



## John William Kewn

April 16, 1959 - August 23, 2025

John William Kewn, a beacon of kindness and generosity whose courageous spirit shone brightly through every facet of his life, left us on August 23rd, 2025, after a valiant year-long battle with cancer. Born on April 16th, 1959 on an army base in Germany to the late John Benjamin Kewn and Margaret Lowe Kewn, was raised in Jamaica Queens and passed away in the care of Mitchell Mack hospice in Mooresville, North Carolina.

John, Johnny or Kewnie as he was affectionately known by those close to him, was a man whose life story was one of deep connection with family and friends and an adventurous spirit. He attended Holy Cross high school in Queens which laid the foundation for his education and passion for athletics, which he furthered at the College of Wooster in Ohio. There he not only immersed himself in furthering his education and continuing his football career but also in fraternity life as a Phi Sigma Alpha. He continued lifelong friendships with many of his fraternity brothers which included annual get togethers at Put- In- Bay or gulf coast fishing trips. He began playing football in pee wee league and continued playing through his college career. He also ran track and discovered a passion for Rugby in college which he continued playing in clubs long after.

After graduating college, John's adventurous spirit led him to Tampa, Florida with a couple of his fraternity brothers. His professional journey began in sales

with Oscar Mayer which later became Kraft Foods, marking the start of a distinguished 15-year tenure. It was in 1993 amidst the backdrop of Paris, France while on a company trip that John first met his wife Karen. Though their paths crossed while with others, destiny had a plan. In 1995, John was promoted and relocated to Boca Raton, Florida where he and Karen reconnected. Their shared interests and friendship sparked a love that would last a lifetime. They married in Delray Beach, Florida on May 23rd, 1998.

In 1999, John accepted a position with Plumrose, which led to a move to Jackson, New Jersey where he and Karen took in and raised their 11 year old nephew, Eric. While in New Jersey, John shared his passion for football with the youth in our community coaching in Eric's Pop Warner football league for several years. In 2006, they decided to relocate to a warmer climate which turned out to be Mooresville, North Carolina and John was able to continue working remotely for Plumrose until joining Deli Brands of America in 2017. His work ethic, dedication and engaging personality made him a cherished colleague and friend.

Aside from work, John's life was rich with hobbies and interests. He maintained his love for Rugby and shared countless travel adventures with Karen and friends including many sailing excursions as well as hunting and fishing adventures with his buddies.

They also enjoyed time on the lake or by the pool always accompanied by their bulldogs (currently Maverick and Frankie). Sports and exercise were also not only just hobbies but passions that connected them to a community of lifelong friends.

Those who knew John understood his zest for life, which included a passion/obsession for shopping. His collection of fine watches, guns, knives, clothes and shoes was more than a hobby-it was a reflection of his

appreciation for the finer things in life. He will be missed by numerous delivery drivers who frequented his home with his many treasures.

John's legacy is also marked by his heartfelt contributions to charitable foundations including two that were particularly special to him Tunnels to Towers Foundation and Bullies2theRescue. Donations may be made in his honor to either of those charities.

He leaves behind his beloved wife Karen Rozak Kewn; his sister Margaret Kewn Monaghan (husband Sean); along with a loving group of nieces and nephews and their spouses: Lauren Monaghan Lahey (John), Sean Monaghan (Chelsea) and Bailey Rozak Bonilla (Gio). Preceding him in death alongside his parents, were his sister Heather Kewn Cottell and nephew Eric Cottell, whose memories he held close to his heart.

A celebration of life will be held on October 11th from 4:00-8:00pm at Shoals Grill in Mooresville, North Carolina-a fitting tribute to a man whose life was a testament to living fully, loving deeply and giving generously. John William Kewn's story is not one of sorrow but a reminder that each day is a chance to make a positive impact, to embrace adventure and to leave a legacy of love and kindness. His life was a master class in living with purpose and his memory will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him. He will be truly missed.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

OCT 11. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shoals Bar and Grill  
1098 Brawley School Rd  
 Mooresville, NC 28117-8936  
(704) 660-1211

# Tribute Wall

MF

“ Mike Chester & Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John William Kewn.



Mike Chester & Family - October 10, 2025 at 07:57 PM

MF

“ Mike Chester & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John William Kewn.

Mike Chester & Family - October 10, 2025 at 07:57 PM

DR

“ My neighbor for years. Always thoughtful and kind. Always had nice things to say when out walking the dogs...

Dr. Rich - October 08, 2025 at 02:33 PM

JC

“ John C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John William Kewn.

John C. - September 09, 2025 at 02:32 PM

LL

“ Ledia L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John William Kewn.

Ledia L. - September 05, 2025 at 01:38 PM

RE

“ just found out that longtime friend John Kewen passed away, we played football together in youth football forest Hills falcons where he went to Holy Cross and I went to Bayside high school. We're gonna miss you, bud Falcons forever.

Ray evans - September 02, 2025 at 05:07 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of John William Kewn.



September 02, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John William Kewn.

September 02, 2025 at 01:11 PM