



John E. Lukens

November 7, 1922 - December 11, 2003

John E. Lukens, 81, of Kensington, died Thursday December 11, 2003 at Brittany Farms Health Care Center after a long illness. He was born in New Britain General Hospital on November 7, 1922, son of the late James E. Lukens and Gertrude Clark Lukens.

He is survived by his wife, Ingeborg Ehrhitz Lukens, two sons and two daughters-in-law: Daniel J. Lukens and Beverly Evvard of Oakdale, CT, and James A. Lukens and Linda Lukens of Nashua, NH. Also left behind are two granddaughters: Sarah Lukens and Rebekah Lukens and three step grandchildren: John Kinney, Jessica Beattie and Jennifer Sonnabend. Also surviving are a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Allan and Karen Ehrhitz of Cincinnati, Ohio, and two nieces and two nephews: Gary Lukens of Kensington, Deborah Lawrence of Glastonbury, Andrew Ehrhitz of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Kristin Canga of Newport News, VA.

John Lukens attended New Britain public schools and graduated from Central Connecticut State College in 1947. During World War II, John served as a Tail Gunner in the 376th Bomb Group of the 15th Air Force, completing 50 missions over Europe from a base in San Pancratio, Italy.

After teaching in Windsor from 1947-1950, John Lukens worked for the Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company for 33 years where he was elected an officer in 1969 and from where he retired in 1983.

Although moving to Kensington in 1956, Mr. Lukens remained active during his entire life at the Trinity United Methodist Church in New Britain, serving as

Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1987-1996.

John Lukens was a member of the Shuttle Meadow Club. While living in Berlin for forty three years, he was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Berlin, serving on the Board of Directors of the Berlin YMCA, was PTO President of Percival School and was active in the Kiwanis Club of Berlin for over thirty years, serving for a term as President and several years as the Club secretary.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 10:00 AM at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 19 Chestnut Street, New Britain followed by the burial at the Maple Cemetery on Worthington Ridge in Berlin. Friends may call at the Carlson Funeral Home on 45 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT on Monday from 5 to 8 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Trinity United Methodist Church, 19 Chestnut Street, New Britain, CT 06051. Please share a memory of John with his family on our online guestbook by clicking on "sign memorial guestbook" at the top or bottom of the page.

Tribute Wall

DK

“ It is wonderful to have memories to cherish of our golf and bowling days together. I am so glad that we had so many good times.

*Sleep in peace, my friend
Diane Kellam-Woods*

Diane Kellam-Woods - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Dad, and I call you that with much affection. I remember when you told me I could call you John, Luke or Dad after Jim and I married. You told me which ever I preferred. I also remember how you and Mom accepted me and my children into your wonderful family making us feel so much a part of it.

All the memories for the last 20 years will be with me always... the holidays shared with you and the family, the many happy hours with the occassional Bloody Mary you and I liked so much you made good ones, the time you caught my son John so teary eyed when you and he were watching It's a wonderful life and you were so touched by his emotions of that silly movie, Goodspeed shows you, Mom, Jim and I saw together. I could go on and on but I will just say that I will treasure these and so many more memories with all my heart. I'll miss you very much Dad.

*Love,
Linda*

LINDA LUKES - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ singing "It's such a beautiful site as you look to the right, going south on the Charter Oak Bridge. There's the Traveler's Tower and a whole lot more, like the Constitution Plaza and Bill Savitt's Jewelry Store. For weddings, and birthdays, and anniversary's, Bill Savitt, will have it, the perfect gift for thee. You'll find there's quality service, your dollar buys more, at 35, Asylum Street, Bill Savitt's Jewelry Store." Rest in peace Dad.

Love,

Jimmy

Jim Lukens - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ What can I say that hasn't already been said. Grampa Lukens was a great man. He always had a great story to share with his family. I remember visiting Grampa and Gramma as a younger child with my mom and Jim. Some of my fondest memories were our ping pong tournaments, duckpin bowling, and eating brunch at the "Let us Please you". I can remember Grampa Lukens face when I kept going up to the buffet and him wondering where I was putting all the food.

You were a great man surrounded by a great family that will keep all these great memories alive forever. I love you very much and I will always remember you in my heart.

Love,

Your grandson

John

John - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I met Mr. Lukens only twice. My impression of him was of a dignified, quiet, kind man. May he rest in peace. My condolences to all his family and friends. May he live on in your hearts bringing joy through the memories of the times you shared.

Sandra Smith - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ Mr Lukens, with your passing my father and I will have to find someone else to torment every four years.

It has been a time honored tradition to call you on election day, posing as someone else, to have some fun with your intense Republican sentiments.

To listen to your horror, when I called you, as a representative of Ralph Nader's Green Party, to offer you a ride to the polls in the last presidential election. "We need all of Nader's staunch supporters to vote," I had said, before you hung up with a loud bang.

We will miss you. You were a special part of the Forde family's life. May you rest in peace our dear friend.

Nuala Forde

Nuala Forde - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Dear Mr. Lukens,

Thank you for not running over Binky, though he slept in the middle of the road and you could have easily missed him coming around the corner and Una and Ellsworth. Thank you for tooting "gently" a few times, to give a hint, before resorting to the full-on honk required to get Binky to notice. Maybe that red Vega coulda used a bigger horn.

I fondly remember your presence, along with Mrs. Lukens, at our house and around the neighborhood as I was growing up. There were occasional events that involved cocktails, and I can remember the clink of ice cubes in your hand, the scent of tobacco in the air, like it was yesterday.

Thank you for the local history lessons, the kind words of encouragement, your friendship with my Dad and his Dad.

With great respect,

Sean

Sean Forde - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ To the extended John Lukens Family. I was born hearing my parents always referring to "Luke and Inge," two important people in the gang that played and laughed and cavorted together with my parents throughout my childhood and most of my adulthood. He was family to the Fletchers as was his brother, my "Uncle Bob." And he was Uncle Doc's very close, if not best, friend. I heard tales of how the big kids of the Monroe Street Gang used to pick on the little kids John being one of the little kids. I even have an adorable photo of John as a little kid! So the ties are plenty and the memories full. Luke was a great guy and touched many people with his humor and goodness.

Nancy Fletcher - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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Nancy Fletcher - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *Fondest memories of Lukie:
digging dandelions with the boys then being taken to Johnny's for
popcicles.
When Danny and Jimmy were twisting apart oreo cookies to eat the
filling first, Lukie and I were eating sardines, a specialty he taught
me to love.
On my first wedding anniversary, Lukie and Ingie stopped over while
we visted Martha and Pren and gave me two cans of Sardines.*

Running into Lukie at the Old Mill in Southington.

He will be missed.

Andrea Luty - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *I have so many wonderful memories about my Uncle Luke. Most are
around the holidays. He so enjoyed when Dan, Jim, Gary and I
sang the "Piggy Polka" - a kooky song that we used to sing when
we were at Newfound Lake in New Hampshire when we vacationed
there with both families. On most holidays we sang that and also
Dan, Jim and Gary also sang the P.O.M.G song from Bill Savitt's
jewelry store. Boy are we weird!!*

*My uncle and I also shared the talent for the Lukens' "pig-latin"
Grandma Lukens is famous for this Not many could master it.
Certainly not Malo. Uncle Luke and I used to drive Malo and some
others a little crazy while we spoke the special language only a
Lukens could understand.*

*I will miss my Uncle Luke greatly. Holidays and all other days will
never be the same without him.*

Love, Debbie your favorite neice

Debbie Lukens Lawrence - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Dear Dan,
We are very sorry to learn of the loss of your father. May his
memory be for a blessing to you and your family.
Love, Sue and Stuart; Wendy and Benji

Sue and Stuart Miller - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ Dear John - You were a wonder-
ful guy. Both in laughter and
tears. We will miss sorely.
You were also fortunate to have such a lady as Ingebord
for a life partner. She gave
and gave some more.
Next time I golf I'll try to
break 100 for you.
Goodbye ole fella. You were
great and thanks for the
memories. Anne & Grey

Anne & Grey Gooby - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Sincerest condolences to Dan from your old piano tuner at the
USCG Academy.

Bob Lezinski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ John, you and I as the last of the "Monroe Street Gang", the youngest and the oldest, have enjoyed each others company for the last 20 years or so vacationing, travelling, partying, and playing bridge. You were always determined to win.

We had great times together remembering the old days of the "gang" when Montroe St. was a dirt road and we would collect bent nails and bits of lumber from the homes being built and then build us some forts and tree houses.

John you will be sorely missed, but reverently remembered.

Paul Fletcher - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Please accept our deepest sympathies to the family.

Friends of Jim and Linda's

Bill and Tama Gnerre - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM