



John R. Engels

November 28, 1938 - May 15, 2012

John R. Engels, of Juneau, passed away Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at his home, surrounded by his loving family. He was born November 28, 1938 in Fond du Lac, the son of Arthur and Mayme Engels. He spent his youth on the family farm near Armstrong, WI. John attended Mitchell Grade School and later Our Lady of Angels Catholic School, where he was a member of the first graduating class. After graduating from Campbellsport High School, John joined the United States Navy, where he served as a submariner aboard the USS Sea Poacher from 1956 to 1958. On August 12, 1961, he married Rosalie Wettstein at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Eden, WI. In 1964, the family moved to Juneau, WI, where John worked as an agency manager, regional manager and agent with Rural Mutual Insurance Companies and the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies. He became a Chartered Life Underwriter in 1985 and throughout his career received many honors and awards for his hard work and dedication to the clients he served. In 2006, John retired after 43 years of service in the insurance industry. John took an active role in the Juneau Chamber of Commerce, serving as president in 2001. He was a long-standing member of the Juneau Lions Club since 1964. John held many offices in the club, started the Medical Equipment Project as well as served on the Lions Eye Bank Program. In 2001, John was named a Melvin Jones Fellow, the highest form of recognition conferred by the Lions Club. In 2004 John was presented with the Morry Mountin Community Service Award. In 2005 John received the Dodge County Farm Bureau Friend of the Year

Award. He served on the Planning and Development Committee for the City of Juneau. John was an active member of Immaculate Conception Church in Juneau and later Sacred Heart Parish in Horicon where he served as a trustee, greeter and Eucharistic minister.

John was a well-respected, successful, honest and hard-working man. He loved his family, country and community. Throughout the years, he loved watching his children and later his grandchildren participate in any sports event or school activity. He was so proud of all of them. John carried with him many fond memories of times spent enjoying the outdoors at the family property at Black River Falls. The time spent there brought him peace, joy and a legacy for his family and their friends. He will be deeply missed, never forgotten and always loved.

Those left behind to honor his memory include his wife Rosalie, four children, Jan (Mike) Gross of Oakfield, Tim (Jill) Engels of Lake Mills, Bob (Loralee) Engels of Appleton and Jim (Karen) Engels of Juneau, treasured grandchildren, Andrew, Steven, Kaitlin and Matthew Gross, Corrine, Brett and Allison Engels and Nicholas and Kyle Engels. He is further survived by 3 step-grandchildren, Jason (Kellie) Christian, Justin (Holly) Christian and Jonathan Christian, and 3 step-great-grandchildren, Daniel and Hailey Christian and Ethan Christian, his sister Joyce (Tony) Goebel of Eden. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Justin Engels, and his sister, Mary Burns.

Visitation will be held Sunday, May 20, 2012 from 3-6 PM at Sacred Heart Parish, with Prayer Vigil at 6 PM. Visitation also Monday, May 21 from 9:30 – 11 AM, also at Sacred Heart Parish. Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11 AM. Rev. Mike Petrie will officiate. Interment Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Juneau. In lieu of flowers, those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider a memorial to Hillside Hospice, American Cancer Society of Sacred Heart Parish.

The Berndt-Ledesma Funeral Home is serving the family.

Tribute Wall

JR

“ We think of you every day Rosalie. Our heart aches right along with yours. To know Jack was to love him. We will treasure the time spent with both of you in Orange Beach, we will treasure forever. Lots of beautiful memories.

Jim & Joan Rich - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Thank you both for your support when my mother Maxine passed, you were both so kind to make the trip to Detroit and support us in our loss. my memory of you will always be pleasant and one of selfless giving. thank you GOD bless

edward f. cale - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ With all our heartfelt sympathy to you Jan and family.

Rick, Shari & Amy Cowles - May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ So sorry for your loss. Please accept my sympathy.

Kathryn Hickey Glasnapp - May 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ So sorry to hear of Jack's death. My prayers go out to Rosalie, Jan, Tim, Bob and Jim. Know that I will keep him in mind and heart in the Masses I celebrate in the coming days.

Andy Cribben - May 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Our thoughts and prayers to you and your family. John will be deeply missed.

Jerald Schaalma Family - May 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FB

“ We offer our thoughts and prayers at this time of loss. Jack will be missed but our special memories will always be alive in our hearts.

Fred and Julie Becker - May 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Rosalie & Family:
Deepest sympathy to all of you during this difficult time. John was a wonderful man and will be missed by many.

Don & Diane Arndt - May 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NV

“ Rosalie: You and your family are in our hearts and prayers. Jack was a fine man.

Niki Vessey - May 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Bob and I were SO saddened to learn yesterday of John's death. We have SO many wonderful memories of good times with you, Rosalie, and John and your family. Just thinking of John brings a smile to my face and "happy feet". You are all in our thoughts and prayers!

Bob and Monica Hansen - May 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *My sincere sympathy to you and your family. Much too soon for John to be gone...*

Joan Case - May 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM