



## Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg

June 1, 1957 - February 7, 2022

John James Urbanik Jr., 64, of Schaumburg, Illinois.

We are deeply saddened to report John James Urbanik, Jr., of Schaumburg IL, age 64, passed away on Monday, February 7, 2022, from Covid complications, including a heart attack and septic shock.

While we reel from this catastrophic loss, we also celebrate his life. John grew up on Chicago's South Side and was a proud part of a big extended Polish-American family. As a child, John played with a soldier kit from his father's World War II collection. At Mt. Carmel High School, he achieved straight-As and became an accomplished swimmer and water polo goalie, earning the distinction of "All-American" twice in a row. In his 20s, his chess prowess leveled him up to Master class.

By his thirties, John's career took a turn from accounting to information technology. Eventually he moved to full-time work at U.S. Cellular, where he was quite happy. Where John truly thrived was at home. In May 1992, he met his future writer wife at a Goodyear Tire Shop. He had an adventurous streak (think bungee cord leaps and Vegas blackjack), and once persuaded his reluctant spouse into a snorkeling excursion in Cancun, complete with barracudas. John ziplined upside down—in his 50s.

He adored his children. In the late 1990s, after his oldest son received speech lessons at the Center for Speech and Language Disorders in Elmhurst, John volunteered to serve as chairman of their Board. Later, John helped build a Pinewood Derby jalopy that roared with the soul of an Indy 500 qualifier, beating the rest of the Boy Scout contenders. Despite his long work hours, at night, John plunged into pool water to serve as assistant coach to his sons' swim team. In spite of being a coaching novice on the sport of basketball, John submerged himself on winning strategies so he could coach his youngest son's SAA team. Soon other dads copied John's shrewd maneuvers.

John's musical tastes ranged from Neil Diamond, the Monkees, Petula Clark, Boston, Led Zeppelin, Kansas, and Pink Floyd's "Comfortably Numb," the version with Van Morrison. His favorite movie was "El Dorado," and he was a "Yellowstone" fan. He was brilliant, outspoken, patriotic and disliked snobs. His curious mind led him to study string theory and quantum mechanics. He loved Tolkien books and Peter Jackson's film adaptations of "Lord of the Rings."

Author Paul Asay once said: "Forget Batman: what I really wanted to be was my Dad." Although he never wore a cape, in every way, our John and Dad was a hero to our family.

John is survived by wife Cheryl O'Donovan Urbanik, and sons Matthew Urbanik and Ryan Urbanik, of Schaumburg IL.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Theresa (nee Kaminski) Urbanik, John James Urbanik, Sr., and his sister, Nancy (nee Urbanik) Fitzlaff-Drux.

There will be a Celebration of Life held in his honor on Saturday, February 19, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the Morizzo Funeral Home, 2550 Hassell

Road in Hoffman Estates, IL.

After the services, please join us for a luncheon at Chez Hotel 519 Algonquin Road in Arlington Heights. The family has created this Life Tributes page to make it easy to share your memories, photos, and videos.

For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to Morizzo Funeral Home and Cremation Services, at 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169.

For those of you that would have attended services and would like to express your condolences to the family, please click on the link above and you can leave the family a message, with the share a memory link. If you wish to send a Sympathy Card to the Family, please feel free to send it to Morizzo Funeral Home, 2550 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, 60169 c/o The Family. We will gladly forward it on.

# Cemetery Details

**The Directors at Morizzo Funeral Home entrusted with any Visitation, Funeral & Committal; requested.**

2550 Hassell Road  
(Northeast corner at Barrington Road)  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
(847) 752-6444  
ross@morizzofuneralhome.com  
<http://MorizzoFuneralHome.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**FEB 19.** 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services, and Cemetery Memorials  
2550 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
(847) 752-6444  
ross@morizzofuneralhome.com  
<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

**FEB 19.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services, and Cemetery Memorials  
2550 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
(847) 752-6444  
ross@morizzofuneralhome.com  
<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com>



# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg*

November 04, 2022 at 06:54 PM



“ *John sat behind me back in the office, we had many great laughs. I will deeply miss his funny and witty personality, he was one of a kind! Thanks for being a great friend! RIP!*

**Mary Lou St Aubin** - February 21, 2022 at 04:05 PM



“ *I was on one of the other teams at work and I remember having conversations with John from time to time. He was always friendly and a great guy, and will surely be missed. John and your family have been in my thoughts and prayers. Please accept my condolences and please take care.*

**Jerry Kruzel** - February 19, 2022 at 05:17 PM



“ *58 files added to the album LifeTributes*



**Morizzo Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - February 18, 2022 at 11:33 PM

M(

“ It's not everyday that we come across a person as learned and interested in varied subjects as John. He could always easily take on any side of discussion and argue with conviction. He is missed by the Reporting & Analytics team and the larger SANDS organization in USCellular.

*Rest in Peace, John.*



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**Marul S Nesamony (USCellular)** - February 18, 2022 at 11:03 PM

MN

“ *Marul S Nesamony(USCellular) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.*



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**Marul S Nesamony(USCellular)** - February 18, 2022 at 10:58 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.*



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February 17, 2022 at 08:11 PM



“ I was shocked to read of John's passing on the online forum we shared. He was a hoot and a half and I'll miss his postings. My condolences to all his families and friends.

Jimmy W. - February 17, 2022 at 08:04 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



February 16, 2022 at 05:48 PM



“ 22 files added to the album John's Life & Family



Cheryl R ODonovan - February 16, 2022 at 02:51 PM

JC

“ Jacek Podraza (US Cellular) purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



Jacek Podraza (US Cellular) - February 16, 2022 at 02:09 PM

F&

“ From Miranda (USCC Reporting & Analytics) purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



From Miranda (USCC Reporting & Analytics) - February 16, 2022 at 02:07 PM

PS

“ Paul and Liz Sinars purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



Paul and Liz Sinars - February 15, 2022 at 09:44 PM

LS

“ Louise, Judy, Lisa and Susan purchased the Beautiful Rose Basket for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



Louise, Judy, Lisa and Susan - February 15, 2022 at 05:30 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



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February 15, 2022 at 05:18 PM



“ *Kathy Dai - Reporting And Analytics* purchased the *Small Garden Dish* for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



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**Kathy Dai - Reporting And Analytics** - February 15, 2022 at 10:46 AM



“ *Dr. Hull* purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



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**Dr. Hull** - February 15, 2022 at 08:42 AM

SM

“ My cousin John will always be remembered by me by his childhood nickname "Jocko" or simply "Jock". My heart aches for you, his family, but I am comforted that he is in the arms of Uncle Johnny, Auntie Theresa and Nancy.

*May your memories keep you warm.*

*sandie minor  
Auntie Clara's daughter*

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**Sandra Minor** - February 14, 2022 at 07:12 PM

LJ

“ To my dear friend John, the one that taught me so much – about my own trade. I was the broker, but you were the teacher. From the floor of the CBOT, CBOE or Islamorada, we rocked the joint! With the advent of cellular phones, you were my first client ever who called me wanting to trade the OEX @ 30,000 ft. It was my honor to be your 'best man' @ yours and Cheryl's wedding!



*Bravo my good friend, Bravo! May you rest in Eternal peace. My deepest condolences to Cheryl, Matthew and Ryan.*

*Les Jenkins  
Melbourne Fl*

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**Les Jenkins** - February 14, 2022 at 02:59 PM

TV

“ Tom Vetticad lit a candle in memory of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg



Tom Vetticad - February 14, 2022 at 12:46 PM

UT

“ US Cellular Revenue Assurance Team purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



US Cellular Revenue Assurance Team - February 12, 2022 at 05:59 PM

DM

“ We were very saddened to hear about John's passing. Our hearts go out to his family and friends. We worked closely with John over many years and came to know him as a very intelligent, creative person who helped us find solutions to our data queries. He always had a willingness to help and share his knowledge with us. He often talked about his family and was very proud of his sons. He will be missed.

- Deanna, Christine, and Marla (US Cellular)

Deanna, Christine, and Marla - February 11, 2022 at 03:09 PM

AS

“ Anna Strom lit a candle in memory of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg



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**Anna Strom** - February 11, 2022 at 10:44 AM

DL

“ I only knew John from Hearts of Iron IV’s online community, but even in that capacity we had many interesting and energetic discussions about history – his passion and enthusiasm for it shone through in his broad and deep interest in many different historical areas. I was greatly saddened by his passing – he is very much missed. My condolences to all who knew him, and particularly his family.

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**Dave L** - February 10, 2022 at 07:30 PM

BH

“ While I only knew John from the online world, he and I have been friends for over 12 years. While we often were on other sides of a discussion, that never was an issue to the respect of each other. I will forever be sad that I was unable to actually stop and see him the last time I was in Chicago, as we had planned to meet.

*My condolences to his family and know that he is missed.*

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**Brian H** - February 10, 2022 at 01:21 PM

C1

“ My prayers and condolences to the family on John's passing. I was lucky to swim and play water polo at Mt. Carmel with John. I was unfortunate enough to be the deep end goalie that succeeded him- tough act to follow. He was a phenomenal athlete with the ability to 'get out of the water' higher and faster than anyone I have seen. The other teams always accused him of jumping off that little drain pipe on the wall to get more height-- I know better. John was worthy of his two time All American honors. Blessings to Cheryl, Matthew and Ryan.

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**Carl Segneri - Mt Carmel Class of 1976** - February 10, 2022 at 12:49 PM

JB

“ I only ever knew your father from his passion for historical gaming but he was truly a warmhearted man full of a passion for life and his hobbies, he will truly be missed by everyone else in the Hearts of Iron IV Community

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**Jonathan Bagley** - February 10, 2022 at 11:36 AM

MA

“ Mary Lou St Aubin purchased the Blessed Heart for the family of Mr. John James Urbanik Jr. of Schaumburg.



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**Mary Lou St Aubin** - February 10, 2022 at 10:57 AM

RO

“ Cheryl, Matthew and Ryan, we are deeply saddened about your loss. My cousin John was always a gentleman to my wife Kim and myself during family outings. He genuinely took interest in the events in our lives when we talked about our life’s experiences. In fact, Kim would always ask me if John and Cheryl would be at the family events, because they made us feel special. May God bless the Urbanik’ s and guide John for eternity. Love Rick and Kim Oswald

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**Rick Oswald** - February 09, 2022 at 05:59 PM

JT

“ I used to have conversations with John rather often at work and we would talk about his family and what it was like growing up on the south side of Chicago. We would talk about music, sports and anything on our minds. I got to know him as a fine person who knew a lot about a wide range of topics and wasn't afraid to share his beliefs. I admired that about him. He was a great story teller. My heart goes out to Cheryl and the family during this very difficult time.

*Rest in Peace John,*

*You and your family are in my prayers,*

*John Tompson (US Cellular)*

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**John Tompson** - February 09, 2022 at 05:31 PM