



## John Harry Bruno

June 23, 1926 - June 22, 2015

John Harry Bruno, 88, of Bonita Springs, FL, formerly of Trumbull, CT, died on Monday, June 22, 2015 just one day shy of his 89th birthday.

He leaves his wife of 57 years, Patricia (Curley) Bruno, his son, John Bruno, his daughter, Carol Bruno, his daughter Jane (Bruno) Stephenson and her husband Frank Stephenson, his two grandsons, Sean and Christopher Stephenson and many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his eight brothers and sisters and his son William "Billy" Bruno. Born and raised in Ansonia, Connecticut, he was the son of Michael and Virginia Bruno of Naples, Italy.

After proudly serving his country with the US Navy during World War II, John attended Arnold College where he received a bachelor's degree in physical education; Columbia University Teachers College, NYC where he received a master's in education; and Fairfield University where he earned his sixth-year degree in education and administration. John taught elementary education at Glenville Elementary, Greenwich, CT and then spent thirty years teaching sixth grade math and science at Nichols and Booth Hill Elementary Schools in Trumbull. In 1971, at the age of 45, he survived a near fatal car accident. After a year-long recovery, he enthusiastically returned to the classroom.

Throughout his years in Trumbull, John was active in the Trumbull High

School Scholarship Program, Trumbull Memorial Day Parade and ceremonies and Trumbull Day. He was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 141 where he served as Commander and Chief and was active in the American Legion Baseball league. He was a sports enthusiast and played minor league baseball in VA, and was a handball champion throughout his youth. He was an avid New York Yankees and Giants fan. He was passionate about writing poetry. Among the poems he wrote, "The Loyal Legionnaire" was made the state poem for the Connecticut American Legion. He often volunteered his time in local hospitals, such as Leesburg Memorial in Leesburg, FL.

A private service will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at the Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home at 28300 Tamiami Trail South, Bonita Springs, FL, 34134.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Joanne's House at Hope Hospice, 27200 Imperial Parkway, Bonita Springs, FL, 34145 or the American Legion, Post 141 in Trumbull, CT. A memorial service in Trumbull, CT will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## **St. John the Evangelist Memorial Garden**

625 111th Ave. No.  
Naples, FL 34108

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Harry Bruno*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I was a student of Mr. Bruno's 6th grade class at Nichols Elementary in 1976. He was a caring and good man and my favorite teacher throughout my education. God be with his family and loved ones. I am sure a place in heaven was reserved for him. RWW Jr.*

**R. Wayne Wolsey** - October 28, 2022 at 07:39 PM



*Was also a student of his in 6th grade in 76, Great man.*

**Justin Bronder** - February 08, 2024 at 09:08 PM



“ *I have "A Tribute in Liberty Enlightens the World, The First Centennial (1886-1986) that was given to me written by John Harry Bruno and signed on 5/5/88. It is numbered 69 out of 500 that were made by Mr. Bruno in Trumbull, CT. I would like to donate it to a member of his family if someone would like to have it. I now live in Palm Harbor, FL and can be reached at 727-683-1652.*



**Eileen Brown** - June 21, 2016 at 10:31 AM

JP

“ Dear Mrs. Bruno, Jane, Frank, Sean and Christopher, Carol and John, (hope I didn't forget anyone!),

*I'm so sorry for the loss of Mr. Bruno. I remember too, what a nice man he was. He always had a smile! I always looked forward to seeing him in the Memorial Day Parade, so proud. My thoughts and prayers are with you guys.*

*Joanne Pivarnik*

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**Joanne Pivarnik** - July 17, 2015 at 12:05 PM

PW

“ *I have fond memories of Mr. Bruno from my 1989 6th grade class at Booth Hill School. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.*

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**Pete W.** - July 10, 2015 at 06:24 AM

AB

“ *Dear family of John, I worked with John for many years at Booth Hill School. He was such a gentleman and a wonderful educator! He loved to chat about anything, but especially about growing up in the Valley of CT where he knew of some of my husband's side of the family.*

*I pray you find peace and comfort in your memories.*

*Sincerely, Ann Sales Block*

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**Ann Sales Block** - July 02, 2015 at 03:19 PM

JA

“ Dear Mrs Bruno & the entire family, I was sorry to learn about Mr Bruno passing away. The world would be a much better place if more people were like him! I can remember him marching past our home on Main Street during the annual Memorial Day Parade. Best Wishes, Jim Abriola

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**James Abriola** - June 29, 2015 at 05:52 PM

LV

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. My brother and I remember Mr. Bruno from when we attended Nichols School and Booth Hill School. He was an amazing teacher and a great man.

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**Linda Vichiola-Coppola** - June 25, 2015 at 10:01 PM



“ I will never forget all of the wonderful times that we had growing up on Inwood road in the 60's. We have all grown up and moved on but the experiences shaped our lives. John Bruno will always be remembered. My heartfelt condolences to Pat, John, Jane and Carol.

