



John M. Kelley

April 5, 1944 - July 19, 2018

John M. Kelley, age 74, of Haverford and formerly Conshohocken, died peacefully at home on July 19th. Devoted husband and father, steadfast friend, and an avid and engaging teacher, John embraced his life as a joyful gift. Intellectually and morally demanding of himself, he enjoyed others for who they were. He was an inquisitive, discerning companion whose ability to listen with his whole being made others feel treasured.

In shouldering our loss, we will be guided by his example of integrity and his commitment to collaboration, community, and social justice. We will be sustained by our memories of his warmth, his humility, his acuity, his generosity of spirit, and the light in his eye.

John is survived by his wife Nancy, his sons Daniel (Robin) of Rosemont and Matthew (Margie) of Philadelphia; a sister, Charlotte Hyer (Jim) of Conshohocken; 3 grandchildren, Lily, Lauren and Thea; many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends may visit with the family on Saturday morning, July 28th, from 9-10:30 AM at St. Matthew's Church, 3rd Ave. & Fayette St., Conshohocken. Mass will commence in the church at 10:30 AM. After John's interment in Calvary Cemetery, family and friends are invited to a luncheon at the Inn at Villanova.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to either of John's local service commitments: The Patrician Society for the economically disadvantaged (121 E. Chestnut St. Norristown, 19401) or North Light Community Center (175 Green Lane, Philadelphia, 19127), or to The Mayo Clinic (200 First St. SW, Rochester, MN 55905) where John found spiritual solace combined with exceptional medical care.

Professional arrangements are by the William A. Moore Funeral Home, 708 Fayette St., Conshohocken.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

Matsonford Rd
West Conshohocken, PA 19428

Previous Events

Morning Visitation

JUL 28. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Matthew RC Church
3rd Ave. & Fayette St.
Conshohocken, PA 19428

Mass

JUL 28. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Matthew RC Church
3rd Ave. & Fayette St.
Conshohocken, PA 19428

Tribute Wall

JV

“*John Kelley was a delightful presence at every gathering he attended. I had the great joy of working with him on assessment workshops, accreditation teams, and editorship of institutional research publications. He set high standards for the rest of us to live up to, and he lives on in the good will and humor that he created among us.*

*Fred Volkwein
Past President, NEAIR*

James F. Volkwein - August 28, 2018 at 01:37 PM

JC

“*22 years ago, John was on the board of directors at my first employer and left a lasting impression that has carried through to the present. He was a patient teacher, whose guidance (and correctives!) were always delivered with gentleness and patient explanation. He also always managed to find the proper encouragement to deliver in times of frustration, exasperation, or despair. Most important of all, he lived as he believed -- you never had to ponder what he valued, because he lived those values. I still consider him to be one of the finest people I've ever met. I was deeply saddened to hear of his passing, and I glad that our paths crossed during our lives. As John's own traditional greeting expressed, I was always better for the sight of him.*

*Jason Casey
Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Analytics
University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

Jason Casey - August 28, 2018 at 09:56 AM

MM

“ I have lost a dear friend. John and I had great fun over the years tormenting each other about the Delaware-Villanova rivalry (his team won more than mine). He was a valued colleague and we shared many great professional experiences. I'll miss him.

*Michael Middaugh
Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness (Retired)
University of Delaware*

MICHAEL MIDDAUGH - August 28, 2018 at 09:30 AM

BP

“ Dr. Kelley was a terrific instructor and a wonderful, inspiring man. He was one of my favorite MPA professors, and every time I saw him after graduating he was sincerely interested in what was happening in my life. I will miss seeing his smile which lit up the room. RIP Dr. Kelley--you will be missed.

Brian Posey - MPA '07

Brian Posey - July 30, 2018 at 01:38 PM

IC

“ A true gentleman. Warm, kind, considerate and never complains

Iennifer Chu - July 28, 2018 at 01:56 AM

LO

“ Truly an honor to have been a part of John and Nancy's world, although for just a short time. My memories of John will remain with me for always, and will forever put a smile on my face. Rest in peace, Honeybear. L. Osborne, RN

Lisa Osborne - July 27, 2018 at 11:41 PM

BL

“ Nancy,

My heart goes out to you and the family. You and John were a special couple that meant the world to me and Joe. Couples like you are few and far between. John will be missed by all, but you will feel the lose like no one else. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Take care and know that John is loving and watching over you from a better place.

