



## John Edward Massa

November 5, 1943 - October 25, 2025

John Edward Massa, age 81, a resident of Valparaiso, Indiana, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 25, 2025. He was born in Gary, Indiana.

John attended St. Casimir Catholic School in Gary, Indiana, Bishop Noll Catholic High School in Hammond, Indiana, and received his Pharmacy Degree from Purdue University, in West Lafayette, Indiana.

He spent most of his life serving Northwest Indiana as a Pharmacist at Portage Drugs and Walgreens. John loved his customers and was highly regarded in the community. He was a devoted husband to his wife, Kathy. Together they enjoyed celebrating life, traveling, dancing and spending winters in Florida with good friends and family. John was a loving son, husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and cousin. He stood as an example of love and kindness to everyone who knew him.

John is preceded in death by his father, former Fire Chief John P. Massa and mother, Veronica Massa. He is survived by his wife, Kathy; son, Stephen A. Massa (Shawn), daughter, Melissa Ball (Craig), daughter, Megan Hamstra (Jim); grandchildren: Steve Massa (Kayla), Emily Ball (Evan Kattan), Lauren Ball; and his brother, Jay Massa.

Visitation will be held at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway,

Crown Point, IN, on Sunday, November 2, 2025, from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025, at 10 a.m. directly at St. Paul Catholic Church, 1855 Harrison Blvd., Valparaiso, IN. Rev. Roque Meraz officiating. Interment at Calumet Park Cemetery, Merrillville, IN, at a later date. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Calumet Park Cemetery

2305 W. 73rd Ave.  
Merrillville, IN 46410

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

NOV 2. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (cst)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point  
10101 Broadway  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 769-0044  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 3. 10:00 AM (cst)

St. Paul Catholic Church  
1855 W.Harrison Blvd.  
Valparaiso, IN 46385

# Tribute Wall

LZ

“ Kathy, I still remember walking to your wedding at St Mark as I lived in Glen Park and you and John got married during that terrible snowstorm. I remember the fire trucks being the only transportation that could get through the snow bound streets. Ted and I are sending you many hugs and prayers. May God put his arms around you and give you strength through this difficult time.

Lin Zapinski - November 05, 2025 at 10:19 AM

DT

“ Debby T. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Edward Massa.

Debby T. - November 02, 2025 at 03:49 PM

SW

“ John Massa was a treasured friend for almost 60 years and will be missed. What a kind and wonderful person. Love and hugs to his beautiful wife Kathy.  
Sophie Wojcik and Rod Browder

Sophie Wojcik - November 01, 2025 at 07:41 PM

GN

“ Good Friends, Tom and Joyce Nolot purchased the Truly Beloved Bouquet for the family of John Edward Massa.



Good Friends, Tom and Joyce Nolot - November 01, 2025 at 12:05 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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October 31, 2025 at 08:40 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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October 31, 2025 at 08:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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October 31, 2025 at 07:55 PM



“ *Mavronicles Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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**Mavronicles Family** - October 31, 2025 at 07:00 PM

AT

“ Anthony Meyer and his Team purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John Edward Massa.



Anthony Meyer and his Team - October 31, 2025 at 12:35 PM

AT

“ Anthony Meyer and his Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Edward Massa.

Anthony Meyer and his Team - October 31, 2025 at 12:35 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.



October 30, 2025 at 05:57 PM

OJ

“ OJ purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Edward Massa.



OJ - October 30, 2025 at 03:58 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.



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October 30, 2025 at 12:19 PM



“ Matt & Melissa Jakubowicz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Edward Massa.

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**Matt & Melissa Jakubowicz** - October 30, 2025 at 12:19 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.



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October 30, 2025 at 07:24 AM



“ ALWAYS ALL MY LOVE, ANTOINETTE planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Edward Massa.

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**ALWAYS ALL MY LOVE, ANTOINETTE** - October 30, 2025 at 07:24 AM

JB

“ *Kathy, Steve, Missy and Megan,  
My heart aches for all of you as you navigate this loss. As I know,  
losing a spouse is very hard but I hope you will find comfort in all of  
the memories and boy there were a lot of those! John’s legacy of  
love and kindness will forever be remembered. Love you cuz. Jodi  
Bradach*

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**jodi bradach** - October 30, 2025 at 12:29 AM

SB

*Kathy, Steve, Missy, and Megan,  
Me sincere condolences to all of you. John was the best boss,  
coworker and friend. Such a great guy. So very blessed to have known  
him. He will surely be missed. Hugs and prayers to all of you.*

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**Sharon Butler** - November 02, 2025 at 02:53 PM

JL

“ 63 years ago

*It was 63 years ago that I first met Johnny Massa. He was picking up his cousin Valerie at the entrance to Notre Dame to take her home for the holidays. I had just met her on a blind date, was over the moon about her, and here was this really cool guy in this really slick car taking her home. A cousin, yah - you bet. I barely had bus fare. A babe magnet driving away with her. I felt as though someone had pulled the plug out of my bathtub.*

*Zoom forward to Thanksgiving the following year. I'm invited to meet the family at the house on Harrison Street. South Bend to Gary riding the vomit comet. When I finally get there it's not just Valerie's mom and dad. It's the entire family. Grandmother, mom, dad, brother, aunt, uncle, cousins, wives of cousins, children of cousins, all gathered on the second floor of a two flat. Jazz playing in the background. Little David Massa being passed around so everyone could get a hug. And me, am Irish Catholic Chicago Cubs fan. Talk about an outsider*

*Zoom forward to the worst snowstorm in the history of Chicago. The Dan Ryan has been turned into the world's longest parking lot. Valerie Valasina is now Valerie Lynch and the two of us have to figure out how to get down to the Region because there is going to be one of the all-time weddings held the following day. We trudge four blocks to the subway, make our way to the South Shore, get the last train to Gary because Johnny Massa and the beautiful Kathy Habicorn are going to be married. Except no one can move anywhere so the night before the big ceremony we huddle up in Uncle Johnny's house, crack open a case of wine and celebrate like there was no tomorrow.*

*But there was a tomorrow. And a terrific career as a pharmacist, and three beautiful children, Steve, Melissa, and Megan. And they grew up and they had beautiful, successful children. It was exactly what Father Urbanus of St. Casmir told me on the day he closed St*

*Casimir's Church and grade school. Well not right away. First, he hit me up for a \$100 worth of raffle tickets. It was after I forked over the money that he told me when he first came there, he understood it as his job that these children in his care needed to grow up to be Americans. And that's what happened and so when they all became successful and they all moved away, he felt he was the most successful guy I'd ever meet. He was so right.*

*We met up with Johnny and Kathy in California to go to Janice and Bob's daughter Robin's wedding. Were ready to party. We showed up at the church just in time. People are filing in. We get settled in the back row when Kathy goes, "Wrong Church, wrong wedding." Twelve miles on back roads in eight minutes. Spectacular driving. This time right church, right wedding.*

*Kathy, you've been the perfect life partner You've pulled more than your weight. It's always been Johnny and Kathy. Now it's just you. Carry on. Keep the memories alive. I know I will never forget them.*

*Jim and Val Lynch*

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**Jim and Val Lynch** - October 29, 2025 at 11:19 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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October 29, 2025 at 11:03 PM

JG

“ Jim and Val, Jimmy, Michael and Grace planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Edward Massa.

Jim and Val, Jimmy, Michael and Grace - October 29, 2025 at 11:03 PM

ES

“ John’s friendship over the years has been a blessing and a treasure! Many happy memories of the fun times we’ve shared live on in our hearts! Rest peacefully now, dear friend, as we celebrate a life well lived!

Ed and Joni  
Clermont, FL

Ed and Joni Sepiol - October 29, 2025 at 10:39 PM

TF

“ The Nix family purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of John Edward Massa.



The Nix family - October 29, 2025 at 08:03 PM

KS

“ God Bless Uncle Johnny 🙏  
A True Family Man - Always a Big Smile & Love in the Heart ❤️  
Notre Dame Games ~ Bears Games ~  
All the Massa Family Picnics &  
Parties at Shultz Pine Lakehouse 💕  
❤️ Forever Love ❤️  
Kenny & Pam Shultz

Kenny & Pam Shultz - October 29, 2025 at 06:57 PM

EM

“ *Heaven has just received a true angel! Honestly the best person I ever knew. You will be in my thoughts every day. And then we are blessed with knowing the entire Massa family over the past 52 years. It has been an honor of a lifetime!*

Ed Mattingly - October 29, 2025 at 06:53 PM

BL

“ *Brian and Kathy Lynch purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Edward Massa.*



Brian and Kathy Lynch - October 29, 2025 at 06:50 PM

IH

“ *Ivan & Tara Kattan and Hilda. purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of John Edward Massa.*



Ivan & Tara Kattan and Hilda. - October 29, 2025 at 06:18 PM

WF

“ *Williams Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Edward Massa.*



Williams Family - October 29, 2025 at 06:10 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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October 29, 2025 at 03:21 PM



“ *Dave, John, Keith, and Carol Massa purchased the Peace Eternal Wreath for the family of John Edward Massa.*



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**Dave, John, Keith, and Carol Massa** - October 29, 2025 at 02:54 PM