



John J. Sickler

March 16, 1942 - August 4, 2024

John J. Sickler of Phoenixville, PA, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on Sunday, August 4, 2024, at the age of 82.

John was born March 16, 1942 at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital in Kingston, PA to the late Byron W. Sickler and Ann I. (Alexander) Sickler. Coincidentally, Nesbitt Hospital is where John would meet Doris, the love of his life, who he nicknamed, "Dee." John and Dee were married on June 12, 1965, and recently celebrated 59 years of marriage.

After graduating from Kingston High School in 1960, John went on to study accounting at Wilkes University where he was a dean's list student, treasurer of Circle K, a service and leadership club, associate editor of The Beacon, the school newspaper, and member of the Accounting Club. John also completed an Executive Education Program of Corporate Financial Management at Harvard Business School in 1977.

Upon graduating from Wilkes University in 1965, he passed the CPA exam and went to work for Price Waterhouse & Co. in Philadelphia where he stayed until 1972. It was then he began his 35-year career with Teleflex Incorporated as Corporate Controller. During his time at Teleflex he had many roles with increasing responsibility including CFO, President of the Aerospace Segment, Head of Corporate Development, and President of the Medical Group before

eventually retiring as Vice Chairman of Teleflex in 2007.

The son of a bus driver and a seamstress, John always favored the underdog and was committed to giving back to his community. He served as President of the Board of Directors of the Phoenixville Area YMCA, and President of the Board of Directors at Phoenixville Hospital. During his service with Phoenixville Hospital, he helped guide the sale of the hospital to the University of Pennsylvania for \$32 million. Funds from the transaction were used to establish the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation which provides grants to support community health. Through the Sickler Family Foundation, John and Doris supported a variety of community organizations. Some of his favorites included the Phoenixville Foundry, Colonial Theater, Franklin Institute, Constitution Center, and University of Pennsylvania Medical Center.

John was a visionary who strongly believed in education and hard work. He continued to support his alma mater throughout the years through numerous initiatives, and in 2016 established the Sickler Family Scholarship at Wilkes University. He also endowed the Sickler Family Scholarship at George Washington University, and served on the Dean's Advisory Board.

On any given Sunday you could find John cheering on his Philadelphia Eagles. He had many seasons of never missing a home game during his 55 years as a season ticket holder. He loved being with the crowds whether at Franklin Field, the Vet, or, most recently, Section 204 at the Linc. John attended Superbowl XV and Superbowl XXXIX.

Above all, John was a devoted husband, and supremely proud father and grandfather. There was nothing he loved more than spending time with his family, especially when they could all be together. He traveled the world, but his favorite trips of all time were the two family vacations with everyone in attendance - one to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and another to Alaska.

John is survived by his wife Doris, daughter Beth DeBruyn (Chris), son John Jr. (Alexandra Aitken), daughter Donna Anthony (Chad) and his beloved grandchildren John III (Na), Joseph (Ifath Nitole Iftikhar), Travis DeBruyn, Hadley DeBruyn, Miriam Anthony, Porter Anthony and Benjamin Anthony. John is also survived by his brother Brian Sickler.

Friends and Family are invited to attend a funeral mass for John at St. Basil the Great Church, 2330 Kimberton Road, Phoenixville, PA on Friday, August 9 at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be held privately. Rev. Msgr. Joseph P. Gentili, Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Buckingham, PA will officiate. The family will be receiving visitors at Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, 610 South Main Street, Phoenixville, PA on Thursday, August 8, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and Friday, August 9, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Condolences may be offered online by visiting www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Phoenixville, PA.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc.
610 Main Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Visitation

AUG 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc.
610 Main Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Mass

AUG 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Basil the Great Parish
2330 Kimberton Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tribute Wall



“ Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John J. Sickler



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - August 07, 2024 at 02:43 PM



“ Yanhua L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Yanhua L. - October 17, 2025 at 08:10 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of John J. Sickler.



August 18, 2024 at 10:43 AM



“ Aleksandra B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Aleksandra B. - August 10, 2024 at 09:22 PM

ST

“ You don't know me, but I want to convey my condolences. My mom and Ann were good friends, and we spent many happy hours visiting the Sickler's in their apartment across the street from our house. I hope Brian is doing well.

Sandra Touw - August 09, 2024 at 12:00 PM

JS

“ *The Sickler Family:*

Worked with and for John at Telefelx.

I always remember John as beng kind and thoughtful,

Seeing his obituary, I was reminded of the following paragraph from Morrius West's Shoes of a Fisherman: John was certainly One of the Few!!!!

The Shoes of A Fisherman - Morris L. West

“It takes so much to be full human being that there are very few, who have the enlightenment or the courage to pay the price...

One has to abandon altogether the search for security and reach out to the risk of living with both arms.

One has to embrace the world like a lover.

One has to accept pain as a condition of existence.

One has to court doubt and darkness as the cost of knowing.

One needs a will stubborn in conflict, but apt always to total acceptance of every consequence of living and dying.”

As I said, John was definktely One of the Few!!

I was also reminded of the Dash.

The Dash - Linda Ellis

*I read of a man, who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on his tombstone from the beginning ...to
the end.*

*He noted that first came the date of his birth and spoke of the last
with tears,
but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those
years.*

*For that dash represents all the time that he spent alive on earth...
and now only those, who loved him know what that little line is
worth.*

*For it matters not, how much we own; the cars,.. the house, .. the
cash
what matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.*

*So think about this long and hard ... are there things you would like
to change?
For you never know how much time is left that you still can
rearrange.*

*If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real,
and always try to understand the way other people feel.*

*And be less quick to anger, and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives like we never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect, and more often wear a smile...
remembering that this special dash might only last a while.*

*So, when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to
rehash...
would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your
dash?*

CT

“ Children's National Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Children's National Team - August 08, 2024 at 04:07 PM

CT

“ Children's National Team purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of John J. Sickler.



Children's National Team - August 08, 2024 at 04:07 PM

SN

“ Sharon N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Sharon N. - August 07, 2024 at 07:10 PM

AF

“ Aitken & Levchenko Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Aitken & Levchenko Family - August 07, 2024 at 05:54 PM

AF

“ Aitken & Levchenko Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of John J. Sickler.



Aitken & Levchenko Family - August 07, 2024 at 05:54 PM

WF

“ *Walt and Anna Mae and The Batory Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John J. Sickler.*



Walt and Anna Mae and The Batory Family - August 07, 2024
at 02:49 PM

AF

“ *AVA Bookkeeping Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of John J. Sickler.*



AVA Bookkeeping Family - August 07, 2024 at 11:07 AM

AF

“ *AVA Bookkeeping Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.*

AVA Bookkeeping Family - August 07, 2024 at 11:07 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of John J. Sickler.*



August 06, 2024 at 08:51 PM

AF

“ Ann Marie & Brad Mead and Family purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of John J. Sickler.



Ann Marie & Brad Mead and Family - August 06, 2024 at 07:29 PM

AF

“ Ann Marie & Brad Mead and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Ann Marie & Brad Mead and Family - August 06, 2024 at 07:29 PM

AB

“ Amy Beales planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Amy Beales - August 06, 2024 at 06:54 PM

AB

“ Amy Beales purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of John J. Sickler.



Amy Beales - August 06, 2024 at 06:54 PM

NR

“ Nica Roberts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. Sickler.

Nica Roberts - August 06, 2024 at 09:04 AM

NR

“ *Nica Roberts purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John J. Sickler.*



Nica Roberts - August 06, 2024 at 09:04 AM