marriage to his surviving wife, Janet (Mueller) Gunther.

John was a graduate of Westmar College in LeMars, Iowa and received post graduate degrees from the University of Iowa, in Iowa City, Iowa.

He was a lifelong educator and retired from Loess Hills Area Education Agency 13 in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

John was a member of the St. Patrick Catholic Church in Laurie, Knights of Columbus and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles.

John was a veteran of the United States Army.

In his spare time, he enjoyed stained glass, fishing, boating and cheering on his beloved Iowa Hawkeyes. Most of all, he loved his family and treasured the time he spent with them.

In addition to his wife, Janet, he is survived by his sons, John Gunther and wife Rhonda of Lee's Summit, Missouri, Joseph Gunther and wife Cathy of Libertyville, Illinois and Jay Gunther and wife Jennifer of McClelland, Iowa; daughters, Jennifer Gunther of Grayslake, Illinois and Jeanne Johnson and husband Trevor of Doniphan, Nebraska; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; his brothers, Claire "Bic" Gunther and wife Beverly of Lampe, Missouri, Jim Gunther and wife Sue of Le Mars, Iowa, Mark Gunther and wife Barb of Muscatine, Iowa and Doug Gunther and wife Connie of Escondido, California and many other relatives and friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Phil Gunther and his sister, Molly Embernate.

The family thanks the doctors and staff at Lake of the Ozarks Regional Health System, Lake Regional Cardiac Rehabilitation, University of Missouri, University of Nebraska, and Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs for the excellent care provided to John.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, June 6th, at the St. Patrick Catholic Church in Laurie with Father Patrick Dolan and Father Larry Hoffman concelebrating. Graveside services and interment will follow in St. Patrick's Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., Friday, at the church. Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Patrick Catholic Church.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick Cemetery

800 Highway O
Laurie, MO 65038

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
176 Marian Dr.
Gravois Mills, MO 65037
<http://www.stpatrickcatholicchurch.org>

Visitation

JUN 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
176 Marian Dr.
Gravois Mills, MO 65037
<http://www.stpatrickcatholicchurch.org>

Tribute Wall

SS

“ *To the Gunther Family:*

I am so sorry for your loss. You're all in my thought and prayers. May his soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in Peace.

Suzann Novak-Swale

Suzann Novak Swale - June 12, 2014 at 04:32 PM

PC

“ *I had just been remembering Janet with a co-worker of mine at Catholic Charities in Council Bluffs. She convinced me twenty-five years ago to volunteer there to do a women's group for abused women. As a result, I have been employed there part-time and full-time for twenty-four years. John had had major health problems then, and I doubt that anyone would have believed that he would live as long as he did. He and Janet always lit up when they saw each other like people do when they are in the first throes of their relationship. Their children were high functioning and beautiful. I know that there will be challenges for all of you. He will always be with you. His love and spirit will never go away.*

Thinking of you. You are in my prayers,

Pat Curran

Patricia Curran - June 10, 2014 at 01:56 PM

PF

“ Paul and Connie Mueller and family purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of John Thomas Gunther.



Paul and Connie Mueller and family - June 05, 2014 at 02:48 PM

CK

“ We're so sorry for your loss. You're in our thoughts & prayers.
Steven & Cara Koller

Cara Koller - June 05, 2014 at 09:17 AM

CD

“ John was a man who was believable and trusted as an educator and a friend. I valued the time that we worked together during stressful times at the Agency. The term "stand up guy" comes to mind when talking about him. I will miss him.

Carmen DeCinque - June 05, 2014 at 07:53 AM

KL

“ Sincere sympathy to the entire family.
As a co-worker at the AEA, I was blessed to work with John. He provided much support to me as a newby. I know he offered and provided his support to many more than me. I can still see his grin when I told or asked him something he knew could better have been done in another way. He has been and will be missed by so many. God bless John and you and your family as you go through this difficult time.
Karen Lohman

Karen Lohman - June 04, 2014 at 09:33 PM

MM

“ Condolences to the Gunther family for whom I was a babysitter for several active boys MANY years ago on Race Street . Memories of John helping out at Whaley's grocery and Janet as my reading teacher in 8th grade were prompted when I saw the obituary in the local Jefferson City News. My thoughts and prayers are with you as you adjust to the loss. Marlene Whaley Medin

Marlene Medin - June 04, 2014 at 08:08 AM

LS

“ Janet and family, Thinking of you at this diificult time in the loss of John, Sr. May wonderful memories of your love and family time together provide you great strength during this time.

Lisa (Blum) and Don Schwartz - June 03, 2014 at 08:52 PM

SM

“ We're sorry for the families loss. John and Janet are remembered for their leadership at Queen of Apostles church in Council Bluffs, Ia. Thank you both for the leadership you provided all those years and May the Perpetual Light shine upon him. Sue and I will pray a rosary for John.

Steve & Sue Meidlinger - June 03, 2014 at 01:20 PM



He must have been a great man, father, husband, relative and friend. I regret I never had the opportunity to meet him. I knew his son, Jay, and communicated with other family members. Their abilities and interpersonal communication skills must be, in part, must attributed to him.

While my thoughts, prayers, condolences and sympathy can do little to ease their grief, may their wonderful memories of him provide the strength needed to make it though this difficult time. Rest assured, family members and friends, that he now resides in the most joyous and beautiful Heavenly abode. He sees them now, and sends his blessings for them not to be saddened, but to celebrate his life together with him.

Randy Porter

Randy Porter - June 04, 2014 at 10:46 AM

Janet & Family...Rita & I wish to offer our sympathy to you in the passing of John Sr... John and Janet had been such faith sharing people for years here at Queen of Apostle's.and serving on several committee's with me.. We have missed our close friendship through these last years but the memories that we have will be treasured. Our prayers are with you, your family and John doing this sorrowful time. May his soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed through the Mercy of God rest in Peace. AMEN

AI & Rita Thramer - June 04, 2014 at 10:22 PM