



## John B. Gruenenfelder

May 29, 1925 - December 19, 2013

John B. "Jack" Gruenenfelder, age 88, a resident of Gary, passed away peacefully on December 19, 2013. Jack held a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Notre Dame, an M.S. in mathematics from Notre Dame and an E.E. from the University of Minnesota. Jack taught philosophy at Xavier in Cincinnati, St. Joseph College, Calumet and Indiana University Northwest. He was very active in the Association for Retarded Citizens at the local, state and national levels. Jack was a devout member of St. Mary of the Lake Church. He was an avid Notre Dame fan and loved classical music.

He was a loving husband and father who devotedly cared for his four developmentally disabled sons. Jack was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred and sons, David and John. He is survived by his daughter, Vivian "Dawn" Gruenenfelder, of Mt. Shasta, California; three sons, Tom (Kay Mueller) Gruenenfelder of Bloomington, Paul and Gregory Gruenenfelder, both of Hobart; and a sister, Lois Jeanne Gruenenfelder of Edina, Minnesota. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2014 at 10 a.m. at St. Mary of the Lake Church, 6060 Miller Avenue, Gary, Rev. Selvaraj Selladurai officiating. Interment in Calvary Cemetery, Portage. Friends are invited to meet with Jack's family on Friday, January 10, 2014 from 2-8 p.m. at Burns Funeral Home, 701 E. 7th St., Hobart, with a prayer service at 4:00 p.m., and at the church on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of Mass. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Respite Services or The Arc Northwest Indiana. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com)



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 10. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
(219) 942-1117  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Prayer Service

JAN 10. 4:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
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## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary of the Lake Church  
6060 Miller Avenue  
Gary, IN

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ To Sister Vivienne and Tom, We retired to Wisconsin more than twenty years ago, but Miller has continued to be our base of operations and after Don's death became my support system - along with son Alan's living down there. So it has been possible to keep up with both your lives as well as Mildred and Jack's. (I have been looking forward to Jack's yearly, hand written report and thoughts and as I matter of fact had just reread last year's in preparing to respond, also belatedly) I want to tell you both how sorry I am for the loss of both Mildred and Jack.

Jack was always after me to take a logic course, although I sort of blew him off, I did try once and realized he wasn't trying me think straight, but was actually talking about philosophy. I am sorry I didn't push for the opportunity to discuss it with him and perhaps understand, although we had a fair number of "in depth" discussions about more mundane topics.

Both Don and I got an inkling of Jack's humor and intellect when we attended a reading of his play on Plato's death. His choice of actors was remarkable, mostly lost in my memory but having the parking security officer read the guard's words was perfect (he was good, who'd have thought it?)

Both Mildred and Jack were amazing people, positive lives they led were challenges to all of us.

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**Jeanne Shiras** - January 14, 2014 at 12:24 PM