



John L. Freund

April 15, 1950 - August 4, 2020

John L. Freund, 70, of Marengo died peacefully with his family at his side on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, after courageously battling pancreatic cancer.

Born April 15, 1950, the son of Leonard and Leoda (McCarthy) Freund, John was the oldest of 7 siblings. With his brothers, John helped run the family farm and Freund's Dairy in McHenry. After graduating from Marian Central High School in 1968, he attended both Elgin and McHenry County Community Colleges before receiving his degree in Mortuary Science and Funeral Services from Worsham College in 1971. Following college, he married Kandy Thompson on August 14, 1971 in McHenry and together they raised 3 children. He apprenticed with George R. Justen & Son Funeral Home and worked for Warner & Flagg Funeral Home in Crystal Lake. John became the proud owner of Freund Funeral Home in Wonder Lake (1978-1983), purchased Cooper Funeral Home in Marengo in (1980-1983) and then formed Marengo-Union Funeral Home. John was a public servant to the Marengo area and participated through organizations and positions including; president of Marengo Area Chamber of Commerce, Marengo School Dist. 140 board member, Marengo Lions Club, Marengo Settler's Days, Marengo Fire Department Trustee from 1998 – present. John purchased Querhammer Funeral Home in Crystal Lake in 1992, and came full-circle in 1998 with the merging of Warner-Flagg Funeral Home. When Service Corporation International inhibited his professional care standards he partnered with Fredrick and James A. O'Connor Funeral Homes in order to continue serving the Marengo-Union Community. John was formerly active with Crystal Lake Salvation Army, Jaycee's, president of McHenry County Funeral Directors Association, Regional Director Illinois Funeral Directors Association and former Deputy Coroner for McHenry County. In his spare-time he was a volunteer firefighter for Wonder Lake and Marengo Fire Departments, enjoyed many trips to Canada fishing with his closest friends and sons; loved to golf in Marengo Ridge League, various bowling leagues in McHenry County and was an avid card player. John was also a diehard Chicago Cubs, Bears and Blackhawks fan.

John devoted his life to those in grief and honoring the departed. He was a kind, caring,

hardworking and generous man who answered the call no matter the hour. He was devoted to his wife, children, grandchildren and siblings. "Digger" was a one of a kind person who will be missed by everyone who had the chance to shake his hand.

The family sends a heartfelt thank you to the many doctors, nurses, friends and family who have walked by his side these past years.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years Kandy S. Freund; children, Jason (Erika) Freund, John M. (Susan) Freund and Jaclynn (Scott) Mortimer; grandchildren, J Landen Mortimer; Dylan Jo, Paxtyn and Layne Freund; Carmela Mortimer and Emmalynn Freund; siblings, Darlette Parsons; Marlette (Steve) Lane, Donald (Karen) Freund and Charlette (Roger) Hoffman; sisters-in-law, Connie Freund, Dorothy Freund, Karen (Jeff) Moss, and Kathy (Craig) Keith; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandson, brothers Ronald and Jeremie, and parents-in-law Vern and Norma Thompson.

Visitation will be held Friday, August 7, 2020 from 4-8 p.m. at the Marengo Fire Protection District station, 120 East Prairie Street, Marengo with an honorary fire apparatus procession at 6 p.m.

Funeral Service will be celebrated 11 a.m. Saturday, August 8, 2020 at Marengo Fire Protection District station. Interment will follow in Marengo City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to the Marengo Fire Protection District, Marengo Rescue Squad, or the More Food Pantry. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, masks will be required at both visitation and funeral services.

Express online condolences at: www.fredrickfuneralhome.com. Erika Freund, Director 847-683-2711.

Cemetery Details

Marengo City Cemetery

101 N East Street
Marengo, IL 60152

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Marengo Fire Protection Dist.
120 E. Prairie St.
Marengo, IL 60152

Service

AUG 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Marengo Fire Protection Dist.
120 E. Prairie St.
Marengo, IL 60152

Tribute Wall

MR

“ I am so truly sorry for you loss, Freund Family. John was a comfort to so many in Marengo. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Miranda Rutkowski - August 13, 2020 at 08:58 AM

LH

“ John was a wonderful man. My parents especially thought the world of him. They paid for funerals in advance and when John left Marengo, they moved it with him, then again. They always told me, make sure John is in charge of our funerals....well he was too sick for moms in July but Erika his daughter-in-law did a wonderful job. He has been loved and looked up to by a lot of people....sympathies to the Freund family. He will be missed greatly!
The Rudsinski/Havens Family

linda havens - August 09, 2020 at 02:12 PM

DG

“ I met John when we attended Worsham Mortuary College together. He was highly thought of by all who knew him then and all through his successful career. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this most difficult time.
Deborah Hamsher Glen

