

## John Paul Bass

June 4, 1946 - February 12, 2022

John Paul Bass, of Ocoee FL, passed away Saturday, February 12, 2022, at the age of 75. John, originally from Madison WI, is survived by his wife of 56 years Barbara Ann (Voss), their four children; Todd (wife Tammi), Scott, Amy and Wendy, seven grandsons; Nolan (wife Karina), Corbin, Joseph (wife Megan), Gregory, Brendon, Bryce and Brock, two great-grandchildren; Alexander and his first and only granddaughter, Mila. His brother-in-law Jerry Marble and niece Christilynn (Misti) Meyer of WI and his nieces and nephews from the Cuske family. Also surviving are Alice and Steve Drake, Beverly and David Urben and their children and his lifelong friends, Chuck and Donna Meinholz.

John was preceded in death by his parents David and Ruth (Wagner) Bass of Madison, WI, brother Eugene Cuske, sister Daville Marble and his niece, Dachele Marble.

John loved going back home to Madison; his alma mater was Edgewood High School. Following graduation, he earned his Marketing Degree from Madison Area Tech College. Every visit back to Wisconsin, he would drive by his boyhood home on 827 South Brooks Street, pick up a box of chocolate donuts at Lane's Bakery and have "bar burger" and a Wisconsin fish fry. He loved to tell the story of his days as a paperboy and riding his bike down the hill at Vilas Park. He was a prolific wood carver. He saw things in a piece of wood

and brought them to life. Following his father's footsteps, he was also a phenomenal chef. He loved creating in the kitchen and working alongside his son Scott, making family meals. To our delight he also did the cleanup! He was so loved by his family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors. For over 10 years, he would play the role of Santa with Barbara, as Mrs. Claus. The neighborhood children would gather every year with such excitement to tell Santa all their wishes. It was truly a magical yearly tradition, he looked forward to.

John retired as an Executive Director from multiple nonprofits, including American Cancer Society, Multiple Sclerosis, American Diabetes and Public Broadcasting (PBS). He continued to work up until his very last day, as an accounts manager.

There will be a small service of family only, in Maitland, FL, on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, where his children are all together with the love of his life, Barbara, to celebrate the life and legacy he has built. He will be celebrated, as he always wanted, with the sounds of Bagpipes and When the Saints Go Marching In. He was and will always be Barbie's, "Johnny Angel".

The family can be reached c/o Barbara Bass at BarbAndJohnBass@gmail.com.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to his favorite local animal shelter, where he matched with his four-legged best friend, Shadow. Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando, 2727 Conroy Road, Orlando, FL 32839 at: <http://PetAllianceOrlando.org>

The family of John P. Bass invites you to leave a message of condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his loving memory.



# Tribute Wall

CS

“ *just had a salami sandwich for lunch. thought of you friend*

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**Chris S** - February 07, 2023 at 01:53 PM

DT

“ *Barb and Voss family.- Condolences form the  
Thorntons in Wisconsin.  
Best wishes moving forward.  
Don Thornton*



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**Don Thornton** - February 22, 2022 at 12:52 PM

SM

“ Jim and I are heartbroken over the loss of John. He was a friend, a neighbor, and both he and Barbara have been bonus grandparents to our children. I thought I would share a few random memories.

Probably my fondest remembrance is of John as Santa. For years, when our children were young, John and Barb were Mr. and Mrs. Claus. We have such wonderful memories of them coming in the door Ho Ho Ho-ing, reading “The Night Before Christmas,” and spending a few moments speaking personally with each child before giving them their first gift of the holiday.

John and Barb have known our youngest, Katie, her whole life. From the time she was little, Katie would ride her bike over to their house. If the garage was open, she liked to stop in and ask John what he was carving. She was fascinated by his creativity. When she came home, she’d tell me all about John’s latest project with great enthusiasm.

Katie has always had an affinity for raccoons. Over the years, Katie accumulated many stuffed raccoons and figurines. But none was more special than a raccoon John carved especially for her. He surprised her with it one birthday, and it truly is a work of art. To this day, while many of the stuffed raccoons have made their way to Goodwill, the raccoon John carved will forever hold a prominent place in her room and in her heart.

John and Barb enjoyed Halloween. Many years they dressed up and would sit outside to watch the kids go by and pass out candy. Their house was always the first stop on my kids’ trick-or-treating route.

