



## John Paul Lobbestael

November 10, 1940 - October 15, 2022

John Paul Lobbestael, 81, of Manchester, Michigan, passed away Saturday, October 15, 2022. He was born on November 10, 1940, in Detroit, Michigan to Alfred and Nina Lobbestael.

John, the most loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lynda; and children Carol (Roy) Tinsley, Bruce (Lori) Lobbestael, Robert (Crystal) Lobbestael, Daniel Lobbestael, Peter (Vanessa) Lobbestael, Jennifer Lobbestael, Mary (Lynn) Bishop, Debra Lobbestael, and Catherine Lobbestael; 17 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. John is also survived by three brothers and six sisters. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother.

After graduation from Ypsilanti's Roosevelt High School, John joined the Navy to serve his country, which took him to California where he met his lifelong companion, Lynda. Soon the couple married and started their family in China Lake, California. After leaving the Navy, John, Lynda, and their first two children moved back to John's home state of Michigan.

In a matter of years, John and Lynda welcomed four more children before moving to a then-dilapidated farmhouse in Manchester in 1975 to pursue John's dream of farming. After relocating, the couple added three more children, affectionately known as the "three little girls."

As Lynda worked to raise the now brood of nine, John worked tirelessly to support his family and build their life on the farm. Known for his steadfast work ethic, John would often return home from a 12-hour workday only to start work

on the house, the land, or both. John was particularly proud that this diligence was passed along to his children.

John worked for over forty years as a tool and die maker, often lauded for his ingenuity and problem-solving skills. His children often boasted of his ability to fabricate just about anything, including parts for NASA's 1960's lunar landing. John retired from Mid-America Machining at age 68 but farmed for another ten years. Though retired, John didn't slow down. He still rose early and filled his days with helping his kids and grandkids, tending to the grounds, and mastering his woodworking craft.

A true stalwart, John was a man of integrity and honesty. He never shied away from hard work or a challenge. Never was this truer than when he was diagnosed with stage four cancer in 2021. During the subsequent chemotherapy, John's no-quit attitude and perpetually positive outlook had doctors amazed. Throughout his treatment, he always kept family first. Never once did he fail to provide love, guidance, and an honest opinion to his kids and grandkids. He found his greatest joy of late in holding his new great grandbabies.

John was a patriarch whose impact will be forever felt by his family. His ability to provide support and love will be forever engrained in all he knew. His selflessness and staunchness are a true inspiration, and his passing will leave a John Deere sized hole in the hearts of his loved ones.

Arrangements entrusted to the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. To leave a memory you have of John or to sign his guestbook, please visit [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Paul Lobbestael*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *First and foremost, we offer our most sincere condolences to Mrs. Lobbestael (Lynda) and the family. Mr. Lobbestael (I'll tell you why I call him that in a minute) was, indeed, a great family man and absolutely a very hard worker; qualities that seem to be somewhat rare these days. Although we knew him well, many of his peers, as well as me, referred to John as "Mr. Lobbestael" out of sheer respect. You see, he was not only a great family man, hard worker, and an all around great guy, he was also a master at his craft. Whenever someone at work had a machining question, they would go to John and he would invariably have the answer and humbly offer instruction. He was head and shoulders above his peers and embodies the term "They don't make 'em like that anymore". We truly have lost one of the great ones.*

*Rest In Peace, Mr. Lobbestael.*

**Frank and Maria Lobbestael** - October 25, 2022 at 07:08 AM



*Frank & Maria, On behalf of our family, thank you for such beautiful words. They certainly don't make 'em like that anymore ❤️*

**Catherine Lobbestael** - October 25, 2022 at 01:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Paul Lobbestael.*



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October 21, 2022 at 09:10 AM



“ *My condolences to you Lynda and the family.*  
*Patrick Lobbestael*

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**Patrick Lobbestael** - October 18, 2022 at 08:59 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathies, what an incredible legacy he lived by example. So many accomplishments and examples he shared along the way. May all the adventures and memories provide comfort and peace all the days.*

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**Ruth Lockwood** - October 18, 2022 at 06:32 PM



*Thank you Mrs. Lockwood. He is a wonderful and giving man and I am so fortunate to have been a part of this family.*

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**Lori Lobbestael** - October 19, 2022 at 04:46 AM



*To the entire Lobbestael family-  
So very sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers.*  
*Jeff (Yogi) Updike*

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**Jeff Updike** - October 28, 2022 at 04:02 PM