



John Samuel McGinness

May 26, 1933 - December 22, 2023

John Samuel McGinness, beloved husband of Mary Patricia McGinness, passed away on December 22, 2023, at the age of 90, in Chester County, Pennsylvania. John, a first-generation Scotch-Irishman, was born in New York City, the son of Teresa (Banks) and Samuel McGinness.

Growing up on 215th Street in Manhattan, John enjoyed playing stickball, working at the Central Park ice rink, and attending various events at Columbia University's Baker Field. John attended high school at the Christian Brothers School in Barrytown, New York, where, in addition to excelling in academics, he fell in love with ice hockey on the coves of the Hudson River.

In 1952, at 19, John enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served as a Morse code expert on the Korean mountain tops, where he directed fighter jets during combat in the Korean War. Years later, we learned that on several occasions, John directed a plane piloted by "the Splendid Splinter" MLB Hall of Famer Ted Williams during his Korean War missions.

After being honorably discharged in 1955, John pursued his degree in Chemical Engineering on the GI Bill at Columbia University while working as a NYC cab driver. During this time, in 1959, John met Mary at a Valentine's dance. Married for 63 years, they raised four children while John embarked on an entrepreneurial journey in the chemical distribution industry, which took

them to Missouri and New Jersey, eventually settling in Pennsylvania. He was involved in various professional associations including the Chemical Club of Philadelphia.

In the mid-1970s, John and Mary built their home of 50 years on a heavily wooded property on Tinker Hill. As a family, they toiled with the natural beauty of trees and streams to create a bucolic haven shared with family, friends and neighbors. Fond memories abound of swimming, fishing and ice skating on the ponds, watching tennis matches on the court, warming to bonfires at the top of the hill before the next toboggan ride and hosting the annual opening of Tinkerthon with "Tinkerball," which may perhaps have been the inspiration for the current day national recreation craze known as Pickleball.

John was an avid puzzler and a voracious reader, especially during his summers in Ocean City, New Jersey. Even though John was a Brooklyn Dodgers fan during his youth, he loved his Philadelphia sports teams – especially the Flyers. He had more hobbies and interests than we can list, but he was especially fond of people and parties. He was known for his wit and humor and was a master of the one-liners. Most of all, John was a man of character, principle, and discipline. He was a man who led by example; he never compromised his integrity, stayed true to himself, and always embraced opportunity.

John is survived by his wife, Mary (Dennehy) McGinness, his four children, Anne (McGinness) Kearse and husband, Bruce Mattock, of Charleston, SC, Theresa (McGinness) Geraghty and husband, Thomas, of Burlingame, CA, Marie (McGinness) Durant and husband, Timothy, of Boston, MA, and Samuel John McGinness and his wife, Sharon, of Lawrenceville, NJ. John is also survived by his nine grandchildren, John Kearse, Hannah Kearse, Emily Geraghty, John "Jack" Geraghty, Brielle Durant, Carley Durant, Timothy Durant, Maria McGinness Thompson (Aaron), John Samuel McGinness, two

step grandsons, Edward Mattock and David Mattock, and two great-granddaughters, Sawyer and Levi Thompson, his sister Kathleen Dwyer, numerous nieces and nephews, and his caring nurse, Barbara Harvey. He was preceded in death by a brother, Michael McGinness, three sisters, Patricia Geoghegan, Eileen Torres, and Joan Walker, and his grandson, Michael Geraghty.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend his funeral service at 11:00 am on Friday, December 29, 2023, at the St. Ann Chapel located at 604 Main Street in Phoenixville, PA. The family will receive friends from 10:00 am - 10:45 am at the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home located at 610 Main Street, Phoenixville, PA. Officiating will be Rev. John Gibbons. Burial, with Military Honors, will follow at Washington Memorial Chapel Churchyard, Valley Forge, PA. A luncheon reception will be held immediately following.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association <https://www.alz.org> or a charity of your choice. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc. Condolences may be offered online at www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Washington Memorial Chapel Churchyard

2000 Valley Forge Park Road
King Of Prussia, PA 19406

Previous Events

Receive Friends

DEC **29**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc.
610 South Main Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460
(610) 933-3572
<https://CampbellEnnisKlotzbachFuneralHome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

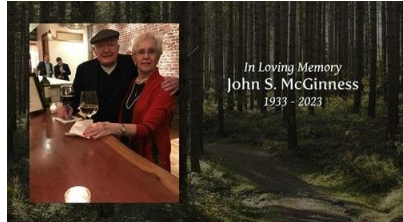
DEC **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ann Chapel
604 South Main Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tribute Wall



“ *Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Samuel McGinness*



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - December 28, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



December 28, 2023 at 03:25 PM



“ *Nick P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Samuel McGinness.*

Nick P. - December 28, 2023 at 03:25 PM



“ *Kate purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



Kate - December 27, 2023 at 05:46 PM

KA

“ *Kate purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



Kate - December 27, 2023 at 05:22 PM

PW

“ *PAMMY AND MISSY WOOD purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



PAMMY AND MISSY WOOD - December 27, 2023 at 02:15 PM

MW

“ SOME FIFTY YEARS AGO, MY PARENTS AND THE MCGUINESS' HAD EACH MOVED INTO THEIR RESPECTIVE HOMES ON TINKER HILL ROAD. MY FATHER TOOK A REAL LIKING TO JOHN AND THUS BEGAN A CORDIAL, NEIGHBORLY RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS LASTED FAR BEYOND THE DEATHS OF BOTH OF MY PARENTS. SOMETIMES WE WONDERED HOW STRONG THAT FRIENDSHIP REALLY WAS WHEN OUR DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER WOULD WONDER OVER TO JOHN AND MARY'S ON A WEEKEND, INEVITABLY WHEN THEY WOULD BE ENTERTAINING, AND POOR JOHN WOULD HAVE TO CALL US AND SAY, NOT TOO HAPPILY, "BASIL'S HERE!" AFTER MUCH APOLOGISING ,I ,OR MY SISTER, WOULD GO OVER TO GET THE WAYWARD DOG ONLY TO FIND BASIL LUXURIATING ON JOHN'S CARPETING. THAT'S HOW JOHN GOT THE NAME 'PARTY ANIMAL'.

OUR OTHER MEMORIES OF JOHN ARE OF COURSE HIS BELOVED TINKERTHON AND HIS KINDNESS TO MY NEPHEW FROM SWEDEN WHO LOVED TO FISH IN JOHN'S POND.

AND SO MANY OTHER MEMORIES.....

WE WILL MISS YOU PARTY ANIMAL.

MISSY WOOD - December 27, 2023 at 01:42 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.



December 27, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



December 27, 2023 at 10:13 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



December 27, 2023 at 08:50 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



December 26, 2023 at 03:18 PM



“ *Canadian Team/WV Staff-Motley Rice planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Samuel McGinness.*

Canadian Team/WV Staff-Motley Rice - December 26, 2023 at 03:18 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



December 26, 2023 at 01:00 PM



“ *Shalom D. Jacks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Samuel McGinness.*

Shalom D. Jacks - December 26, 2023 at 01:00 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John Samuel McGinness.*



December 26, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *DuBois Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Samuel McGinness.*

DuBois Family - December 26, 2023 at 10:29 AM

TG

“ 88 files added to the album *John McGinness Photo Album*



Theresa Geraghty - December 26, 2023 at 09:30 AM