



John B. Hassett

May 1, 1953 - August 27, 2020

John B. Hassett, age 67, of Manteno passed away Thursday, August 27, 2020 at his home. He was born May 1, 1953 in Kankakee, the son of Bernard John & Mary (Kassman) Hassett. John married Lisa Ravens on August 20, 2016 in Manteno.

John grew up near the Kankakee River State Park. As a boy, he explored the former Potawatomi village nearby. He was impressed with their local contributions and burial mound and studied Potawatomi history throughout his life. He attended Bourbonnais schools, and graduated from Northern Illinois University. He taught science full time at Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School and part time at Kankakee Community College. As a young man, he lived in the former Altorf one room schoolhouse where he was a student in the 1950's and 1960's. When John retired, he became a master gardener, master naturalist, KCC Lifelong Learning Institute Board Member (and teacher of many LLI courses), and life member and treasurer of the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society.

He was a member of the Community Presbyterian Church in Manteno and owner of a painting business. John traveled the nation and world extensively and taught many travelogues. He was always educating himself as an avid reader and taking classes for personal enrichment. He was a motivator of others to pursue education, donate to the community, and travel. John enjoyed cruising, new cuisines, golfing, bowling, learning to play the piano, astronomy, watching PBS, BBC, and comedy shows. He found humor in

everything. He was upbeat and happy, a colorful raconteur, and always said “thank you” at the end of a conversation. John was devoted to his wife, family, and friends. He impressed on everyone the importance of giving to others and personally contributed to many charitable organizations.

Surviving are his wife, Lisa Hassett of Manteno; two sisters, Bette Hardesty (Rick Hedin) of Lake Mary, FL and Carla (Gary) Papineau of Kankakee; father-in-law and mother-in-law, John & Virginia Ravens; special sister-in-law, Georgann Butterfield; nieces and nephews, John Hardesty, Jeanne Hardesty, Julie Hardesty, and Leann Mikeska; and two great-nephews, Ryder Mikeska and Hudson Mikeska. John is preceded in death by his first wife, Diane Hatch Hassett and his parents.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial visitation will be held from 11 a.m. until the time of the 1 p.m. memorial service on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Manteno. Per CDC guidelines, please observe all mask and social distancing guidelines. Inurnment will follow at Elmwood Cemetery in Manteno.

Memorials may be made to the family wishes.

Cemetery Details

Elmwood Cemetery

9000 E. Road
Manteno, IL 60950
(815) 468-7891

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

SEP 3. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Manteno - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
291 N. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Service

SEP 3. 1:00 PM (CT)

Manteno - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
291 N. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950
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Tribute Wall

JH

“ *I love you I will miss you every day*

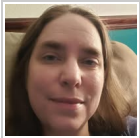
jeanne hardesty - March 15, 2023 at 10:37 PM

CF

“ *I just learned of John's passing and am so sad to hear it. John was a friend from as far back as I can remember. John, Bette, Carla, Mike and I all walked to school together almost every day. He will truly be missed by his close friends and family. So sorry for your loss.*

*Chris (Marcotte) Finley
San Antonio, TX*

Chris Finley - October 26, 2020 at 06:04 PM



“ *As a long time collector of art and a former employer, John encouraged me often over the years. I was stunned to hear the news. Sending healing thoughts to those who survive him. He will be missed.*



Jessica Kronika - September 18, 2020 at 05:58 PM

JM

“ *John was definitely one of the most intelligent men I have ever known. His love of travel was obvious when he was speaking of a recent, or long ago trip of his. My sympathies go out to his family and friends. They, along with the community, have lost a great guy.*

Josh Martin - September 06, 2020 at 03:40 PM

AD

“ Lisa, we are sorry to hear about John. You have our condolences.
Sincerely, Alvin & Diane Davis

Alvin Davis - September 04, 2020 at 08:39 AM



“ My condolences to the Hassett family. I knew John for about a year, belonging to the KCC-LLI advisory board. What a wonderful individual. Every week we and other meet to discuss weekly worldly news via ZOOM. Through this I got to know John a lot better. His passing was quite a shock for me. I like his views on things and will be always asking how John would look at it. Plus I'll miss that hat of his.

Wayne Rybak - September 03, 2020 at 02:26 PM

VD

“ Carla, Gary and family I am so sorry about John. I am sure Dad and Mom were there to great him with open arms. My prayers and love too all.



Virginia R Dominick - September 03, 2020 at 12:37 PM

CM

“ May you Rest In Peace John. My thoughts and prayers go out to your family and loved ones.



Connie Moore - September 03, 2020 at 12:11 PM

PS

“ John Hassett befriended my daughter when we moved to the area over 30 years ago. She transferred into BBCHS as a junior and we lived out from town, so it was difficult and lonely for her. But John connected her with a neighbor who became her new best friend. Later, he encouraged my son’s journey through the high school years. John took humans of all ages, of all shapes and sizes, And gave them encouragement to follow their dreams and to be true to themselves. I went to work for John and ended up going back to school to pursue my own dreams of Science teaching, thanks in large part to John Hassett’s big hearted encouragement. His influence will ripple on through generations yet to come. May he rest in grace and peace. May his memory eternal be.

Priscilla Skalac - September 03, 2020 at 08:10 AM

ME

“ I will miss him immensely. John was a friend and colleague at BBCHS . He was very much pro-student, and that is what draw me to him. Our world loss a big asset. He made a difference in the lives of others and mine, and that I am very grateful. Thank-you for all you have done. RIP John!

Michael Evans - September 03, 2020 at 06:28 AM

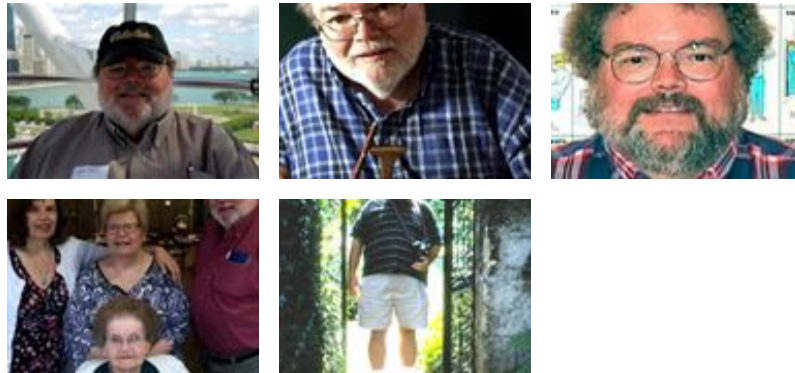
DT

“ I’m so sorry to hear of Johns passing 😞always such a pleasant & sweet man , I was a custodian at BBCHS & he always passed a few words & recognized are contribution to the school 😊 thanking us for our hard work in keeping the school clean & taking care of our teachers 😊 he & Diane were awesome and beautiful people. He will be missed by many. 😞🌹

Deborah Tofte - September 02, 2020 at 06:08 PM



“ 48 files added to the album LifeTributes



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - September 02, 2020 at 03:12 PM

DB

“ I had John as a Student in my geography class ;excellent student with unrelenting questions which were wonderful learning situation for us all ! A little later John returned as a teacher in the science DEPT. John was an easy going ,kind ,thoughtful, entertaining Teacher! The Students of BBCHS were lucky to have John; if you were a former student you were his friend for life ! John Was a Friend Of mine And he will be Missed in this WORLD ! God Bless John! Dennis Bossinger

Dennis Bossinger - September 02, 2020 at 02:36 PM

KD

“ We were so sorry to hear of John’s passing. In high school, John made Chemistry class bearable. Even as a high school junior he had the gift of teaching. And, wicked sense of humor. Years later, John gave us a tour of BBCHS. Reliving old memories was precious.
We will miss you John.
Kathy Decker and Joe Marcotte

Kathy Decker - September 02, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ *May you rest in peace.Amen
You were a good teacher!!!*



Catherine Nelson - September 02, 2020 at 04:19 AM

MM

“ *So sorry to hear of Mr. Hassett’s passing. I had him as a high-school science teacher in 1981-82. I remember him as smart, kind, and cheerful. I vaguely recall hearing ELO songs in class. See you in Heaven!*

Mary Mathew - September 01, 2020 at 02:58 PM

JS

“ *Mr Hassett was one of the best teachers that i had in high school, he was very good at given awesome talks and being their for all his students. The world lost a great, upbeat person and my thoughts and prayers are with each of you! RIP Mr Hassett*



Jeannie S - September 01, 2020 at 12:05 PM

KH

“ *Kathy Hamlin lit a candle in memory of John B. Hassett*



Kathy Hamlin - September 01, 2020 at 10:55 AM

JF

“ *Jaymie Falkenhan lit a candle in memory of John B. Hassett*



Jaymie Falkenhan - September 01, 2020 at 09:52 AM

JF

Thanks for the memories, Mr. Hassett!! You were an inspiration to all who knew you! Fly high, my friend ❤️🙏😭

Jaymie Falkenhan - September 01, 2020 at 09:58 AM

SS

“ *John was the Chess Club coach my four years in 1990s. He was witty and knew his music well. Most importantly he gave his time and was an excellent role model.*

STEVEN SUDDICK - August 31, 2020 at 11:27 PM

TN

“ *I have known John just forever. We traveled to NJ to see Pat & Michael Caise. We spent a lot of time with Mike Zwahlen. John was a blast & I hope heaven realizes what an angel John is.*

Terry Eubanks Novy - August 31, 2020 at 09:34 PM

KT

“ I didnt know Mr. Hasset nor ever had the opportunity to have him as a teacher. Reading the loss of this intriguing man, I am truly saddened of the missed opportunity to have meet such an individual as he. I grew up about a quarter mile from that school house in Altorf and my dad also went there. Peace and grace to the family and Mr. Hasset!
- Kevin Timm

Kevin Timm - August 31, 2020 at 07:33 PM

TZ

“ I'm sorry to hear this news, he was a wonderful teacher and will be missed by all. Prayers to all of his friends and family.



Tricia Zoarski - August 31, 2020 at 07:13 PM

MR

“ I am so sorry to hear about John's passing. Christine Marcotte and I were John's 2 other students in the same grade at Altorf school.

Mike Ryerson - August 31, 2020 at 06:31 PM

BB

“ Heaven has welcomed a great soul! I had him for science (class of 89) . One of the funniest and caring teacher and made learning interesting!! Also met my high school sweetheart and husband right in front of his classroom! ❤️

Becky Kirk Bunch - August 31, 2020 at 06:21 PM

BH

“ John was a great individual, and a truly selfless guy. Our family was privileged to have had John as a part of the group.

Bruce Hannover - August 31, 2020 at 05:40 PM

CH

“ What a great guy! I had Me. Hassett and Mr Bailey for my science teachers at BBCHS class of 1980. Heaven gained a wonderful human being. Prayers to all his family and friends 🙏



Chris Page Huffman - August 31, 2020 at 05:37 PM

TR

“ John Was an inspiration to have as my teacher and friend!! Mr H. You will always rock in heaven as you did so here on earth



Tracy Robertson - August 31, 2020 at 05:23 PM

BH

“ Bryan & Joelene Hays lit a candle in memory of John B. Hassett



Bryan & Joelene Hays - August 31, 2020 at 04:23 PM

VF

“ *Mr Hassett was one of the best teachers I ever had at BBCHS (Class of '91). He made learning fun and explained things in a way that kids could understand. My condolences to the family. God Speed*

Vanessa Fournier - August 31, 2020 at 03:44 PM