



Perhaps they are not stars, but rather openings in Heaven where the love of our lost ones pours through and shines down upon us to let us know they are happy.

Inuit Proverb

Look to the sky - Love shines on and on.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

John Michael Nichols

WHO WAS BORN

November 3, 1936

Minneapolis, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

August 18, 2023

Ortonville, Minnesota

MEMORIAL MASS

Friday, September 1, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.

St. John's Catholic Church

Ortonville, Minnesota

CELEBRANT

Father Brian Oestreich

MUSICIAN

Diane Vangsness, Organist

MILITARY HONORS

VFW Big Stone Lake Post #3964

Ortonville, Minnesota

INURNMENT

Thursday, September 14, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

Fort Snelling National Cemetery

Minneapolis, Minnesota

APPRECIATION

John's family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Following the Mass, please join the family for a time of food and fellowship in the church fellowship hall.

*Mundwiler and Larson Funeral Home
Ortonville, Minnesota*

John Michael Nichols was born on November 3, 1936, in Minneapolis, MN. He was the son of Helen (Lilja) and Earl Nichols. At age 15, the family moved from Minneapolis to Fairmont, MN, where he later graduated from high school. In August of 1954, John enlisted with the US Navy and was stationed at Whidbey Island, WA, from 1954 to 1961. He was honorably discharged on November 30, 1961. After completing his service in the Navy, he completed two years of college at the University of Minnesota.

John resided in Minneapolis, MN, from 1961 to 1992 and Hutchinson, MN, from 1992-2022. In 2022, John moved to Fairway View Neighborhoods in Ortonville, MN. He worked for Medtronic in the purchasing department for many years.

On January 26, 1963, he was united in marriage with Judith E. Gerhardt. They were blessed with 60 years of marriage and two daughters: Kristi and Lori. Despite growing up as a city kid, John developed a love for the outdoors and nature. Together, he and Judy bought and developed their own piece of land, and they built a log cabin from the ground up.

John had a service-oriented heart and volunteered with Amicus, providing friendships to inmates. He helped start the Hutchinson Habitat for Humanity Chapter, and he was instrumental in starting the Hutchinson Humane Society Chapter. John loved dogs and founded the dog park in Hutchinson and helped fundraise for the Big Stone County Animal Rescue.

John is survived by his wife, Judy of Ortonville, MN; daughters: Kristi (Bryan) Delage of Dent, MN; and Lori (Robert) Neises of Waconia, MN; three grandchildren: Kayla (Luke) Findlay; Ryan (Hannah) Delage; and Jenny (fiancé Elijah Cloos) Delage; three great-grandchildren: Ava and Wren Findlay; and one on the way.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Earl and Helen Nichols; and sisters: Adeline Morgan and Marilyn Oberle.

In Loving Memory Of John Nichols 1936 - 2023



"The singing wilderness has to do with the calling of the loons, northern lights, and the Great silences. It is concerned with the simple joys, the timelessness and perspective found in a way of life that is close to the past. I have heard the singing in many places, but I seem to hear it best in the wilderness."

Sigurd F. Olson