Barbara Luberoff

Barbara Luberoff - July 27, 2018 at 03:21 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 27, 2018 at 10:36 AM

DD

“ Nancy and family,

*"When Irish eyes are smiling, John can't be too far behind."
He did light up many a room. He wasn't a spectator either. He
played the game.
More importantly he was an impact player to all of those he
touched.*

*May the many fond memories and the Spirit of the Lord give you
Peace!*

*He certainly "ran the race and kept the faith." He did it well. And will
be long remembered for his indomitable spirit over the last few
years. Kel was an inspiration to many.*

*His legends of disciples are the many 'Cats he touched, peers at
other institutions that he interacted with, and his many "Brook
Brothers'!!*

*If the definition of man is.....be caring, loving, supportive,
respectful, the precious present, enjoyment, and faithful to one's
God, then John's name is THE definition.*

May the Lord continue to Bless all of the K's!

*Don DiJulia
Brook Brother*

don dijulia - July 27, 2018 at 07:33 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 26, 2018 at 08:40 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 26, 2018 at 07:26 AM



“ *I remember Kell and another guy doing a Smothers Brothers routine at a Hootnanny. Quite a talent, quite a guy. God bless him and his family John Walker*

CELL JOHN Walker - July 25, 2018 at 12:34 PM

MC

“ *When I first met John at Villanova University in 1998 the conversation was so easy and natural that I felt I had known him for years. Always positive, always concerned and constantly cheerful he embodied all of the attributes one wishes to find in a friend and colleague. I had not spoken to John since my retirement in 2014 and I must admit to utter dismay at hearing of his passing. My most sincere condolences to his family.*

He was a unique and exemplary human being!

Milton T. Cole

Milton T. Cole - July 25, 2018 at 11:49 AM

 Tom
Way

“ *Never has a kinder, gentler, friendlier and more generous person walked the face of our Earth. I was supremely fortunate to have called John both a colleague and a friend.*

Tom Way - July 25, 2018 at 08:27 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 24, 2018 at 08:24 PM

NF

“ *Nurit and Joe Friedman purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of John M. Kelley.*



Nurit and Joe Friedman - July 24, 2018 at 03:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 24, 2018 at 02:59 PM

NF

“ *John was a colleagues and friend to me and will always continue to be, as in my mind I often refer to his words and actions.*

Many mornings, John walked into my office with that wonderful Irish "top of the morning" song, changing the outlook of the entire day. I wish he could have that song in his heart for many more years. I loved him dearly and forever will appreciate how he affected my life and indirectly my family's life.

In my Jewish tradition we call people like John "a mentch" a decent, caring and responsible person, good to others, with high honor and integrity.

John will continue to affect our life and we will miss him dearly.

Nurit and Joe Friedman

Nurit Friedman - July 24, 2018 at 02:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 24, 2018 at 02:31 PM



“ *The world is a better place because John chose to live his life doing good for others. He inspired me to reflect on my beliefs about many issues. He filled our conversations with a wonderful mix of thoughtfulness and humor.*

Mary Beth B Ford - July 24, 2018 at 09:54 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 24, 2018 at 09:32 AM



“ *My heart is broken for the world truly lost a great man. Oh Nancy, my heartfelt condolences for you and your family. You two were always an amazing fun couple to be around. I miss seeing John's smiling face and eyes that spoke volumes in one's soul. Please take care. Prayers of strength and peace, Keep the memories alive he truly was a gift to all he came in contact with and all he did for all of Villanova. God bless, may he rest in peace. loving hugs, Diane M. Brocchi xoxo*

Diane M Brocchi - July 24, 2018 at 09:22 AM

DB

I was a great admirer of John (and Nancy!), having been on Villanova University Service trips with them to New Orleans and elsewhere in years past. I've bumped into John dozens of times around campus in subsequent years, and the encounters were always a treat. I'm deeply saddened and shocked by his passing. I know his family will find comfort in the knowledge that he was such a fine human being.

David Barrett - July 26, 2018 at 01:28 PM



“*Dear Nancy, my heartfelt condolences to you and your family in these days of loss and saying goodbye. There is an African proverb that says that the death of a man is like the burning of a library, because so much wisdom is lost. I know, though, that John shared his wisdom with others, leaving a rich legacy in the lives of others.*

Much love to you.

Rachel Beard

Rachel Beard - July 24, 2018 at 08:27 AM



“*Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John M. Kelley.*



July 23, 2018 at 06:54 PM

JM

“ *Nancy and Family,
Kell was a great pal and for years we shared our love of Ireland
(and our distaste for academic bureaucrats). He and I had many
thoughtful pints as we deliberated on life's mysteries. I will miss his
quiet wisdom.
Sent with Love,
Jim Murphy*

james murphy - July 23, 2018 at 06:40 PM

NC

“ *Words cannot express my sadness on the lost of my dear cousin.
He was a lovely man and I will miss him as will all who knew him
and loved him. God bless you John and all your beautiful family*

Nancy Collier - July 23, 2018 at 04:33 PM

TD

“ *Tony Day purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet
for the family of John M. Kelley.*



Tony Day - July 23, 2018 at 04:33 PM