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**Nancy Cavaliere-Fisher** - June 25, 2015 at 08:51 PM

BW

“ Pat. Alan and I was so sadden to hear of John"s passing away Please tell the girls and John Jr.our thoughts and prayers are with them and with you at this difficult time. Please let us know when the service will be in Trumbull. Betty and Alan Waterman bettyboopwon @att.net

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**Betty Waterman** - June 25, 2015 at 01:02 PM



“ Grandpa Bruno (really my father in law) was a truly nice man and played an important role in the life of my children. A man of honor and a man of his word. Grandpa - you are someone that we can all look up to, love and appreciate. A real gentleman.  
I hope that I can create as many good memories for my grand children (when I eventually have them) as you have given to my children.  
I always got a kick out of eating out at restaurants with Grandpa Bruno and watching him having fun talking and flirting with the waitresses. He loved his soup!

*You are and will continue to be missed and remembered.*

*Frank Stephenson; Son in law.*

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**Frank Stephenson** - June 25, 2015 at 11:37 AM



“ Dear Pat, My heartfelt condolences to you and your family. You're in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Pat Garmella (Edison School)

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**Patricia Garmella** - June 25, 2015 at 10:45 AM



“ It saddens me that I cannot be there right now. You are the best grandpa anybody could ask for. I'll never forget you giving me rare coins every time I used to visit you when I was young. I miss you very much. Rest in peace!

*Your Favorite grandson Sean*

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**Sean Stephenson** - June 25, 2015 at 10:20 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 25, 2015 at 07:41 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album Handsome Sailor



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 25, 2015 at 07:39 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album Handsome Sailor



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 25, 2015 at 07:38 AM

PG

“ *Dear Pat, My heartfelt condolences to you and your family. You're in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Pat Garmella (Edison School)*

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**Pat Garmella** - June 25, 2015 at 12:49 AM



“ *Mr. Bruno inspired me to become a teacher and I still remember all the encouragement he gave to every one of his students. The world is a better place because of him. I am so sorry for your loss.* ”

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**Christianne Golesky** - June 24, 2015 at 10:31 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name* ”



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 24, 2015 at 09:16 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 24, 2015 at 09:15 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 24, 2015 at 09:12 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Jane Stephenson** - June 24, 2015 at 09:05 PM

DM

“ *John worked as a Realtor at our company, Coldwell Banker in Trumbull, Ct. I want to say how saddened I felt hearing of John's passing. He was a professional, caring, interesting and humorous man and I enjoyed having him as a colleague in our office. He was a true gentleman. Please accept my deepest condolences.*

*Deborah Mollica*

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**Deborah Mollica** - June 24, 2015 at 08:40 PM

LB

“ *Mr. Bruno was my teacher at Nichols School, the year he had his accident.*

*Although he only taught a short time that year he was one of my favorite teachers.*

*He used to sing I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing. I still have a copy of the Memorial Day poem he wrote. I know he will be missed.*

*My sympathy to the family.*

*Lori Brezina*  
*Trumbull, CT*

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**Lori Brezina** - June 24, 2015 at 06:54 PM

J(

“ I would like to send our sincere condolences to the Bruno family, John was a great man!! He always gave you a hello with a nod everyday, we all grew up with his family in Trumbull!! We will always treasure his memories of him!!! John may you RIP Judy Cocca-Bepko Monroe Ct.



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**judy bepko (Cocca)** - June 24, 2015 at 06:13 PM

SD

“ I have so many memories of "Daddy Burns" it would fill a book. My childhood is filled with them and my fond memories of Billy. Think of the odds of him and my Dad being in the same hospital room at St. Vincent's Hospital, and if course, us causing havoc as kids. I'll always remember him in his recliner telling us to be quite and how much he looked like Tony Bennett. Rest in Peace, you will never be forgotten.

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**Susan Desiderio** - June 24, 2015 at 04:22 PM

DB

“ Dear Pat, Today, June 24th, I saw a small picture of a very good-looking sailor on the obituary page of the CT Post. I was sorry to read that the picture was of your John in World War II. It made me sad to hear of his passing. Murray always enjoyed him as a patient and was proud of the patriotic poems John recited in Murray's office. Please accept my condolences in John's memory. He was a great guy. With kind memories, Dorothy Blaustein

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**Dorothy Blaustein** - June 24, 2015 at 03:24 PM

NL

“ I remember your Dad singing silly songs to make us kids laugh during the summers. So sorry for your loss. You all will be in my prayers.

Nancy Lucas

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Nancy Lucas - June 24, 2015 at 01:22 PM

DV

“ A, if not thee, favorite elementary school teacher of mine. I loved Mr. Bruno's science classes. Ha, I remember him making little puffs of "smoke" come out of his mouth and warning us that that is what happens if you smoke - the smoke stays inside you. I of course then learned that it was really the fog made from water vapor condensing out from the sudden pressure drop. But I never did take up smoking :) A good man. He will be missed. My heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and everyone whose life he touched.

- Dan V; Trumbull CT; in Mr. Bruno's class(es) circa 1980 :)

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Dan V - June 24, 2015 at 10:02 AM

GA

“ As Post Commander of American Legion Post 141 in Trumbull, CT, allow me to extend our deepest sympathy to Pat and the rest of John's family. John was a great leader and mentor to many of us, and his contribution to the veterans and children of Trumbull cannot be understated. His poem "The Loyal legionnaire" is the official poem of the Connecticut American legion. The world will miss you John. Rest in peace!

George Areson

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George Areson - June 24, 2015 at 07:56 AM