



John S. Atkinson III

June 5, 1957 - June 11, 2020

John S. Atkinson III, 63 of Manteno, passed away Thursday, June 11, 2020 at Riverside Medical Center with his daughters at his side following a short illness.

He was born June 5, 1957 in Kankakee, IL to Leona Mae Deschand and John S. Atkinson Jr. Better known to most as Jack, he was the baby in a family of five. They were a military family in Bradley raised in a loving home full of music, laughter, discipline and family. Jack spent his youth running the neighborhood with friends, playing football and getting in trouble with the nuns at school. His love for sports, especially football, carried throughout his life. He was an avid Detroit Lions and Red Wings fan ridicule be damned! He absolutely loved the challenge of fantasy football and the friendships that developed from the leagues he was involved in.

Jack started his adult career at Henkel back in the 80's and from there transitioned to Stepan Company in Joliet. He was a chemical manufacturing operator for 30 years when he switched gears and entered the gambling and gaming business as a technician for Accel Entertainment.

Jack didn't have any sons but that didn't stop him from sharing what he loved with his girls. He taught and even coached his girls in youth softball, brought them to football games in Michigan, and even how to fish (that took a lot of

patience!). As he got older, he grew to enjoy the game of golf on his days off or spending time with his extended family at OTR. He loved to cook and could feed an army. He especially loved cooking for friends and family and they loved reaping the benefits! Jack shared his passion for great music with his girls when they were growing up, something they will always cherish.

He was extremely proud of his grandchildren and loved watching their sporting events. His loud cheering in the crowd will certainly be missed. He is survived by his daughters Kristin (David) Ciarrocchi and Alyssa (Lee) LaMontagne, five adoring grandchildren Jake, Morgan, and Gianna Ciarrocchi and Madison and Kennedy LaMontagne; two sisters Judith Sutherland and Cheryl Atkinson; one aunt Rose Kelly; one nephew Steven Sutherland; one special niece Alana (Gary) Britt who brought joy and laughter to him until the end. Also, several cousins and special lifelong friends Dan and Sharon Power.

Preceding him in death were both parents, several uncles, one aunt and one niece.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

Memorials may be made to his honor and sent to Jensen Funeral Home for his grandchildren's education.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

Jensen Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *John S. Atkinson III*

October 08, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *I met Jack, Kristin and Alyssa back in 1996 when we each lived in half of a duplex in Bradley. He was a good neighbor, and more importantly a great friend. We had lost touch for many years and just reconnected a few months ago. I'm so very sorry to hear of his passing. Jack was a genuinely kind and compassionate person. It doesn't seem real that he's gone. My prayers are with all who love him.*

becky wilder - June 22, 2020 at 08:25 PM



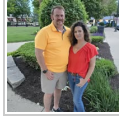
“ *I went to jr. high and high school with John. He was always a smiling happy kid. At High School Class reunions, the same. He seemed to be a caring person Im sorry for your loss.*

Rose Wilkins Velatini - June 18, 2020 at 11:19 AM



“ *Kristen. I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Your dad and I went to school together and he hung around with my brother. I texted my brother when I heard to make sure that it was the same person. Jack was just so much fun to be around back then and it sounds like he never changed. The world lost a good one and so did your family. I am sending prayers to you and your family during this time.*

Nancy Ruel - June 17, 2020 at 07:08 PM



Thank you so much for your kind words Nancy!

Kristin Ciarrocchi - June 20, 2020 at 12:41 PM

PN

“ *John was our cousin even though we never saw much of each other. My sister, Pam Gal, and my brother, Tim Rehmer and myself, Penny Noe express our sympathy to the family. Judy, my cousin and my age, called to let me know. Again, sorry for your loss.*

Penny Noe - June 16, 2020 at 06:01 PM

BR

“ *I met John at the nursing home when he would come to visit his mother. He was always bringing her bags of snacks and drinks. He was a very caring and devoted son. During our many talks, we learned we had a connection through his sisters that I know. He was just a really nice and neat guy. My condolences to his family.*

Bonnie Ross - June 16, 2020 at 04:05 PM



Thank you for your kind words. He adored his mother. As much as we miss him at least they are reunited once again.

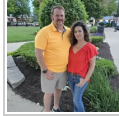
Kristin Ciarrocchi - June 16, 2020 at 05:40 PM

SH

“ *Sr. Martha,sscm lite a candle in memory of John S.Atkinson. I remember John when his mother Leona was a resident at Our Lady of Victory.He was from a blessed family. My prayers are with him and his family.*



Sr. Martha Harrington,sscm - June 16, 2020 at 12:29 PM



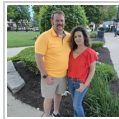
Thank you Sister. He was very grateful for the time you spent with his mother, my grandmother.

Kristin Ciarrocchi - June 16, 2020 at 05:42 PM

BA

“ I meant John at Henkel. What a Great Person. I had so much fun with him, playing softball with him, and loved just talking with him. My prayers go to his family. RIP John.

Brian Albers - June 16, 2020 at 11:59 AM



Thank you Brian. He did love playing softball up until his knee injury. I remember him playing for the company team and he had a lot of fun.

Kristin Ciarrocchi - June 16, 2020 at 05:43 PM

DS

“ I worked many years with John at Stepan, he was a great guy and always had a smile on his face. Always had a good time whether we were golfing, playing fantasy football, or just shooting the breeze at work. I will keep him and the family in my Prayers.

Dave Shaw - June 15, 2020 at 09:26 PM



Thank you Dave. He will be greatly missed

Kristin Ciarrocchi - June 16, 2020 at 05:44 PM

TM

*“ I worked with John at Henkel Corporation. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. May your happy memories of John fill the emptiness in your hearts.
Ted Munsinger*

Ted Munsinger - June 15, 2020 at 02:24 PM



Thank you Ted. We are blessed to have such fun memories with our dad. He was always good for a laugh.

Kristin Ciarrocchi - June 16, 2020 at 05:46 PM