

John Mario Bartolacci

September 10, 1952 - June 16, 2021

John Mario Bartolacci 68, a man who was truly passionate about sports, passed away June 16, 2021 at his home after a courageous 50-year battle with cancer. A lifelong resident of Charlotte, MI John was born in Charlotte on August 10, 1952 to Joseph and Mary (Hemingway) Bartolacci, one of eight children in a family raised to live the Golden Rule. He married Sue Bower in 1987 and they raised their sons to love sports, almost as much as John did. As an avid sports fan (Go Blue) and athlete, John participated in golf, bowling and especially loved playing softball. He was on numerous softball league championship teams, State championship teams in 1987 and 1989, National Championship team (60 and over) in 2016, and ASA National Championship team (65 and over) in 2018. John volunteered many hours helping out the Charlotte Junior Oriole football program as well as the Charlotte High varsity football team coached by Paul Davis, and never missed a game or event when his sons were playing.

John was a Godly man, strong in his belief and kind, yet very stubborn. Always willing to help anyone, John was well liked, seemed to know everyone, and always found things in common with people he met. In addition to being a proud father, John also took a lot of pride in his lawn, he truly enjoyed doing yard work and keeping it looking beautiful. He also enjoyed working out at ALIVE, watching and participating in many different sports, and waxing his vehicles on Sundays at Bennett Park. John worked at Owens-Illinois in

Charlotte until his retirement in 2012.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Mary Bartolacci; and sister, Ann Grier. He is survived by his wife, Sue; sons, Kevin and Ryan of Charlotte; grandson, Theo; brothers, Joseph (Diana) Bartolacci of Charlotte; James (Lou) Bartolacci of Mason; Jeff Bartolacci of Riverview, Florida; sisters, Mary Jo Palmer of West Lafayette, Indiana, Nora (Anthony) Franzini and Lisa (James) Jones of Bradenton, Florida; and many nieces and nephews.

Friends are encouraged to support John's family by attending services or sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. Visitation is Wednesday, June 23, 2-4:00 PM and 6-8:00 PM at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte. Funeral Mass will be celebrated Thursday, June 24, 11:00 AM at St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte with Rev. Fr. Dwight Ezop officiating. Mask, group capacity, and distancing guidelines will be practiced. The funeral will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on John's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society or Eaton County Humane Society. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **23**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Visitation

JUN **23**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Mass

JUN **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



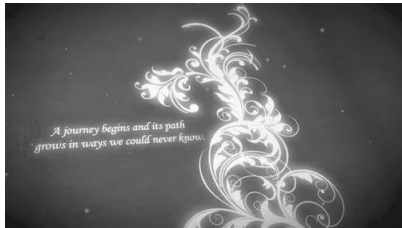
“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of John Mario Bartolacci



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 23, 2021 at 05:18 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of John Mario Bartolacci



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 22, 2021 at 11:45 AM

JB

I enjoyed this presentation of John's life story, in a sad way. What a guy. So handsome it brings tears to my eyes just to look at him. My condolences to John's loved ones. We are cheering from the bleachers and sure you're on the winning side.

Jennifer Baragar - June 23, 2021 at 02:19 PM



“ To Sue and family my sincere condolences. When I moved to Charlotte in 1985 from Nebraska, John was someone I got to know thru playing softball. We shared a common bond when it came to our love of the great game of softball. Later when I coached softball at Charlotte High School, Johnny would stop by the field to check us out. He'd say, Coach how we going to be this year and of course I'd share some comment and we'd both laugh. What a great guy he was! One of my favorites and tho I have not lived in Charlotte for several years I still have special memories of him. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of grief.

Jim Schwartz - June 30, 2021 at 10:59 AM



“ I want to say I'm so sorry to hear that John lost his battle. He and my Dad Johh Dunning played golf together and probably bowled together too. We had become good friends and will truely miss him. I got the opportunity to see him at one of the relay for life walks and met his boys and wife. What a blessing from God to have a beautiful family of love and support during his battle. I pray for all his family for peace and strength. Rest in peace John. From Denise (Dunning) Gress

Denise (Dunning) Gress - June 29, 2021 at 07:49 PM

DD

“ John - It is with great confidence in Christ's promises that I pray you are experiencing the joys of Heaven with your Mom, Dad and sister. Rest in peace.

To the rest of the Bartolacci family, I really wish I had heard of John's passing in time to attend the services. I remember y'all so fondly (living in SC now so y'all is proper English even if your Mom would never have approved back in 2nd grade.)

I do hope to see you some time again when the Pray family isn't hosting. God bless you and your kids and grandkids (I have 10 grandkids myself.)

Sincere wishes for your peace at this tough time,

Doug Dudley

douglas p dudley - June 28, 2021 at 06:53 PM

CH

“ I met John in second or third grade and although, after graduation, I didn't get to see him on a regular basis, when our paths did cross again, I was always greeted with a big warm hug. Once in elementary school, I was lamenting the fact that I didn't have a brother, so he volunteered to be my pretend brother. He took this job quite seriously, playfully teasing me, calling me “pickle juice Pawli,” because I liked pickles, and challenging me to races on the playground, that he always won. One of his favorite things to do was come up behind me and yank my navy blue knee socks, that matched my school uniform, down around my ankles. That wouldn't be so bad, except that was before my mother allowed me to shave my legs, so of course, I'd take off after him in disgust, with him laughing all the way. He was known to make a comment or two about someone I had gone out with...just like a brother! Years later, John would often stop by my classroom, at the Middle School, and give me the latest news in town, and what was going on with so and so. And like so many, I would run into him at Alive, where he would pushing himself as far as he could. I miss those days, and I'll miss seeing John. He was a forever kind of friend. Rest In Peace now, John. You deserve it.

Chris Pawli Hoover - June 24, 2021 at 07:14 PM

MT

“ Praying for you John! And remembering you as kind and sweet, with such a healthy, positive attitude especially given the cross you had to bear. May God grant you Eternal rest and keep you in the palm of His Almighty Hand. Mary our Blessed Mother, be our Salvation.
With love, Maraloy

Maraloy D. Thomas - June 23, 2021 at 08:40 PM

MS

“ *Mary Jo, Joe, Nora, Lisa, Jim and Jeff: My heart is filled with sadness for the loss of John. We all grew up together on North Cochran many years ago. I will always remember that dinner bell your Mother would ring to round all of you up to come home. I ran into John years ago while out walking and he was walking his son's dog. We had a very nice visit. He would always honk when driving by my house from the school. May you cherish his memories. God bless all of you.*

Sue Moore

Moore, Sue - June 23, 2021 at 03:24 PM

 Diane
Ellison
Swafford

“ *My family lived in the vicinity of the Bartolacci's and recall with fondness times all of the boys played softball in our backyard field on N Sheldon St. I saw John at Alive quite often. He always stopped to say hello and ask about my family. I knew he had been battling health issues for many years, but he never mentioned anything about it. He was just always focused on how WE were doing. THAT is the great kind of guy he was. Sending deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will be missed. Diane Ellison Swafford*

Diane Ellison Swafford - June 23, 2021 at 12:12 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of John Mario Bartolacci .*



June 23, 2021 at 10:57 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 23, 2021 at 10:33 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of *John Mario Bartolacci* .



June 23, 2021 at 02:26 AM



“ *To John's siblings: It has been 50 years since I felt a part of the Bartolacci family and recall that painful time when John was diagnosed with Cancer. God blessed John and you all with those extra 50 years. Sending my deepest sympathy at this time. May you cherish his love with his wife, sons, and grandson. Claudia*

Claudia Champion - June 23, 2021 at 01:04 AM



“ 52 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 22, 2021 at 11:32 AM

CR

“ *Peace be with you Sue and family. John was a kind man*

Cindy Raines - June 22, 2021 at 08:52 AM

KS

“ *We were so sorry to hear of John's passing. He was so well liked and always willing to help. It was typical of John that he helped me clean snow off my car when it was cold and snowy. He just got out of his truck and started helping me. I know there are many other times when he helped someone in need. May God be with all of you. Dick and Kitty Stanley*

Kitty Stanley - June 21, 2021 at 01:44 PM

SB

“ Gosh where do I begin? The Barlocchi’s were sort of our neighbors growing up. They lived down the block from us on North Cochran. I was friends with Mary Jo but got to know several of the kids. I reconnected with John when he played on the same softball team as my husband. We would get to games early and many times he would play catch with my son and tease myself and my girls unmercifully. 😊 In later years my sister and I would run into him fairly often at Alive. He still loved teasing us “McClure” girls. He might say something like “Where ya been? Not here.” Letting us know of course that he missed seeing us. He was a great friend to so many and he and his radiant smile will be missed greatly. Say hi to my brother Dick when you see him in heaven John and rest easy. Your work here is done. God will be saying “we’ll done my faithful servant”. ❤️

Stephanie McClure Baker

Stephanie Baker - June 21, 2021 at 01:03 PM

LA

“ Sue & Family-

We were so saddened to hear of John's passing. We have missed seeing him drive by the house everyday and honk as he went!! The grandkid's even got to know John!!! Will miss seeing him and talking to him at the park when we took the kid's! You are all in our thoughts. RIP John...

Lori and Raymond Aseltine

Lori Aseltine - June 21, 2021 at 06:48 AM

LR

“ I am so sad to hear of John's passing, but I will always be grateful to have known him. I met John at St. Mary's and he always had a smile, a joke and a friendly hello when I would see him. Sending prayers for John's family - may his legacy of love live on through all of you! ❤️

Lori Repovich - June 20, 2021 at 08:38 PM

NL

“ Dear Sue, Kevin and Ryan
Thoughts and prayers to you and your family. John was such a great guy and always so positive about everything. Keep your memories close always. God received a special angel R.I.P. John.

Nancy and Scott Lumley

Nancy Lumley - June 19, 2021 at 11:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of John Mario Bartolacci .



June 19, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of John Mario Bartolacci .



June 19, 2021 at 11:50 AM

DK

“ Our thoughts are with Sue & family. We graduated with John & got to see his love of sports throughout the years. Will always remember his smile! R.I.P John...
Randy & Debbie Kelley

Debbie Kelley - June 18, 2021 at 11:00 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Mario Bartolacci .



June 18, 2021 at 08:09 PM

RB

“ I remember seeing John at Washington at the end of the day. He was friendly and kind and I knew as I approached him he'd say something funny to brightened my day. That's the memory I'll always have of John.

Rachele Beyerlein - June 18, 2021 at 07:43 PM

RH

“ Like so many others will say, I remember John as this real nice guy that you just wanted to be around. Like you just couldn't get enough of his positive outlook on life even while he was dealing with the uncertainty of a battle with cancer. My life was better from knowing him, playing softball, baseball, basketball and the occasional round of golf. As young adults, Dusty and I lived next door to his parents Joe and Mary on N Cochran Ave and John always made a point to come over to see how we were doing. It's been since 1987 since I had last seen him but I'll forever remember that wide smile and pleasant disposition he exhibited.

*Reg & Dusty Hamilton
Gold Canyon, Arizona*

Reginald Hamilton - June 18, 2021 at 05:39 PM

KD

“ So sorry to see this.
He was a fighter with his cancer. Met John yrs ago in Charlotte cruising downtown and became good friends. Im sorry Sue & family.
Sending prayers

Kimberly Dillon - June 18, 2021 at 05:13 PM

AH

“ My heart breaks for you, Aunt Sue, Ryan, & Kevin. May the God of all comfort be with you, and His immeasurable grace & limitless peace surround you. May joyful memories sustain you, and may loved ones surround you.

Amy Grier Heldebrandt - June 18, 2021 at 05:11 PM



“ Sue, we are so very sorry for you and your family's loss. John held that special place in our thoughts and prayers! His constant positive attitude and steady smile was always a welcome surprise at the gas station! We will keep you in our prayers and thoughts! Go Henry street ninjas! Hugs! Scott and Laurie Marshall

Laurie Marshall - June 18, 2021 at 04:55 PM

CW

My heart goes out to the family. I've know John for many years. He was such a kind and compassionate man. May the good lord bless you and keep you. You will always be missed .

Connie Woodley - June 18, 2021 at 06:27 PM

CW

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. I have known John for many years. It was always so nice to see him in the store or when he was out walking Lily. He was such a sweet and compassionate man. John you will always be missed . May the Good Lord Bless you and keep you. May you Rest In Peace.

