



John Onoff

May 1, 1941 - May 1, 2012

JOHN W. ONOFF age 71 of Portage formerly of Merrillville passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday May 1 2012. Survived by wife Mary (nee Brown) of 39 years two daughters: Christine (Sean) Bowman of Schererville and Kimberly (Mark) Hollis of Zionsville four grandchildren: Jack and Allison Bowman Morgan and Sophia Hollis two sisters: Dorothy Graser and Mary Anne Trapanese both of New York four brothers-in-law: Jim (Betty) Brown of Crown Point Bill (Pat) Brown of Whitestown IN Johnny (Maria) Brown of Nevada and Joey (Karen) Brown of Crown Point three sisters-in-law: Carolyn Brown of Nevada Margaret (Rick) Moseley of Munster and Phyllis Onoff of New York and many nieces nephews great-nieces great-nephews and cousins. Preceded in death by his parents Frank Sr. & Mary brother: Frank Jr. John was a retired teacher and coach from the Highland School System for over 30 years. He also taught at Nobel Elementary School in Gary. He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Indiana State University where he also played college baseball. John had a special connection with children and young adults and was affectionately known as J.O. After retiring in 2001 he was a drivers education teacher at Certified Driving School. John was an avid sports fan fisherman and gardener who was particularly proud of his garlic. He also loved animals especially his dog Buddy. He was a devoted husband father and grandfather who loved spending time with his family. Each summer he enjoyed traveling to the Syracuse New York area to gather with family and spend time at the lake. Family and friends may call at Pruzin

Brothers Funeral Service (6360 Broadway Merrillville) on Friday from 2:00-8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held Saturday May 5 2012 at 12:30 p.m. from Pruzin Brothers Chapel and 1:00 p.m. from St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church (801 W. 73rd Ave. Merrillville) with Rev. Brian Chadwick officiating. At rest Calvary Cemetery Portage. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at www.jdrf.org in Johns memory.

Tribute Wall

PM

“ *Played basketball for Coach in the 80s. Was a very kind and funny man. Im very sorry to hear of his passing.*

Patti Bremer Mitchell - June 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ *I knew J.O. when I was in High School. Not only he was a great coach and mentor but he was a true friend. J.O. not only taught us the things about basketball or what he was teaching us in gym class but there was always a life lesson in there as well. One of my fondest memories is J.O. and Coach Urban weighed my lunch one day after gym class (a little over 5 lbs if I recall correctly) but it was one of those moments Ill cherish with me for the rest of my life... God Bless Bob Timm Jr.*

Bob Timm - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *Kim I never had the opportunity to meet your Dad but knowing you tells me he was a special guy. He will be truly missed. Our hearts go out to you and your family in this time of great loss. Richard & Laura*

Richard & Laura Cote - May 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ *Iknew John through HHS & Certified Driving School where I have been working for quite awhile. He certainly was a good person. Recently ran into him at NW where I met Mary. My deepest sympathy to Mary and the family. I will send a memorial to Juvenile Diabetes in Johns memory. He will be missed by all of you and his pal Buddy.*

Georgette Luce - May 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ Our hearts and prayers go out to you during this very difficult time. We are so very sorry. Nancy & Bernie Huesing (Katie Glenns mom)

Nancy Huesing - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy and condolences for your loss. I hope that you find comfort and peace in the fond memories of your loved one.

Steve Johnson - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ our deepest sympathy to the onoff family from the beller family so sorry for your loss

connie beller - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Rest in Peace JO. Thank you for all the great memories laughs tears and all those killers. My deepest sympathies to Christine and your family.

Kristin Szot Friedman - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Mary and family I am so sad to hear of Johns passing. He was always one of my favorites throughout junior high and high school. He was a very special person and will truly be missed. Gods blessings to you and your family during this very difficult time. May the memories you all have of John bring you peace. Debby (Wanicki) Klager

Debby (Wanicki) Klater - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Kim So sorry to hear of your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Rich Kapp - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Dear Onoff family I would like to send my condolences. Mr. Onoff was such a compassionate man. He cared for his students at highland highschool like they were his own. He is someone I have never forgotten after 10 years and will continue to remember.
Adriane Sell

Adriane Sell - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Christine my deepest condolences to you and your entire family. Due to my own recent loss I know how devastating this experience is for all of you and hope that your many many wonderful memories will provide some comfort to you during this difficult time. You are in my prayers Julie

Julie Wodarski - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Rest in Peace JO! Will never forget the high school memories the laughs the tears the joy the disappointment. But you always made it fun. Sorry we never met at the Kniman Bar for tacos!!!

Kelly Hixon Creamer - May 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JC

“*MaryKim and Chris My thoughts and prayers are with you today and I look forward to seeing you Friday. John was a truly loving man and I am glad I had the chance to know him & that your family included me in all those visits with him and the family! He was a wonderful dad and great Grampy as Jack calls him to all his grandbabies. He will be deeply missed by so many people whose lives he touched. God Bless and I will see you soon.*

Judy Compton - May 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM