



# Mr. John Postalka

DEC 12, 1950 - JUN 17, 2014



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 6
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 10



## **Mr. John Postalka**

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**J**ohn Postalka, 63, of Casco Township, was freed from a monstrous disease on Tuesday, June 17, 2014. Instead of withering in fear of a cancer diagnosis, he became remarkably determined to defy the grim prognosis. And he did. He stunned the medical community with his perseverance and inspired all who were fortunate enough to know him. His unrelenting patience, strength and powerful spirit afforded him an amount of time he was told he'd never have. Though his courage proved to be extraordinary, the manner of his struggle was of no surprise. John thrived in adversity. He grew up in Marine City and began working at the age of nine, not to accumulate things for himself, but rather, to help support his mother and younger sister after his father was stricken with polio. His incredible work ethic continued throughout his lifetime, from those first few jobs cutting lawns, to the decades spent laboring at Michigan Birch Door and Erb Lumber/Stock Building Supply. He worked hard to make his family's lives easier.

John graduated from Holy Cross High School in 1969. Later that same year, he married Mary Servick, whom he often referred to as the most beautiful woman he'd ever seen and the absolute love of his life. Together, they moved to the country and built a life; they created a house full of love. It wasn't the location, the square footage or the amount of possessions contained inside that mattered. It was the atmosphere, an environment that held people at its center, not dollars and the things they could buy. It was a house that welcomed any and all, for an hour, for a day, for a lifetime; a place where no one left feeling lesser than when they came. John had a calming presence, a way of dissolving problems that sometimes felt insurmountable. He was generous, giving not only of his time, his advice, his perspective, but also his belongings. If someone needed something, he gave it. His happiness wasn't dependent on monetary wealth or the collection of things. For him, it was in a house full of people, full of laughter and noise and love. He found pleasure in the simple



## Obituary

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things: long, slow rides down dirt roads, appreciating wildlife and the beauty of nature. He loved to hunt and fish and spend time outdoors with the animals and kids running free in the yard. And now his freedom has us all at a loss. But the house still stands, built not from lumber and brick, but from the arrangement of people and all the various personalities linked and combined to form a home more permanent than any structure: a house full of love. John has gone ahead, to take his place in the wondrous construction of a new home, where each of us will fit in the space reserved for us when we cross, one by one, from time to eternity.

John was preceded in death by his father John, mother Jeanette, sister Jill Furtaw, cousin, Michael Callahan. He is survived by his wife Mary, son John, daughters: Joanne Zobl (Keith), Donna (Dave) Rubio, Sara Postalka (John), grandchildren: Joel, Jacob, Jack, Josie, mother-in-law, Rosemary Servick, and many close family and friends.

Visitation will be Friday June 20th 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Young Funeral Home, China Twp. A rosary will be said at 6:00 p.m. No further services will be conducted. John's request for cremation will be honored following Friday's visitation and rosary. To leave a message of comfort please visit [www.youngfuneralservices.com](http://www.youngfuneralservices.com)

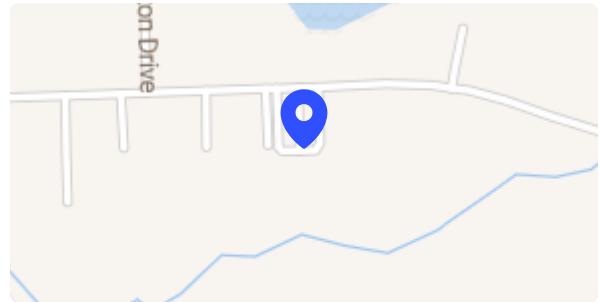


# Events

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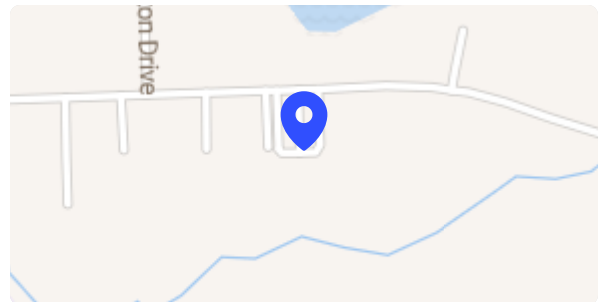
## Visitation

- Friday**, June 20, 2014
- 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET
- Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home, Inc.**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI 48054



## Service

- Friday**, June 20, 2014
- 6:00 PM ET
- Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home, Inc.**  
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI 48054



## Cemetery Details

- Cremation



## Tribute Wall

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KH

**Karl H.** lit a candle in honor of John.



February 6 at 4:32 PM

MS

**Marie Snay** posted:

We will miss john I worked with him for 14 years at stock building supplies .My prayers go out to you and your family. Dave and Marie S nay and family

June 21 at 3:55 AM

DR

**Donna (Postalka) Rubio** June 22 at 3:26 AM

Thank you for thinking of our dad and our family. It is very much appreciated.

TB

**Tom Broyles** posted:

You drew me in from his obituary's first sentence. What a wonderful story you told of a most inspiring man. I feel the greater for getting to know John if only through your so well written narrative. Thank you for rejecting the customary "form obituary" and telling his story your way. I agree with Stephanie, this is best written obituary I have ever read. Please, I encourage the author to continue to write. Share your talent.

June 21 at 1:47 AM

DR

**Donna Postalka Rubio** June 22 at 3:35 AM

Dear Mr Broyles,Your thoughtfulness and reassurance have given me solace in a time of great suffering. That you would take the time to acknowledge my father is remarkably kind and will not be forgotten. I humbly, graciously, thank you. All the best to you and your family.Donna (Postalka) Rubio



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**Renee Rogers** posted:

Joanne and family,I'm so sorry for your loss. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers,Renee Roulo Rogers

June 20 at 11:06 AM



**Joanne** June 23 at 2:02 PM

Renee, thank you so much for all of your thoughts and prayers. i did receive your card and will call you when things settle down. Love you and talk to you soon. JoAnne



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Postalka family.



June 19 at 7:02 AM



**Mary Jo Morgan** posted:

JoAnne my heart breaks for you and your family but I am happy for your dad that he is now at peace and no longer battling such a terrible disease. After reading your dad's story I now understand how you became such a warm and loving person. His spirit lives on through you and your family! My prayers are with all of you!

June 19 at 5:31 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:37 PM

Mary Jo thanks for thoughts and prayer a it means so much. JoAnne



**Susan Wellman** posted:

I am so sorry for your loss JoAnne. Your dad sounded like an amazing man! What a beautiful story about your father and his life. Please know that I am thinking of you praying for you and your family during this difficult time.Susan

June 19 at 4:40 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:40 PM

Susan thanks so much for your thoughts and prayers. JoAnne



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TD

**Tracy Dornoff** posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. John was a great man and neighbor. Your entire family is in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Tracy (Lomerson) Dornoff

June 19 at 4:05 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:34 PM

Thank you very much Tracy, it really means a lot to all of us to know that so many care

SW

**Stephanie (Kaufman) Warren** posted:

Mary, Donna, John, Joanne and Sara, I am so sorry for your loss. He was amazing and fought hard to stay with all of you as long as he could. I am so sorry that his peace comes with your loss. You are an incredibly strong family and I pray that you can find comfort in remembering the fun, funny and joyous times. The obituary was an beautiful testament to an incredible man; the most beautiful obituary I have ever read, thank you for sharing him with us.

June 18 at 4:13 PM



**Donna Postalka Rubio** June 22 at 3:31 AM

Stephanie, Thank you for your comforting words. It helps knowing that he will be remembered for what he truly was: an incredible man. It is consoling to realize we have such wonderful friends. Thank you again; it means so much. Donna

DK

**Debbie Keighley** posted:

JoAnne, so very sorry for the loss of your father, beautiful story about him to celebrate his life. We are all thinking and praying for you and your family. Deb Keighley

June 18 at 11:28 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:42 PM

Deb thanks so much. It really means a lot to me and my family to have you think and pray for us. JoAnne



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**Lisa Lawrence** posted:

I'm so sorry for your loss, JoAnne!! I'm holding you and your family tight in my prayers. Lisa Lawrence

June 18 at 11:20 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:43 PM

Lisa thanks so much that really means a lot to me. JoAnne



**Michelle Hills Vanbuskirk** posted:

So very sorry JoAnne, I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. May the good memories help you through this terrible time. He is happy and free, it is the poor survivors that are left in such sorrow and loss. Michelle VanBuskirk

June 18 at 11:07 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:45 PM

Michelle thank you so much for thinking of us all. I appreciate it very much. JoAnne



**Debbie Schindler** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Our thoughts and prayers to all of you. Peace to you Mr. John know that you have been in my thoughts throughout your perseverance. Debbie & Tom Schindler

June 18 at 11:00 AM



**John Postalka** June 19 at 1:47 PM

Deb and Tom you have been my rock for all these years and I thank you for that. The suffering is done and now we need to try to heal. All my love JoAnne



## Media

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**Debbie Schindler** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

June 18 at 11:00 AM



For you Mr. John



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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