Many years ago a hurricane came through our city. As the neighborhood hunkered down, John knew I was home alone with Katie and Ryan, who were quite little at the time. Jim was a news director at WKMG-TV and was working round-the-clock at the station. We lost power fairly early on in the storm. We had PB&J

*sandwiches for lunch, and we weren't looking forward to having more PB&J sandwiches for dinner as we sat there in the dark, un-air-conditioned house.*

*Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. John had been grilling and he'd brought us a steak! It was so kind, and so delicious! To this day, my kids say it was the best steak they ever ate. I don't know if it was the marinade John used, his grilling expertise, or that the kids were thrilled they didn't have to eat PBJ again, but they loved the steak. Nothing Jim and I have ever cooked since has ever come close in terms of culinary pleasure for them!*

*When Covid began, I stopped going to the gym, choosing instead to walk around the neighborhood for exercise. I was usually out at sunrise, around 7:00 a.m. For several months, John too became a walker with Shadow leading the way.*

*We would bump into each other about the same time each morning cruising up and down the streets of Silver Glen and have a quick chat. John would tell me about Shadow's antics. And I'd tell him about whatever was going on with Katie and Ryan. Our morning chat was always the highlight of my walk, a quick greeting with a friend when hardly anyone else was out and about in the neighborhood.*

*One thing that I will distinctly remember about John is that he never said "no." When Barb asked him to do something, no matter what, John always said yes, and did it with a smile. The little free library he built for Barb is an example – a true labor of love. It's fair to say that Barb always asked nicely, but I can't think of any husband who so willingly did as he was asked without question, without complaint – only with love.*

*Finally, I need to mention that both John and Barb have been Jim's and my role models in the 25 years we've known them. Their many happy years together, their apparent love, the kind way they spoke to each other – those are the qualities that I hope one day my kids*

*will remember about Jim and me.*

*John, we'll miss you deeply and we'll always be grateful for having known you.*

*With love,*

*Jim, Susan, Ryan and Katie*



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**Susan Greene Murphy** - February 18, 2022 at 04:18 PM

AM

*Thank you, Susan, for reminding us of so many beautiful memories of dad.*

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**Amy** - February 18, 2022 at 05:42 PM

BB

*Thank you Susan!! You told an awesome story of the man I loved. I was one blessed woman. He will never be forgotten.*

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**Barbara Bass** - February 18, 2022 at 09:58 PM



*So many wonderful memories! 💜*

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**Silvia-Gustavo Faria-Marasca** - February 21, 2022 at 04:01 PM

BB

“ Thank you lord for bringing the two of us together. We had lots of challenges but we always worked through them together. We used to spend time arguing about how to cook something but together I learned from him and he learned from me. He was my Rock. And I will love him for all of time. Johnny Angel, how I love you. .



Barbara Bass - February 18, 2022 at 12:26 PM

BB

John treated me like a princess! I was so blessed to have 57 years with him. We thought we would grow old together, and actually we did. I will see you again Johnny Angel and I will be looking for you with signs that you send me. Come on sweetheart show me a sign. I'm waiting.

Barbara Bass - February 19, 2022 at 09:31 AM



May all the love and memories you shared and, the certainty of a reencounter, can comfort your heart during this temporary time of separation.💕

Silvia-Gustavo Faria-Marasca - February 21, 2022 at 04:19 PM

NO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nolan - February 17, 2022 at 11:17 PM

BB

John with his first great grandchild, Alexander. He was so proud of him.

Barbara Bass - February 18, 2022 at 04:15 AM

NO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nolan - February 17, 2022 at 11:16 PM

BB

*John and Barbie in costume at a theme park. Nolan loved this picture and Barbie thought that John looked so handsome. Nolan posted the picture.*

Barbara Bass - February 18, 2022 at 04:19 AM

BB

“ *I thank God for His bringing us together. It was such a deep love! I was so blessed to have him find me. We have had many challenges over the past years, but through them all we both grew emotionally and spiritually together. He was my Rock and he treated me like a princess.*

*During the past years we have actually grown closer, if that's possible. We even learned to work together in the kitchen without fighting. We both knew how to cook and he learned from me and I from him. The pain of this loss will take an eternity to recover from. I love you Johnny Angel, because now you are really my Angel*

Barbara Bass - February 17, 2022 at 03:40 PM

BB

“ *Lit a candle in memory of*



Barbara Bass - February 17, 2022 at 03:31 PM

AW

“ I am so very sad to hear of the passing of such a kind and wonderful man! Many prayers lifted for the family!  
With love,  
Annette (Mike and Nancy Miller's youngest daughter)

Annette Widmann - February 17, 2022 at 03:46 AM

BA

“ I'm so grateful to Our Father in Heaven that he gave us to each other. You will always be my Johnny Angel. Look out for us from your heavenly cloud. I will be looking forward to your sign that you are OK. I will love you for all time. Thank you for our 57 years together. Although we have had challenging times together? We grew together in spite of them. The last years are memories I will not forget



Barbie - February 16, 2022 at 12:16 PM

KW

“ John your Vista family will never forget your kindness and your dedication. You will be missed terribly. We all had a moment of silence for you Monday morning. Many tears were shed. Rest In Peace.

Katie Wilkerson

Katie Wilkerson - February 15, 2022 at 11:38 PM

LC

We pray the Bass family will always find comfort, joy and peace in their memories of John. We are so very grieved at your loss 🙏🙏🙏

Lynda Condon - February 16, 2022 at 07:10 PM

MS

“ Our family met John while we were both walking our dogs in the neighborhood 16 years ago. We were connected by the love of dogs and the Midwest, he Wisconsin, me Minnesota. It always gave us something to laugh and talk about. My heart was broken when we heard the news of his passing. Our family has such sweet memories of John. We will always remember him with fondness. Our deepest condolences to Barb, their children and family. Wishing you comfort and peace to face the days ahead and loving memories to hold in your heart.  
Walter, Mary, Elizabeth, Kaitlin and Thomas Schaarschmidt

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**Mary Schaarschmidt** - February 15, 2022 at 11:05 PM

JB

“ John and Rebecca Bush purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Paul Bass.



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**John and Rebecca Bush** - February 15, 2022 at 10:26 PM

DW

“ So sorry to hear of John's passing. I have fond memories of growing up down the street from John and his wonderful family. Great and loving man. Rest in piece John. Condolences to the Bass family.



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**David Winkler** - February 15, 2022 at 08:21 PM

BA

“ I'll keep the candle burning for you. We shared so many years together, 57 to be exact, four beautiful children that are intelligent, loving and kind. All the snuggle time, I miss it already.  
Until I hold you again, always, you're Barbie.



**Barbie** - February 15, 2022 at 03:50 PM

PW

“ I will always cherish my friendship with John. We spent hours together boxing and fooling around in his basement. He was someone who always had a smile and something positive to say about others. May God be with him always.

**Phil Wiese** - February 15, 2022 at 03:39 PM

SD

“ We will carry you with us until we meet again. God bless you Johnny. May the angels hold you in their arms. Love, Steve and Alice



**Steve and Alice Drake** - February 15, 2022 at 02:35 PM

AB

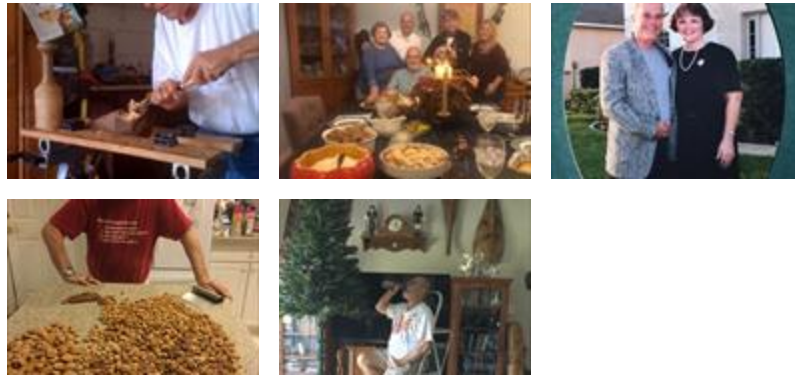
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



**Amy Bass** - February 15, 2022 at 01:40 PM

BB

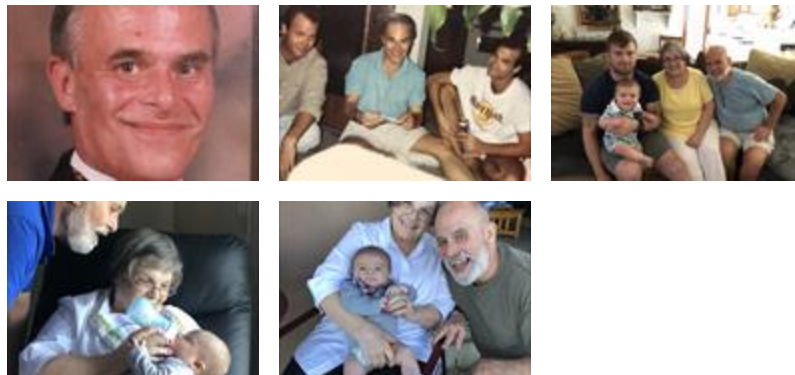
“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Barbara Bass - February 15, 2022 at 01:27 PM

AB

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Amy Bass - February 15, 2022 at 11:06 AM

AM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



amybass319 - February 15, 2022 at 10:40 AM