



John Thomas Stritch

May 10, 1952 - December 28, 2025

John Thomas Stritch, 73, of Mooresville, NC, peacefully joined his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, on December 28, 2025, at home surrounded by his loving family. Born May 10, 1952, in Abington, PA, he was the son of the late John Joseph and Melba Stritch.

John is survived by his wife of 50 years, Sue Stritch; daughters, Shannon Hilton (Tim) and Jennifer Bender (Josh); grandchildren, Emily and Jake Hilton, and Casey, Carly, and Quinn Bender; sisters, Eileen Adams and Meg Stewart; sister-in-law, Marilyn Martin and brother-in-law, John Dekema; and many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly.

Raised in California, John grew up surfing, playing sports, and valuing family. He worked multiple jobs to put himself through college, graduating from Cal Poly Pomona in 1975 with a degree in Social Services. It was while working during college at Bank of America that he met the love of his life, Susan Dekema. Together they built a life filled with fun and adventure, raising their family while moving across the country for John's career.

John's career began with Miller Brewing Company. He left them to work at various Miller Beer Distributorships, where he eventually became President of the distributorship in Denver, CO. After years there, he moved on to NC where he and his business partner co-founded Carolina Beer Company (Carolina

Beverage Group) in 1997, serving as Co-Owner and President. The brewery produced well-known brands including Carolina Blonde Ale, Cottonwood Ales, and Charleston Ales.

In 2009, John was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. With unwavering faith, he endured intense treatment and was declared cancer-free in 2010. Years later, he was diagnosed with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP). Throughout every challenge, John faced illness with remarkable courage, positivity, and dignity.

John never met a stranger. He was kind, generous, hardworking, deeply faithful, and endlessly funny. He loved time with his family, boating on Lake Norman, running with his dogs, and enjoying a cold beer.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Friday, January 30, at 3:00 PM at The Cove Church and will be live-streamed.

For those unable to attend the service please use the following link to view the service: <https://control.resi.io/webplayer/video.html?id=3b2d5bac-7a59-42bc-8b0e-c3166153c3e2>

(Link will be accessible January 30, at 3:00 PM)

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to CurePSP.org, the Piedmont Animal Rescue (www.piedmontanimalrescue.com), or Hospice of Iredell County (www.HOIC.org).

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home and Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Stritch family.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Cemetery Details

Cavin-Cook FH & Crematory

494 E. Plaza Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN **30**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

The Cove Church
197 Langtree Road
Mooresville, NC 28117

Tribute Wall



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of John Thomas Stritch.*



January 27 at 04:18 PM



“ *John was a wonderful man, and Julie and I are so sorry for Sue and her family's loss. We got to know John and Sue at many of the neighborhood gatherings and Fireworks shows. Ironically, John and Sue's anniversary was the same day and year Julie and I were married. We both lived in California at the same time about 30 miles apart. John graduated from Cal Poly in 1975, I graduated from Cal State, Fullerton in 1975. After graduation, John worked for Bank of America and I worked for Security Pacific Bank which subsequently merged with BOA. John and Sue's first-born daughter was named Shannon, you can probably guess that our first-born daughter was also named Shannon. The Stritch's moved to Denver, CO. and we moved to Park City, UT. John was born in PA and I worked for many years just a few miles away in Horsham, PA. And somehow, our lives ended up on Sundown Rd, just five homes away from each other. It's truly amazing that we have always been so close to them without knowing it until we moved and became neighbors. We will miss John and hope that Sue knows we will always be there for her with anything she needs.*

Howard & Julie Peterson - January 25 at 02:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Thomas Stritch.*



January 16 at 03:04 PM



“ *My favorite next door neighbor! We had beer, Buffett and beautiful ladies in common. John was married to one and has two beautiful daughters.*

One of my favorite memories was when John wandered over to my yard one day and I was outside piling up limbs after a storm. John said "Hey Mark, you are like the Mayor of Sundown Road," I could see the sales pitch coming as he was buttering me up. I said "the Mayor?" He said "yes, everyone knows you and you know just about everyone." I said "ok. what should I do with that?" He said "I would like you to get everyone to stop burning their yard debris in their yards." As I piled up more limbs on the pile I looked at him and I said "I'll get right on that John, just as soon as I burn up this pile of limbs." John just turned around and headed back home and I saw the slightest head shake but never a cross word.

He will always be my friend.

I miss him.

Hopefully Dad is singing "Oh Danny Boy" and John is listening and has a pint right now.

Till we meet again.....

Mark Hall - January 06 at 08:44 PM

BT

“ *John's vision benefited the Mooresville - Iredell County community providing jobs and prosperity...and he was a great guy! Deepest sympathy to his family in their loss.*

Bill Thunberg - January 04 at 09:59 PM

DC

“ *Sue, so sorry to hear the passing of John. He was a warrior and a kind man. Prayers for you and your family.*



Dianne Cowart - January 04 at 01:25 PM