Connie Woodley - June 18, 2021 at 06:32 PM

SC

My heart breaks for you Sue, Kevin and Ryan. There are no words to take your pain away but I pray God gives you comfort and peace. Cherish your precious memories. Love, hugs and prayers! ❤️🙏❤️🙏. Sandi and Butch

Sandi Craven - June 18, 2021 at 11:14 PM

WM

“ With love, Jim & Kristy Manning purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John Mario Bartolacci .



With love, Jim & Kristy Manning - June 18, 2021 at 12:51 PM

JS

“ Thoughts and prayers for the Bartolacci family. Amazing strength and courage are the first things that come to mind when I think of John. Rest in peace my friend.

Jeff Smith - June 18, 2021 at 09:51 AM

TL

“ The Personal Lines Team Cheryl, Adam & Lori purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John Mario Bartolacci .



The Personal Lines Team Cheryl, Adam & Lori - June 18, 2021 at 09:06 AM

BB

“ Sue, Ryan, Kevin and the entire family John was like an Energizer bunny. He ran the race and never lost focus on life. I believe that's what the Lord wants us all to do. John didn't focus on cancer, he focused on what was most important in life. God blessed him with a beautiful, large family. God Bless You All! God is faithful and always with you.

Betty Binning - June 18, 2021 at 08:57 AM

EM

“ Sue, Kevin and Ryan. So sorry for your loss. Your in our thoughts and prayers

Dave and Elaine Martin

Elaine Martin - June 18, 2021 at 08:19 AM

LC

“ It was always a blessing to see John at Relay for Life. He always looked me up to make sure he was the one carrying the banner for the longest survivor. How blessed we all were to have him for so many years. Sue...I hope you sent some chocolate chip with black walnut cookies with him to give to my dad! My sincere condolences to your family. Thanks John for your determination and your fight for survival but now, may you rest in peace and know that the fight continues. Share some laughs with my mom and dad because they both thought very highly of you. Keep carrying the banner anyway because you truly exemplified a survivor!!!

LAURA COOPER - June 17, 2021 at 09:57 PM

PC

Sue , our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time. John was such a great guy... May he rest in peace.

Penny Cooper - June 17, 2021 at 11:07 PM

CB

“ Chuck Brandon lit a candle in memory of John Mario Bartolacci



Chuck Brandon - June 17, 2021 at 06:52 PM



“ R.I.P. RICO PLEASURE PLAYING FAST AND SLOW PITCH WITH YOU

Lowell Hogle - June 17, 2021 at 06:51 PM

JE

“ *What a determined fighter John was, with such a good attitude. Never complained but always concerned about others and friendly. Always talked of his rock, Sue, and with pride about his sons Kevin and Ryan. Then the tenderness in his voice when speaking of Theo, his grandson❤️ You'll be missed John. May you Rest In Peace!*

Jeri and Brian Elliston

Jeri Elliston - June 17, 2021 at 04:57 PM

JJ

“ *Dear Sue, Ryan, Kevin, Joe, Diana and other family members What a man! What a man! What a man! Oh he always kept going and going with others in mind. Loved seeing him at the old wellness center in his sweat gear and at Alive always pushing forward. John will be missed by many hearts that he has touched. God bless. He will shine in his heavenly home.*

Sincerely with heavy hearts, Jadine and Bill Jenkins

jadine and bill jenkins - June 17, 2021 at 03:09 PM

PT

“ *Sue, Ryan, and Kevin We were so sorry to hear of John's passing. We send our prayers and condolences to you. John will be so missed.*

Paul Tomasek and Candy Bilacic

Paul Tomasek - June 17, 2021 at 01:32 PM

CR

“ *Sue, Tom and I are so sorry for your loss. Sending prayers for comfort.*

Tom and Cindy Raymond

Cindy Raymond - June 17, 2021 at 01:19 PM

GS

May you all find peace, love and know that John's life was full. And may we all lift John and his family up to the Power That Guided him throughout his journey 🙏🏻📿

Ginny Stuart - June 17, 2021 at 03:21 PM

LS

“ Tom and I are holding Sue and the entire family safe in our hearts at this most difficult time. I remember when John was in the room next to me getting treatments at Red Cedar Oncology. We always shared words of wisdom with each other. He was always pleasant even as we were receiving treatments. Here's to a home run in the sky. Hugs, strength and support to all. Take care💕💕 Tom and Linda Stark

Linda Stark - June 17, 2021 at 01:06 PM