



John William Slaby

September 23, 1934 - January 3, 2017

John William Slaby, 82, of Phillips, WI, passed away on Tuesday, January 3, 2016 in Naples, FL. He was born September 23, 1934 in Ashland, WI, the son of John and Frances (née Vrabek) Slaby.

Mr. Slaby was an attorney for 58 years. He founded his own law firm in 1960 which grew into Slaby, Deda, Marshall, Reinhard, & Wirtz LLP. During his years of practice he was District Attorney for Price County for ten years and served a term as a State Representative in the Wisconsin Assembly.

Mr. Slaby is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Patricia Ann (née Blodgett) Slaby; his loving daughters, Karen (Rick) Lallemond of Chippewa Falls, WI, Elizabeth (Louis Rackoff) Slaby of Hattiesburg, MS and Sandra (Matt) Burant of Winneconne, WI; his brother, Charles (the late Barbara) Slaby of Muskego, WI; four grandchildren, Tori, Wade, Quentin and Eli; and two great grandchildren, Dylan and Emerson.

Services will be held in Wisconsin at a later date and will be announced.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 134 S. Avon Avenue, Phillips, WI. 54555.

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

Tribute Wall



“ *John William Slaby*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Sorry to hear of your loss, Pat. I lived on the farm next to John. His mother and my mother were best friends. So many memories ..if you want to share get in touch.*

Mary ann cichon banaszak - May 02, 2017 at 03:30 PM

DL

“ I just learned of John's passing on Monday when I stopped by the law firm while I was visiting the Phillips area. I am so sorry to hear this, my condolences to Mrs. John Slaby and John's family and friends.

John was a great man and a mentor to me. I graduated from Hamline Law School in 2003 and I was not able to find a job in Chicago after I passed the bar exam. I had to move to my parent's place in Ogema and I needed a place to start working and learn how to be an attorney.

I could not have had a better example. John, Dave and Bruce gave me a great opportunity to work at their firm for about 9 months and there is no way I would be where I am at today in Chicago if those guys had not given me the opportunity to start working in their law firm.

I really enjoyed my time working with John and everything he taught me while I worked for him. He was a great man and a great mentor and I was very saddened to hear about his passing. The Price County area is such a better place for him being a part of it and he was such a great man. - Derek Lofland, Chicago, IL

Derek Lofland - January 18, 2017 at 10:30 AM

MB

“ I just learned of John's passing from my home in Madison, WI. John was a very, very important person in my life. I loved him dearly.

I worked with John in political races in Price County and in the Wisconsin Legislature. Always the upbeat, humble but wise mentor...a man that you could expect firm and honest advice. In short, a true friend and a man always there for you.

I had several interns who worked in my State Capitol office for college credit at the UW Madison in their government and political science classes. They were required to write an independent studies paper on the Wisconsin Legislature and the evolution of that institution over 30 years. I didn't have to even think about who they would research and the legislator that I would have them research...State Representative John W. Slaby (D-Phillips). John was amused when I told him about the project.

They learned that, in those days, legislators were citizen legislators and John was the perfect example: leave home 5am on Tuesday mornings, drive the nearly 250 miles to Madison, attend hearings, vote on the State Assembly floor, work on constituent requests and get back on the road after legislative recess on Thursday afternoon...to return to his family and law practice. (By the way, all of the interns received "A" grades from their Poly Sci Professor).

My love and best wishes to the Slaby family.

Thank you and rest in peace, John.

*Michael Brozek
Madison, WI*

Michael Brozek - January 13, 2017 at 12:20 PM

VA

“ John was great a brother-in-law and a wonderful family man. I remember how he helped the Slaby family on the farm in their later years. And he always remembered to call us at Christmas, even after Mary died. He will be missed. Love, Vince Arts

Vince Arts - January 11, 2017 at 04:56 PM

BK

“ So sorry to hear of John's death. Remembering him brings back so many memories. It was a privilege to know him.
Our sympathy Bob & Verna

Bob & Verna Knishka - January 11, 2017 at 12:37 PM

LW

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of John's passing. He was such a wonderful person and I truly enjoyed working with him throughout the years. John had such a jovial spirit about him. I can honestly say that I never saw him without a smile on his face. He was not only an inspiration to me, but I'd be safe to say he inspired all those that knew him. My deepest condolences to Pat, Karen, Beth and Sandy. May you find peace in knowing how much he brought to our community and how much he will be missed.



Lisa Walcisak - January 10, 2017 at 08:30 AM

KS

“ John was such an amazing man. A family man, attorney, community icon. He was a good friend to all who had the privilege of knowing him. Our town has lost a prominent citizen. John will be remembered by so many as one of the greats in Phillips. Our deepest sympathy to Pat, Karen, Beth, and Sandy along with their families! Rest In Peace, John until we meet again in the Great Heaven above.

Karen Anne Mick Smart

Karen & Mick Smart - January 05, 2017 at 09:54 PM

DD

“ With sincerest sympathy to the family !!



Dan and Connie DeLasky - January 05, 2017 at 05:29 PM

PS

“ Karen, Sandy, and Beth,
Tim and I are so sorry for your loss! We had the privilege of sharing Christmas with your parents this year. Many stories and memories were shared and it was very obvious how much your Father loved all his girls. You are all in our prayers.

Tim and Patti Schoenborn

Patti Schoenborn - January 05, 2017 at 05:04 PM