



John Michael Papazian

November 26, 1961 - November 6, 2020

Papazian, John M. age 58 of Battle Creek. Beloved brother of Peter (Linda), Thomas (Arleen), Christine (George) Kordie and Lenore (James) Wengert. Proud uncle of many nieces & nephews. Dear son of the late Simon & Arax Papazian. John was a proud Navy Veteran who served on the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk. He was also an avid car enthusiast and very much enjoyed spending time with his friends at the Gilmore Car Museum. John's other great passion in life were all types of airplanes from WWII to custom planes. This made his work at Waco Airplane Company in Battle Creek all the more enjoyable. Interred at Fort Custer National Cemetery. Memorial contributions in memory of John's mother Arax may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Michigan Chapter, 25200 Telegraph Road, Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48033-7443. Arrangements entrusted to Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, Plymouth. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this web page.

Tribute Wall



“ *John Michael Papazian*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *It saddens our hearts to think of John being taken from this earth far too early. On the other hand, we are so grateful that John walked into our lives and we became friends. We enjoyed his company on many occasions at various classic car cruise-ins. Remembering his smile makes me think of how he enjoyed his friends, cars and planes. There will be a vast void at the car cruise-ins this summer without his presence. We always looked forward to seeing John and spending time with him. He had the best sense of humor and was a wonderful man. RIP my dear friend and tell Bill we said hi.*

Karen - February 24, 2021 at 11:58 AM



“ *I just found out about John passing away yesterday. I used to deliver papers to him and his mom on Schaller. He'd frequently be outside smoking, and we'd chat. He moved away to Battle Creek and we lost touch (we did have a long phone conversation about 10 years ago.)*

Things I remember most:

- * Stories regarding his naval adventures ("slimy wog day" and the encounter with a foreign sub!)*
- * Stories about his high school antics*
- * Cars and planes*
- * His car getting flattened from the explosion at his former employer*

Ken - December 13, 2020 at 11:29 AM

JD

“ I met John in april of 2019 when I first started working at waco aircraft. Both John and I were veterans so we would swap stories about our time in the military both good and bad. We are lunch together regularly and would listen to rush Limbaugh and complain about the crazy leftist. My wife also knew John from when him and Bill would eat at Big Boy John always ordered a strawberry shake. I'm gonna miss John and that Armenian disposition.

Jacob Dilling - November 25, 2020 at 05:59 AM

LW

Hi Jacob, we will let you all know at waco when we place him to rest at Fort Custer ❤️

Lenore Wengert - November 25, 2020 at 11:27 PM



Hi Jacob, it saddens me to know John past away last year I was hoping to get in touch with him since leaving the Navy in 1985.

Ivan Yamanaka - October 05, 2021 at 05:32 AM

MT

“ I first met John at a cruise in at the Gilmore Car Museum. John drove the Triumph Spitfire and parked next to my DeLorean. I got to ride in the spitfire a few times and it was a lot of fun. Got talkin cars. John taught me more about cars. We joked a lot. Also recently started watching The Untouchables and identify the cars shown in the tv show. You'll be missed John.

Matt Turnquist - November 17, 2020 at 04:46 PM

LW

Thank you for memory. ❤️

Lenore Wengert - November 25, 2020 at 11:29 PM

GG

Wow. I did not know John past away. I just found out. I met him back in 2001 at Duncan Aviation in Battle Creek where I still work. Spent lots of time together at Gilmore's car museum over the summer's past. Great guy, he will be missed.

Gabe Gross - January 28, 2021 at 08:31 AM

JF

“ I was 14 years old when I first met John. I was working my first job at the Gilmore car museum and I was absolutely amazed by his knowledge and passion for the automobile. Before I knew it we were going to all the local car shows and events together. Even when the weather got too cold we would still meet up just to talk about cars. There's a saying out there, “You don't stop playing because you get old, you get old because you stop playing”. John never stop playing. He taught me what it meant to truly be a man and what life is all about. John definitely left a mark on my life. He influenced me in so many ways. The last three years have truly been the best. John, you were more than just a friend. You were my best friend. You will forever be missed.

Jacob Fuller - November 17, 2020 at 04:14 PM

LW

Thank you so much! ❤️

Lenore Wengert - November 25, 2020 at 11:30 PM

SC

“ John. Was a father figure to me growing up in Springfield mi. I lived with him for several year growing up . He took all the misfits in and showed them how to work on cars and how to be a man. There is not a single day that goes by that i do not think about john. John thought me how to drive a stick shift. How to work on cars. How to fix just about anything.. This was a good man who spent years trying to help out others. John you may be gone but u will never be forgotten. Love u john. Sid carroll



Sid carroll - November 16, 2020 at 02:49 PM

LW

Hi Sid, would you like to know when we finalize his burial? Thank you for your kind words about my brother.

Lenore Wengert - November 17, 2020 at 03:46 PM

RB

“ Robert Bielski sent a virtual gift in memory of John Michael Papazian



Robert Bielski - November 16, 2020 at 10:53 AM

LW

Thank you Robert!

Lenore Wengert - November 17, 2020 at 03:46 PM