



John D. Snyder

September 28, 2021

*****Update***** A Celebration of John's Life will be held on Monday, July 11, 2022 at the Sedgeley Club on Philadelphia's Famous Boathouse Row. The address is 15 Kelly Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19130 from 1 PM to 4 PM. Valet Parking will be available. John's family invites you to come share stories and bring laughter as they remember their father who was larger than life!*****

John D. Snyder of Philadelphia peacefully passed away on September 28, 2021 at the age of 78. John was born in Philadelphia to Olivia Snyder (née Galvin) and John J. Snyder. John attended Cardinal Dougherty High School and went on to La Salle College where he participated in ROTC and crewed all four years. He graduated from college in 1964 and earned his Master's at Ball State University several years later. After college, he joined the United States Air Force where he served for 27 years. He was fortunate enough to travel the world while serving his country.

John's passions were his family, friends, golf, travel (especially to Ireland), Broadway musicals, his many dogs over the years and sitting on the beach with a nice cold beer and a good cigar. He is preceded in death by his wife, Paula Snyder (née Sullivan), who was the love of his life.

John is survived by his beloved daughters: Jennifer Snyder and husband Jeff

Duckworth, Kirstin Snyder and husband Michael Mitchell; also, his children through marriage Robert H. Donat, Jr. and wife Leah Donat, Julie Donat Woldin and husband Matthew Woldin.

John was known to his four grandchildren as Granddad, a name he loved to hear. He was loved deeply by Charlotte, Danielle, Dylan, and Francey. You could often find him clasping hands with any of his grandkids jumping waves or coaching them on how to catch the perfect one. He leaves behind his devoted sisters Mary Lou Goldberg and Kate Heron.

Service arrangements to be announced at a later date. Arrangements were entrusted to the care of Rachubinski & Rogers Funeral Homes.

Share Online Condolences at www.rachubinskiandrogersfh.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations in John's name may be made to Wounded Warrior Project www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 11. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Sedgeley Club

15 Kelly drive

Valet Parking Available

Philadelphia, PA 19130

Tribute Wall

JL

“ *Big John. They don't make them like John anymore.*

Big-hearted and joyous, John was the original man for all seasons. A real friend. John could be critical and tough but never unforgiving. You needed help or you needed someone to lend a hand? John was always there. He showed up: ready, dependable, kind, and supportive.

Our golf trips over the many years we knew each other were a pleasure -- all the more so because John brought a special sense of camaraderie and fun to these outings. He worked hard to make them successful and memorable.

We will miss John. Our friend and neighbor in New Hampshire, our friend for all seasons. He was special.

-- Jerry H. Loyd

Jerry H. Loyd - October 27, 2021 at 12:48 PM

JE

*Dear Jerry,
What a lovely tribute to Big John. He would love it!
Best,
Jennifer*

Jennifer - October 29, 2021 at 03:23 PM

DG

“ I think sometimes we lose sight of the profound impact we can have on one another, even in seemingly casual and brief encounters. Such was my experience with Mr. Synder. I will always be grateful for the time he took to impart some wisdom, humor, and caring to this (then very young) counselor of the sailing program at Little Egg. I was blessed to have several such times with him, and carry to this day the clear and poignant memories he imparted. My deepest sympathies to Bobby and Julie and their families, and prayers that the love and laughter they shared will quickly supplant the pain of their loss.

Dave Grove - October 18, 2021 at 10:56 AM

JS

Thank you, Dave, for your tribute to my Dad. It's lovely.
Best,
Jennifer

Jennifer Snyder - October 18, 2021 at 01:25 PM

PK

“ I came to know John at LEHYC while we were both involved with the Reclam the Bay organization. John and I were part of a team who weekly cleaned the container of growing oysters to be planted on Mordecai Island.
John jumped in to help no matter what needed to be done. He loved to tell stories about his time in Beach Haven or what his family members were all up to. He was so very proud of all their accomplishments, including his lovely wife Paula. John was a jovial, kind, funny man and I was so glad to have met him.

