



John Wesley Collier Jr.

July 22, 1953 - July 3, 2025

The live streamed video recording of the service for John can be viewed by visiting <https://youtu.be/WGppUS1w2aA>

John Wesley Collier, Jr., age 71, of Adrian, Michigan passed away peacefully on Thursday, July 3, 2025. John was born July 22, 1953 in Rawlins, Wyoming to the late John Wesley Collier, Sr. and Dorothea (Kilgore) Collier. John is survived by his daughter Marcie (Jason) Matznick of Saline, Michigan; two grandchildren, Tristan Matznick and Jocelyn Matznick. He is also survived by his siblings Teresa (Jason) Keimig, Teletha Hays, Aletha (Terry) Avery, and Charles Collier, as well as many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his grandson Evan Rhys Matznick.

John (also referred to as “Johnny”) was a Navy veteran who served during the Vietnam era as an AME (Aviation Mechanic) for F14 Tomcats. After his Naval service he worked for Civil Service as a sheet metal mechanic, locksmith, and planner / estimator until he retired at 48. He was a jack of all trades and was always willing to give a helping hand for anyone that needed it. After retirement he started a landscape business with a buddy of his for several years. John was an avid hunter of many game including elk in Colorado. He loved his hunting buddies and yellow labs. He was an excellent baker of sweet desserts, pumpkin pies and loved making pudding shots. John loved game nights with family and friends and eating ice cream. His friends considered him a loyal and good friend. He lived in various states throughout

his life including Wyoming, Texas, Missouri, California, Virginia, and eventually moved to Michigan to be closer to family. John was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease 15 years ago and progressed through the stages of the disease until his passing.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Friday, August 1st from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. A Celebration of Life Service will then be held at 5:00 P.M. at the funeral home. The service will be livestreamed and can be viewed by visiting www.podiumvideo.biz To leave a memory you have of John, to sign his online guestbook or for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests memorial donations be made in John's memory to either non-profit below:

Michigan Parkinson Foundation

<https://parkinsonsmi.org>

30400 Telegraph Rd #150,

Bingham Farms, MI 48025

Or

Evan Rhys Foundation

<http://evanrhysfoundation.org>

P.O. Box 970697

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Previous Events

Gathering of Family and Friends

AUG 1. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Time of Sharing Memories

AUG 1. 5:00 PM (ET)

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<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *I will always remember how kind and funny he was to be around when we had gatherings.*

Janine Leslie

janine Leslie - August 01, 2025 at 08:13 AM

AA

“Where do I start to describe my wonderful older brother. He and I were closet in age, so we tended to do a lot of things together during our youth. We loved 4H, roller skating, farm chores, fishing, building snow caves, frog gigging at night, and bird hunting.

I remember a time when Johnny asked me to go quail hunting, to my surprise it was because he needed someone to flush out the quail. Into the brush I would go, like I was his bird dog.

My big brother had a big heart. He was always ready to help others. John had a positive “I can do attitude”! He liked working with his hands. Neighbors would give broken items for him to fix. If he couldn’t fix it would end up in his garage. His garage was always full. He had difficulty throwing things away. He always thought he could use the parts. His garage was constantly full. I remember a time when I was at his house in Virginia cleaning and he had to tell me what every tool was and what it was used for. My brother was very “informative” LOL

John was blessed with a lot of talents, baking was one of his gifts, woodworking, taxidermy, landscaping to name a few. John was an avid soft ball player, and he coached for many years. Always a team player.

I looked up to my big brother with pride. He provided a sense of security and a safe space. He cherished his daughter Marcie, and his beloved grandchildren.

My world was made better because he was in it.

John had hoped that a cure would be discovered for his Parkinson’s in time for him. It was not to be.

Rest in peace my wonderful brother. Love your little sister.

Aletha Avery - July 31, 2025 at 06:31 PM

VF

“ John and I have been friends for about 20 years. I am Jason’s Mom, He is Marcie’s Dad. We kind of reigned over the family. We shared many times together, good and bad. We shared our joys, worries and hopes for our kids and grandchildren. We shared treasured times, camping, wine tastings, family gatherings, croquet, cooking, game nights and those margaritas that none of us will ever forget, especially me! We shared Christmas, Thanksgivings, 4th of July and many other holiday moments. We shared the marriage of our children, the birth of our Grandchildren, Tristan, Evan and Jocelyn and the death and funeral of our sweet Grandson Evan. All the joys and pain that life can bring to a family, we were there. He was truly a life-force. He was independent to a fault, strong willed and lived the way he wanted, but a real sweetheart when needed. We visited, we laughed and we cried together and I enjoyed every minute of knowing John Collier. But the thing I remember most is not the Parkinson's and the horrible battle he had with this disease, but his love for his Daughter, Marcie. To say he adored her would be putting it mildly. She was his single best accomplishment and the love of his life. She was his strength and his greatest joy in life. Rest in Peace Dear Friend. I love and miss you already.

Vickie Fedewa

Vickie Fedewa - July 31, 2025 at 02:18 PM

JC

“ Uncle Johnny, I will always love and cherish all my memories from when I was a kid visiting family get togethers in Iowa, oh and the hunting cabin in Virginia. A kind a gentle soul that will forever be missed but never forgotten.

Jared Crawford - July 31, 2025 at 03:10 AM

TK

“ I am the oldest of the 5 Collier siblings. Poor Johnny was surrounded by girls until little brother Charles! Because of this it was Johnny who was called upon when any of us girls needed something! When it came to processing chickens mom and we three girls would turn our heads and he would be the one to dispatch the chicken.

Another time we were in the clover field and found a hole and asked Johnny to put his hand in and see what was in there. Johnny protested but did it anyway and pulled out 2 baby skunk which we raised!

Growing up on a farm there was always work to be done but Johnny was always ready to help! He especially loved 4-H and showed Duroc hogs! He even insisted on sleeping out in the pen with his show sow when she was ready to farrow to ensure safe and healthy piglets!

He was gifted in so many areas such as carpentry, landscaping, mechanical, electrical, car repair, baking and especially loved hunting (bow and Rifle). He was especially proud of the playhouse he and Jay constructed for his beloved grandchildren!!

Johnny was a kind , giving and loving soul who strove to be like his beloved maternal Grandfather Kilgore!!

Johnny cherished his daughter Marcie and his grandchildren!!

Family was everything to him!!!

No one was a stranger to him he could strike up a conversation with anyone.

We lived so far apart over the years but the last time we were together Johnny myself and my husband went to his camp at Goshon! There he taught me to shoot his rifle which I had never done! He was so surprised that I was a natural and I even beat him! My favorite memory of that time we sat there taking a break and a doe and her fawn walked slowly in front of us! Mom contacted on and the fawn hung back for a few minutes then Mom came back and right there in front of us nursed her baby without fear! Johnny said he had never experienced that and so it was so special to us both!!!

I am missing him with every fiber of my being but am so so thankful

he is whole again in the arms of those he lived who have gone before him! His beloved mother , grandmother and grandfather Kilgore and especially His joy Evan!! He will always be loved and missed!!

Teresa Keimig - July 30, 2025 at 02:56 PM



My big brother was always the one to stand up for us as a protector against our father. I remember the time that a fight arose and he was the one that jumped in front to stop it, when my mother was dying she asked him to be like a father figure to me cuz I'm much younger than my siblings, I was in my early twenties and mom wanted him to be the father for me and place and it's not something I needed at the time I need a friend more than I needed a father where I never had a father that was good my brother and I did not see eye to eye on many things did not mean I didn't love him for for it. He was always there when I needed even though we classed on many things. He will always be remembered as a strong independent man who Loved his family. It's a hard-working man always working on things fixing things for others he gets that from our grandfather who was a very hard-working man and will always cherish that part of him. Growing up he was my idol he was the one that went to the Navy to support his country to support his family that would later come. I won't miss you big brother I hope your time and summerland is that of peace and tranquility and keep the spot open with our loved ones until it is our time to join for I know it will be a celebration.

Chuck Collier - August 01, 2025 at 01:43 PM



I will miss

Chuck Collier - August 01, 2025 at 01:44 PM

LF

“ *Marcie and I met freshman year at Virginia Tech. John, Denise and my mom helped us move in. We had an advantage on layout and lofting beds with Marcie’s friends already being there. Marcie’s dad and my mom helped raise the loft beds but when he looked at the brackets, made of wood, he said they wouldn’t hold up. He drove back to Blacksburg the next weekend to install homemade metal brackets, which we used for the next two years. He slept on the floor that next weekend. He was always a jokester with his navy humor and always smiling.*

Lindsay Field - July 30, 2025 at 09:21 AM



“ *John was a very nice person and we will miss him. John was always ready to help with anything and everything that needed to be done. He did not let his disability keep him from doing anything he wanted or needed to do. He had a infectious laugh and laughed often. He made a delicious pecan pie and yummy jello shooters that we enjoyed often. John was a very good friend & we are really going to miss him. He fought the good fight & now may he rest in peace.*

Carol Agnor - July 29, 2025 at 11:09 AM

CD

“ As Johnny was my older cousin ,what I remember the most was the times he spent at Grandma and Grandpa Kilgores. The big barn we all loved to play in. He especially loved Grandpa Kilgore and looked up to him and wanted to be like him. A kind, gentle man who you never heard speak evil of anyone was grandpa and Johnny sought to be just like him. I remember how much he also lived his mom and cared for her. Johnny worked hard and he loved his little girl. I am so thankful for his service to our country. Although I haven't seen Johnny for several years I know he persevered through a horrible disease. Praying for Marcie and my cousins as they walk through this valley . Carmen Dahl.

Carmen Dahl - July 26, 2025 at 08:54 PM

CH

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Johnny was one of the younger cousins. Being a boy meant he was out doing 'guy' things. Our family would see him and his family on occasions. He always had a smile. He loved coming to Grandpa & Grandma Kilgore's farm. It was a happy time. You have our prayers and condolences. Cousin, Charlotte (White) Herrman

Charlotte Herrman - July 23, 2025 at 09:15 PM

CH

PS I left out a very important part of Johnny. He was very loving and so proud of Marcie and his family.

Charlotte Herrman - July 23, 2025 at 09:17 PM

EF

“ I’ve only known John since I met my wife Vickie. John was very smart. We had him over to help put the kitchen in our other house, as he was good with his hands. But what I think of most is when it came to game night he brought soooo much fun to the game night and I wont ever forget he could make a mean Margarita. I will always remember he was just an all around good guy. God can always use a good carpenter. Love you John. Elmer Fedewa

Elmer Fedewa - July 11, 2025 at 05:32 PM

AA

“ One of my favorite memories of John was when he came to our house for Christmas festivities. Because our families live hours apart, getting together for the holidays is a multi-day, weekend long event- complete with making up sleeper couch beds, and late late game nights with many drinks. John was always an avid competitor! He made game nights that much more enjoyable. After a few drinks, everyone starts to get into their PJs. Gabe decided that it was the perfect time to sport a 2-piece white velvet track suit. While everyone else tried to maintain a straight face, John was the first to bust out with a huge belly laugh, pointing, and asking Gabe “what the hell are you wearing?!” I will always remember John that way. Laughing, helpful, giving, bringing cheer and optimism to those around him. Amber and Gabe Aceti

amber aceti - July 10, 2025 at 10:51 PM