



John Thomas Klopp

February 13, 1952 - June 12, 2003

John T. Klopp, 51, of Southington, passed away Thursday June 12, 2003 at his home surrounded by his family after a courageous battle against lung cancer. Born in New Britain, son of the late Ernst and Irma Linn Klopp, he moved to Southington in 1993. A graduate of New Britain High School, class of 1970, where he was captain of the baseball team, he graduated with honors from Central Connecticut State University in 1974. A dedicated mathematics teacher, he taught at Kennedy Junior High School for 14 years and at Southington High School for the past 15 years. An avid golfer, John was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Southington, Club 48 in New Britain; and Southington, CT and National Education Association. He formerly coached boys JV baseball and girls volleyball at John F. Kennedy Junior High School; was former girls assistant volleyball coach at Southington High School; and currently coached girls varsity tennis. He was a former member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in New Britain and served on St. Matthews School Board of Education.

Surviving is his wife, Linda Spranzo Klopp; a daughter, Colleen Klopp of Southington; 2 brothers, Michael Klopp and his wife Judith of New Britain; and Paul Klopp and his wife Bonnie Bercowetz of Bloomfield; a sister-in-law; Maureen Klopp of New Britain; several nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by a brother, Peter Klopp.

Funeral services are Monday 2:30 PM at Zion Lutheran Church, 531 Woodruff Street, Southington 06489. Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery at the

convenience of the family. Calling hours are Sunday 4 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Zion Lutheran Church Memorial Fund or to the Dr. Lorraine G. Spranzo Scholarship Fund c/o New Britain Foundation for Public Giving, 29 Russell Street, New Britain, CT 06052. Please share a memory of John with his family on our online guest book by clicking "sign memorial guestbook" at the top of the page.

Tribute Wall

EB

“ I knew Mr. Klopp only for a short time. However, in that short time that I knew him my 9th grade year he taught me and many others so much that we understood clearly enough to function with.

We will never forget his smiling face when he walked into the room, and we will never forget what he wanted most out of life.

Elyse Brodeur - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dearest Linda, Colleen & Family:

I learned from my Mom the other day that John had passed away. I was shocked and saddened to hear of this great loss. I pray that you will find comfort in the memories you have of John and that they will be a form of strength to you in the days ahead. When the one you love is a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

Bill and I send our love and deepest condolences to you and your family.

Sincerely,
Denise & Bill Wood

Denise BergeronWood - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ My condolences to Mr. Klopp's family. Mr. Klopp was my math teacher back in 1987 and he has left such an impression on me that he is one of the few teachers that are a part of my memory and a part of who I am. I learned so much from him. He didn't put up much in class - he was a tough cookie! But with a BIG heart. To this day I still speak of him to peers or co-workers. I don't think he realized how much he touched people in his subtle ways. But then again, I never told him how great he was.

You are all in my prayers:

"If God can work through me, he can work through anyone"

Robin Winarski-Perez

Robin - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Dear Family,
I have never met any of you..& yet I feel as if I know you...as my SisterCarolyn Mauro & my Son Louis Corte had both shared their shock & sadness when first hearing of John's illness. I know he touched many lives...& will live always in the hearts of many...as they were blessed to know him...& as you were blessed to be a part of his life..This has been a detour in life I am sure you never planned on...But with your faith & the love that surrounds you...I am confident that you will be able to overcome most obstacles. Take care of yourself..
Sincerely, Marie Corte

Marie Corte - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ I had 'Mr Klopp' for Algebra in 8th grade at JFK....1976 or 77...and also had to put up with him heckling me during each at-bat while he umpired softball games in town...he was a great teacher and friend...I'll always remember one day in math class for extra credit he asked if we could write down a word that had 8 letters but only one vowel...after about 10 minutes I asked him what I would get if I found a word that had 9 letters and only one vowel...he said I could have extra credit on my next exam as well....the word he was expecting was 'STRENGTH'...the word I came up with was 'STRENGTHS'...he got quite a kick out of it...and I've been searching for another word to top it since.

I had seen him down at Anthony Jack's shortly after it opened...it was great to run into him...I had no idea he was sick. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Gary

Gary Solomon - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ My sincerest condolences to Colleen and her family. Mr. Klopp always had a positive presence about him and a contagious smile. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Kris Mach-Urillo - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ This earth has lost a very kind person. Our thoughts are with you.

Andy & Sandy Ryiz - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ *My heartfelt sympathies go out to you Linda and Colleen. I have taught with John for the passed 15 years and have many fond memories. He could always make me smile by his smile alone, a joke, a shoulder rub, a cookie, tales of a concert, the rolling of his eyes and yes his weather forecast. I will miss him dearly. Sincerely,
Karin Isner*

Karin Isner - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *My deepest sympathies to the Klopp family. Mr. Klopp was one of the nicest men I knew. He was my homeroom teacher in 1990, chief of the scorer's table at our basketball games, and father of my sister Tiffany's teammate, Colleen. He always was friendly, had a nice word for everyone and treated all students with respect. I always appreciated that. God bless Mr. Klopp and my sincerest thoughts and prayers to his family.*

Kris Steele & family - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *My Deepest Sympathy to Linda, Colleen and the Klopp family. I always cherish the fond memories of John from years ago, he was such a great guy. I am sorry for such a great loss and I know he will be missed very much by all who's lives he has touched. May God grant you peace and strength at this time. God Bless you,
Sincerely,
Judy Adolewski & Bob Lentini*

September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ I feel that John and I shared so many experiences in teaching math in Southington. It has been 28 or 29 years of support. We have done battle together and I will not forget him being there is his quiet way.