Deborah Hamsher Glen - August 08, 2020 at 09:51 PM

DG

“ Deborah Hamsher Glen lit a candle in memory of John L. Freund



Deborah Hamsher Glen - August 08, 2020 at 09:44 PM

HH

“ Herb and I were so sorry to hear of the passing of John. Herb has fond memories of how professional John always was. Our prayers and thoughts are with Kandy and her family

Herb and Judi Halm - August 08, 2020 at 01:47 PM

EF

“ Dear Freund family,
I am so sorry for you loss. John was a wonderful man. You are all in our prayers. I wish you peace and comfort at this sad time. Blessings, Eileen and Jay Filler

Eileen Filler - August 07, 2020 at 06:07 PM

AJ

“ Advance Design Studio, Ltd. Christine & Todd Jurs purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of John L. Freund.



Advance Design Studio, Ltd. Christine & Todd Jurs - August 07, 2020 at 12:56 AM

MC

“ The first time I remeber John was when my mom passed, he was the kindest man. But since then I was able to get to know him on a different level. Many that he prepared for the next step will be were there to greet him. Prayers to the family.

Margie Clark - August 06, 2020 at 11:42 PM

JR

“ When my mother-in-law and father-in-law passed away our family could not have been better served. John's friendly, compassionate care was so appreciated! As a fellow funeral director I enjoyed the opportunity to get to meet John and visit with him on those occasions. John served our profession with great dignity and was a shining example of how funeral directors should conduct their business and serve their families and communities!

John Rice - August 06, 2020 at 10:15 AM

PB

“ I feel so blessed to have known John as a very true and loyal friend. He was always so kind. I'll never forget his compassion in coming out to the house after Dan died. It couldn't have been easy for him but he made such a difference in the ordeal I was facing as a numb widow. When I was serving for a funeral with Ladies Aid at St. John's it was always good to see John, knowing everything was managed perfectly. It was an honor to have known you and to call you my friend. Rest in peace thou faithful and loving servant.

Pamela Bartholomew - August 05, 2020 at 11:57 PM

RS

“ John was such a wonderful man. He helped my family numerous times and always made some of the hardest times a little easier with his gentle ways. Kandy & family, you will be in my thoughts and prayers. May your memories bring you comfort.

Robin (Sternberg) Shetley

Robin Shetley - August 05, 2020 at 11:31 PM

JR

“ A true friend indeed to so many in our area. It was a great privilege to know John during the short time our paths have crossed here in Marengo. May God bless your family with peace as you remember the many blessings of John's life.

Jonathan Ripke - August 05, 2020 at 10:40 PM

FW

“ John I was so sorry to hear of your passing! You have left this world all to soon my friend. As I look back in time I remember all the great times we shared in Jaycees and our annual fall walleye fishing trips. You were a great father, community leader and a good friend. Kandy my condolences to your and family!

Fran Webster - August 05, 2020 at 10:29 PM

KH

“ My deepest sympathies to the entire Freund family. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. Remember to cherish all the wonderful memories you have of him for they are always with you and he will be with you in your hearts.

Kathy Hintz - August 05, 2020 at 09:59 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John L. Freund.



August 05, 2020 at 09:30 PM

YC

“ *Your Friends at Catholic Charities purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John L. Freund.*



Your Friends at Catholic Charities - August 05, 2020 at 08:35 PM

RS

“ *My deepest sympathies to John's whole family. His kindness & caring have helped many Marengo (& surrounding area) families, including my own, through some of the darkest days of their lives. Even when I was a kid at school or in 4-H with his kids, his kindness set him apart from other parents. May you all find comfort in your great memories with him & in the knowledge that he has touched & was loved by many.*



Renee Sass - August 05, 2020 at 06:39 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of John L. Freund.*



August 05, 2020 at 06:36 PM

LZ

“ *I worked with a John for many years. He comforted me when my parents died. His kindness, calmness, and sweet spirit have touched me deeply. God be with you during the mourning or his loss.*

linda Zumpf - August 05, 2020 at 06:18 PM

SW

“ *Our sincerest heartfelt sympathy to Kandy and Family.*

Steve & Adele Weskerna - August 05, 2020 at 05:41 PM

CM

“ *Dear Kandy & Family,*

I was so sad to hear of this loss & my thoughts are with you all. I remember you both at our double wedding in 1973, you were both always welcoming, kind &

Became wonderful parents. Such a proud life you made together!

John will get together with his two brothers in heaven, they will enjoy each other's company & have some fun!

Keep those grand babies close ❤️

Love,

Caren Miller (Opelka)

Caren Miller - August 05, 2020 at 04:21 PM