

John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr.

October 9, 1938 - September 2, 2022

John "Jack" Roberts of Bonita Springs, FL, passed away peacefully at his home in the presence of his wife, Carol, on Friday, September 2, 2022. A fearless, respected leader and "coach"; Jack was a man who would spend his entire life raising his family and instilling values of character that would become the cornerstone of the family. Building a business, leaving behind a legacy of perseverance and success, Jack took on the world with confidence and courage.

During his final days, Jack was surrounded with constant love and light, his children, and his wife by his side, who he adored more than anything else in the world. Jack was exceptionally devoted to his family, fiercely loved Carol, his wife of 35 years, as well as being a dedicated father to Jackie (Mark) Robin, Jennifer (Clark) Shuart, Alex (Julie) Roberts, Andy (Liz) Roberts, Marni Roberts, and Matthew Roberts. In addition to being survived by his wife and children, Jack also leaves behind his 11 grandchildren: Andrew, Micah, Howie, Molly (Dan), Max, Alex, Jackson, Bridget, Ella, Cassidy, and Nolan. Jack was preceded in death by his parents, Sandy and Annabelle Roberts.

Held in high esteem by family, friends, employees, colleagues, teammates, and players, Jack Roberts, 83, was born in St. Clair, Michigan on October 9, 1938, the first of 5 children spanning 20 years. Being the oldest, Jack served as a mentor and big brother to Douglas (Emily) Roberts, David (Kristy)

Roberts, Jill (Ron) Wentling, and Gordie (Marlo) Roberts. Jack was a rock for their family, equally devoted to his parents, Sandy and Annabelle as he was to his four younger siblings. His siblings reminisce on being the recipients of an incredible amount of support, encouragement, and advice over the years. Notably, Jack selflessly cared for their late father, Sandy, during his final years.

A first-generation college graduate of Michigan State University (1960), Jack captained the Varsity Hockey team and played baseball. Sports grounded Jack and fueled his competitive fire – a theme that would be ever-present in his life. Jack married his first wife Peggy, and together they welcomed Jackie, Jennifer, Alex, and Andy into the world and into their family. A natural leader with a thirst for independence, Jack sought out his own destiny, establishing Jack Roberts Pools in 1962. Dominating Southwest Michigan, Jack worked at the helm of construction, service, and retail sales for over 35 years.

Incredibly supportive of all aspects of his children's endeavors, one highlight includes Jack Roberts Pools sponsoring youth hockey teams that won several State of Michigan championships. With Jack as coach, he created what would be known as a "Little Dynasty." Told by many former players, it was Jack's coaching style that led them to new heights and success. Through hard work, discipline, and tenacity, Jack left a lasting impact on young athletes for generations to come.

Jack lived by several principles, one of many being "we're not here for a long time, just a good time," which he demonstrated through many hobbies and time amongst family and friends. Sports being a constant in Jack's life, he kept active enjoying time on the golf course, on the ice, and on the water. His freedom as an entrepreneur afforded Jack the opportunity to trade a pool for his first boat, called by the rightful name, "Even Exchange."

Jack wholeheartedly supported all six of his children through their many endeavors, impacting several generations of his children, their friends, teammates, and families. Jack instilled in his children and their peers the values of hard work, respect, and kindness, preaching another favorite line, "good character means always doing the right thing, even when no one is looking." Jack was champion at putting these meaningful words into practice.

During the off-season of the pool business, Jack soon became a "snowbird," and enjoyed time with family surrounded by the sun and sand. Following his marriage to Carol and the blessing of their twins' birth in 1995, Jack became a permanent resident of Naples, Florida in 1998. Rather than retire, Jack worked for Nassau Pools, carrying out his legacy in the swimming pool industry up until his final days.

Jack's final decades in Florida were full of fun, love, and laughter. He continued to build community and support his family, making time for purposeful travel and creating unforgettable memories. He savored the beautiful weather he moved to Florida for, enjoying Lake June and Naples sunsets, boating, and quality time with family. As a parishioner of St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Jack stressed the importance of faith as a foundation in family. He often recollected his grandfather teaching him The Lord's Prayer at age four.

Jack lived a life full of positivity, making the most of each and every day. A final, famous motto he lived by was "the glass is always half full," and that with a positive mindset, anything is possible. Jack built strong relationships full of respect and empathy for others – a person who would do anything, for anyone.

Jack's life will be celebrated as we honor him with a memorial Mass on

Saturday, November 12, 2022 at 11:00 a.m., at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 625 111th Ave N, Naples, FL 34108. A luncheon for family and friends will follow the Mass in the Parish Life Center.

Private services will be held for Jack's burial at a later date.

To sign Jack's guest registry or to leave online condolences, please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jack's honor can be made to Habitat for Humanity: www.habitat.org/.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr. please visit our Sympathy Store.

Previous Events

Service

NOV 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
625 111th Ave N
Naples, FL 34108

Luncheon

NOV 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Parish Life Center
625 111th Ave. No.
Naples, FL 34108

Tribute Wall



“ *John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr.*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Jack and I went to school together at Wilbur Wright in Detroit and we both were Coop Students at Detroit Edison starting in 1954. We were best friends while in High School and our early years in Detroit. When my son Dave was a College Freshman, Jack hired Dave to work in his Pool Business. Andy was terrific with electrical work and put a Speaker System in my 1953 Ford. So I new the family members as well as Jack. Jack was a great athlete and we played sports together while growing up. When Jack went to Michigan State, I went to The University of Detroit, got married early but we still remained good friends. I did not know that Jack and family wound up in Bonita Springs and it's ironic that we also live in Bonita Springs. My phone number here in Bonita Springs is 239-208-2234 if any family members would like to reach out to hear more great stories about my dear friend Jack when we were growing up. Rest in piece my friend, God loves you.*

Jerry and Shirley Sobczak

Jerry Sobczak - September 18, 2022 at 11:01 PM

HP

“ *Mr. Roberts (Jack) hired me in 1987 to work for him at his pool company. A year later I got hired at City of Pontiac Fire Department. When I told him he was genuinely happy for me. He kept me on part time until he closed his business some years later. He taught me a lot about the pool business. He was the best boss I have ever worked for, and he was a very good man. R.I.P. Jack. Thank you for the opportunity, and teaching me about the business.*

Hugh Pettway - September 18, 2022 at 12:55 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr..*



September 09, 2022 at 03:43 PM

PP

“ *I will always be grateful for lessons he learned from Jack as a young boy, not only hockey, but for the man he is today, as parents Jean and I are so thankful. May God bless him he will always be in our prayers. Peter Podrasky.*

PETER Casmir PODRASKY - September 09, 2022 at 10:11 AM

TZ

“ *R.I.P Coach.
The lessons and knowledge you taught me in my years playing for you, are instilled in my life today. You'll be remembered and missed.*

Condolences to the Roberts family,

Todd Zellak

Todd Zellak - September 08, 2022 at 09:20 AM

RB

Our family has always credited Jack with having a profound influence on our son, Rob Brown. From the time he recruited Rob to play for Robert's Pools in Detroit, Jack taught him so much about life as well as hockey. As Rob went to M to play along side Alex, Jack was always in our thoughts. He helped Rob become the successful and good man he is today. RIP Jack. Chris & Rich Brown

richard brown - September 12, 2022 at 05:02 PM

B,

“ *Barbara Steve Mary Lisa And Fred ,Haley purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr..*



Barbara Steve Mary Lisa And Fred ,Haley - September 07, 2022 at 08:47 PM

MS

“ *Lots of fond memories working at the pool company in Michigan.
Rest in peace Jack*

Mark Smith - September 07, 2022 at 06:22 PM

MA

“ Dear Carol,
I am so sorry for your loss. Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs.
Maryellen Maresca

Maryellen - September 07, 2022 at 05:01 PM

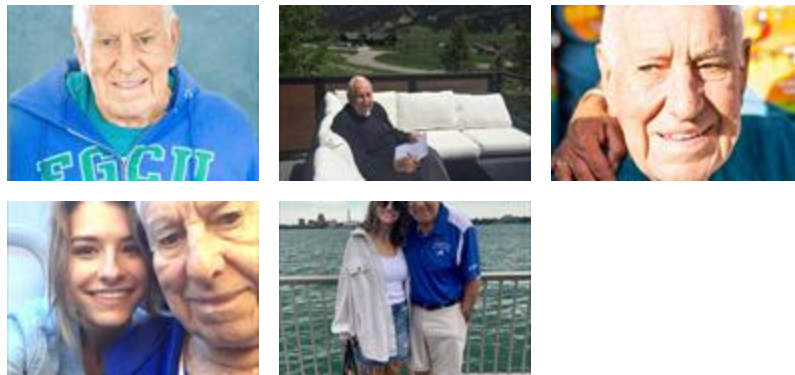
LL

“ Dear Carol , my deepest sympathy goes to you and your family at the lost of Jack. He was a special man. I'm glad Tom and I spent time talking with him at the June graduation party.
Asking God to bring you peace and comfort the days ahead. You will feel the love of family and friends and this will give you strength.
Love, Cousin Lori

Lori Linkewitz - September 07, 2022 at 04:05 PM

MA

“ 39 files added to the album Jack



marni - September 07, 2022 at 02:40 PM

CR

“ Carolyn Roberts purchased the *Treasured Lilies Spray* for the family of John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr..



Carolyn Roberts - September 07, 2022 at 02:22 PM

CR

“ Carolyn Roberts purchased the *Treasured Lilies Spray* for the family of John A. "Jack" Roberts Jr..



Carolyn Roberts - September 07, 2022 at 02:18 PM

DK

“ Carol,
My prayers and thoughts to you and your family. Jack was a really great guy. A spitting image of Sandy. Take care.
Dale Kloplic

Dale Kloplic - September 07, 2022 at 11:49 AM