Peggy Kershaw - October 13, 2021 at 11:13 PM

JS

Thank you, Peggy. This is a lovely memory. Best, Jennifer

Jennifer Snyder - October 14, 2021 at 03:55 PM

SM

“ Remembering all the volunteer time John contributed at the Turtle Creek Club is amazing and he will be particularly missed for entertaining children and families as the tallest Santa and Easter Bunny!. Both John and Paula shared a genuine gift of giving of their time to committees, boards, activities and golf events at the Turtle Creek Club community. They were truly encouraging ambassadors, delightful to play golf with and attending the social events always making other feel welcomed.

We extend our sympathy to the Snyder Family.

Tom & Sue Manzi

Suzanne Manzi - October 13, 2021 at 04:04 PM

JS

Dear Tom and Sue,
Thank you for your fond memories of my Dad. He loved the TCC community.

Best,
Jennifer

Jennifer Snyder - October 13, 2021 at 06:23 PM

RA

“ John and I spent many hours together on the golf course. I have always enjoyed our time together on and off the golf course. My wife and I would see John and Paula at St. Jude's 7:30 am Sunday Mass and would enjoy breakfast together after the service quite often. Great couple who will be greatly missed !!!

Our Sincere Condolences,
Rich & Enola Alessi

Richard Alessi - October 10, 2021 at 07:02 PM

JS

*Thank you, Rich. Your message was very nice.
Best,
Jennifer*

Jennifer Snyder - October 11, 2021 at 02:50 PM

GT

“ Mary Jean and I met John and Paula at Turtle Creek Club. John and I shared many good moments on the golf course but my fondest memory was one night at our house in Juno Beach. It was one of those rare dinner parties for ten people that came together perfectly, primarily because of John. The food was good, the drinks were plentiful and John was at his best. He sang, he told stories, he laughed and exuded charm. We all knew it was one of those magical nights that will never be forgotten - and either will John.

Gerry & Mary Jean Teachman - October 06, 2021 at 02:03 PM

JS

*Thank you, Gerry. What a lovely memory!
-Jennifer Snyder*

Jennifer Snyder - October 06, 2021 at 09:36 PM

TH

John and Paula will be truly missed. They were quite the couple. So many memories of gatherings at Turtle Creek and in their home enjoying the moments of fun and laughter. They w

the Haggerty's - October 07, 2021 at 08:02 AM

TH

John and Paula will be truly missed at Turtle Creek. They were our entertainment. Many memories of John in costume and Paula always at his side. May they both RIP.

the Haggerty's - October 07, 2021 at 08:05 AM

MC

John and Paula were a team. They were an integral part of Turtle Creek for many years - always ready to plan entertainment, get in costume or decorate for the pleasure of the Members. They gave of themselves unselfishly and are missed. No doubt when your loss subsides your wonderful memories will surface. Know that we share in your sympathy.

marvella campbell - October 08, 2021 at 10:47 AM

JS

*Thank you for posting these lovely memories, the Haggerty's. It is fun to read.
Best,
Jennifer*

Jennifer Snyder - October 08, 2021 at 12:09 PM

JS

*Dear Marvella,
Thank you for your tribute. I love hearing about the fun times at TCC with my Dad and Paula.
XO
Jennifer*

Jennifer Snyder - October 08, 2021 at 12:10 PM

CO

“ I have such fond vivid memories from my earliest childhood of my Uncle John. He was a giant of a man. Our thoughts and prayers go out to my cousins Jennifer and Kirstin and the entire Snyder extended family.

*With love,
Charles and Debbie O'Donnell*

Charles and Debbie O'Donnell - October 05, 2021 at 09:32 PM

JS

Thank you, Charles and Debbie. xoox

Jennifer Snyder - October 06, 2021 at 09:37 PM

DT

So sad to hear of John's passing. I got to know John while we served together on the Board at Turtle Creek. We had many enjoyable conversations about sports and Philadelphia where I grew up as well. John and Paula were fun people and much loved at Turtle. My condolences to your family.

David Tassell

David Tassell - October 07, 2021 at 09:21 AM

JS

Thank you, David.

Jennifer Snyder - October 07, 2021 at 11:08 AM