Eleanor Aleksinas - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ I had Mr. Klopp as my math teacher this year during 6th period. He was a great teacher and taught me alot. Mr. Klopp always made math fun. My class will miss him dearly. My deepest sympathies to Miss Klopp and her family.

Nicole Proffitt - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ John Thomas Klopp

Nicole Proffitt - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ To Colleen and the Klopp family. Although I knew Coach Klopp from playing volleyball at JFK and SHS, it was the time off the court when he took a minute to stop and ask how the other things were, that meant so much to me. I will always remember his sense of humor and he will be greatly missed.

Julie Ryder - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I'm very sorry for your loss. I had Mr. Klopp 6th period this year and he was my favorite teacher! He made math fun. Even though I've only known him for the short time he was at school this year I'm going to miss him.

Stephanie Fortin - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ To the Klopp family: We wanted you to know what a positive influence Mr. Klopp had on our daughter, Allison's life not only as a teacher but as a tennis coach as well. When Allison had him for math last year 8th period she would never, never, ever want to leave school early for any reason not even vacation. He was a great inspiration to her in school and on the tennis court. It has been teachers like John that have made Allison's High School experience so great. He will be truly missed. We share in your sadness as we have experienced a devastating loss when our son died and we know how great the pain is. Our prayers and constant thoughts are with you at this time. With deepest sympathy, Laurie, Ken & Allison

Laurie&Ken Hill - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ My fondest memory of John Klopp is of him smiling, looking down at me and saying "Hey, Janie. How ya doing?" With those incredible blue eyes and that lanky frame I always felt as though I was looking up to more than twice my height to see him. In the last few years I usually saw him just at my Mother's house at Christmas. The "guys" would have some Cold Duck and start telling stories and sooner or later we had the great joy of hearing John's delightful laugh. I always think of him in that order. His blue eyes, wonderful smile and great laugh. I know he will be more than greatly missed but I really believe he is in a better place than we know of....catching up with Lorraine & his own famliy, playing golf better than Tiger Woods, wearing his NBHS Captians uniform playing baseball, basketball without the knee brace and in the evening shooting the s--- with John Lennon and George Harrison. Although he is in heaven I feel that the lights here on earth dimmed with his passing. We will all miss this kind, devoted man who was so in love with Linda, adored Colleen, loved his family, friends, teaching, baseball and golf. So very many people will miss this direct, kind, gentle giant of a man. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of John's loved ones. Jane and Jonathan Hooker

Jane C. Hooker - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ TO LINDA, COLEEN, AND FAMILY,

MARYANN AND I WERE GREATLY SADDENED TO LEARN OF JOHN'S PASSING. I HAVE SO MANY FOND MEMORIES OF BOTH OF YOU FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND GROWING UP IN NEW BRITAIN THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PICK A FAVORITE. THE COUNTLESS BASKETBALL AND BASEBALL GAMES, CARD GAMES ON SUMMER NIGHTS AND FIRST CARS WILL ALWAYS BE AMONG MY MOST CHERISHED MEMORIES. OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ARE WITH YOU IN THIS MOST DIFFICULT TIME.

BILL AND MARYANN FREDERICK - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ *With deepest sympathy to you and your family in this time of sorrow.*

Adolf & Dorothy Drachenberg - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ *I was a math and chemistry teacher at Southington High School and had the pleasure of teaching math with John who was a teacher respected and loved by all of us there. I retired in 1989. I was very sorry to read of John's passing. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. My love to Linda and Colleen and the rest of John's family.*

*With kindest regards,
Nellie F. Shepard*

Nellie F. Shepard - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ *I was so saddened after hearing about Mr. Klopp's passing. He was such a kind, funny man who always tried to make everyone smile. As a former student of his, I can honestly say that he truly cared about each and every one of his students and was genuinely concerned about us, both in and out of the classroom. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends. Mr. Klopp will truly be missed!*

Heather Ozga - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RZ

“ I was so sorry to read about John’s passing. Please accept my deepest sympathy. He will be missed by faculty and students at SHS.

I will always remember seeking John out to get the "no school" weather forecast. He was famous for it and always right.

Rosanne Zanetti - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ To the Klopp family:

John will always be remembered as a great, genuine guy. He will truly be missed but never forgotten. With his passing we need to cherish the good things. With that I will always see John walking through the door at school with a rose/flower for me every friday, just to make my day. I only hope the rest of us can be remembered in such a great way! Love ya John!

Paige Kopcza - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ This morning I shared in the shocking news of a loss of a great friend. Sharing only a season of basketball with John and his family has been a season I have cherished forever. Our season may have ended but our friendship never did nor ever will. My deepest sympathies to Linda and Colleen, I can only sense how your are feeling at this moment and have no words to help comfort you. I know for my own sadness that my son is at this moment sharing the love with John that you have had for a life time. I will miss the "Kloppster" very much, he was a friend for life to me. My thoughts and prayers and alot of love to you both. If there is anything I can do at all please let me know

*All my love,
Guy*

Guy A. Giantonio - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ *To The Klopp Family,*

We were very sadden and surprised to read about John's passing. You may remember our family from basketball and my deceased husband, Todd Scanlon, who also died from lung cancer, who was a contributor to the girls basketball program.

We want you to know that time will soften your sadness and our hope is that memories will sustain you through this very rough time.

On behalf of my children, my husband, Bob Knapp and myself, we are very sorry for your loss.

The Scanlons and The Knapps

Kathy, Bob, Paige, Ryan Scanlon-Knapp - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *To a beloved coach, teacher, colleague, and friend. You will be truly missed.*

-Jill Bartley

Jill Bartley - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM