



# John D. Bonko

AUG 17, 1961 - AUG 27, 2019



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FUNERAL & CREMATION CENTER

# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



## **John D. Bonko**

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### **J**ohn Bonko Obituary

John D. Bonko, 58, died at his home August 27, 2019. He was born August 17, 1961 in Elyria and was a 1979 graduate of Elyria High School. In 1983, John received a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and Production/Operations Management from Bowling Green State University where he was a proud member of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. He received his MBA in 1989 from Capital University in Columbus. For 26 years, John was employed as Director of Business at Lorain County Board of Development and Disabilities and was currently the Director of Business Operations at Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities. John was a Harley Davidson motorcycle enthusiast who enjoyed traveling and boating, but most of all, spending time with his family. John is survived by his wife, Cathy Bonko; his daughter, Katelyn (Shawn) Bally of Lakewood; his son, John Bonko of Shanghai, China; granddaughters, Suzie and Lucy Bally of Lakewood; step-children, Megan (Collin) Hewitt of Ann Arbor, MI, Lindsey (Josh) Riddick of Indianapolis, IN, and Brady Fluharty of Dayton, OH, and granddaughter, Jade Riddick; sisters, Jean Bonko and Julie (Jim) Wukie both of Elyria; and nephews, Bradley, Ryan, and Adam Wukie. He is preceded in death by his first wife, Susan in 2004; and parents, John and Joan Bonko. Friends will be received Friday, August 30, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Dicken Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 323 Middle Avenue, Elyria. A funeral service will be Saturday, August 31, 2019 at 11:30 am in Grace Lutheran Church, 9685 East River Road, Elyria with Reverend Robert F. Weldon, Sr. officiating. Burial will be in Brookdale Cemetery, Elyria. Memorial contributions may be made to Susan G. Komen For the Cure Northeast Ohio, 5350 Transportation Blvd. Suite 22, Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125 or a charity of choice. Visitation Dicken Funeral Home and Cremation Service Friday, August 30, 2019 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM 323 Middle Ave. Elyria,



## Obituary

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OH 44035 Funeral Service Grace Lutheran Church Saturday, August 31, 2019 11:30  
AM 8965 East River Rd. Elyria, OH 44035

To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of John D. Bonko, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



## Tribute Wall

**John D. Bonko**

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RR

**Rocco Rubino** posted:

My sincere condolences to John's family. I worked with him years ago. He was a lovely man; a real prince.

December 26 at 8:00 PM

SC

**Susan Callahan** posted:

John and Katelyn, I have no words to truly express my shock and sadness for the loss of your wonderful father. You brought him such joy and he was so proud of you. You're in my prayers.

October 21 at 8:00 PM

LB

**Louise Bear** posted:

Cathy, My heart hurts so bad for you and your family. I too lost my husband at a young age. Im praying really hard for you. With great respect and trust in the Lord. Louise Bear

September 10 at 8:00 PM

RD

**Ralph Davis** posted:

So sorry to hear of your losses. I remember growing on Eastern Heights Blvd. and going to McKinley, Eastern Heights, and Elyria High with John. He was a great guy and is gone way too soon.

September 6 at 8:00 PM

BP

**Betsy (Joviak) Pimentel** posted:

Sending our condolences to all the Bonko family. I remember John as full of life and adventure as a child and he leaves a wonderful legacy. So sorry for your loss and we are keeping you all in our prayers. Betsy (Joviak) Pimentel and family

August 30 at 8:00 PM

BR

**Barbara Reynolds** posted:

I knew John from Lorain County Board of DD, I have no words to describe how sorry I was to hear about your loss. My most sincere condolences to the entire Bonko family, he was a good, kind man and will be missed by many.

August 29 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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KA

**Katelyn** posted:

Prayers for Cathy, her family, and the Bonko family as they go through this difficult time in life. For the time I knew John he was a very kind and loving man. Sincere sorrows for all, he will truly be missed. - Katelyn Phillips and family

August 29 at 8:00 PM

MP

**Mindy Benson Powers** posted:

John was an old friend from Grace Lutheran, a wonderful man. My prayers and thoughts to the Bonko family.

August 29 at 8:00 PM

BH

**Betty Hall** posted:

Julie and family, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss of John. Prayers are sent for you and family to find peace and comfort at this difficult time. God bless, Betty Hall, past employee of LC Board of Developmental Disabilities.

August 28 at 8:00 PM

ES

**Elisabeth Stokes** posted:

There are no words. Cathy I am so very sorry this terrible loss has happened to you . May Johns memory be eternal. I am holding you in my thoughts and prayers , Elisabeth Stokes

August 28 at 8:00 PM

RR

**Rocco Rubino** posted:

I had the privilege of working at May Co. with this fine gentleman a number of years ago. I always asked about him whenever I ran into a mutual friend. I was thrilled to hear that John had remarried and was very happy. I would like to express my deepest condolences to John's family. The news of his passing has made me very sad today as I know that those whom John loved and who loved John are no doubt shocked by his sudden passing.

August 28 at 8:00 PM



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CH

**Clinton & Sara Hickman** posted:

John was married to our daughter for 19 years before she lost her battle with breast cancer in March, 2004. He loved and cared for her for those 19 years. We could not have had a more loving and caring son-in-law. They had two beautiful children-John and Katelyn. After Susan's passing he was left with the responsibility of caring for a 16 year old daughter and a 13 son. Today they are excellent example of John's guidance and loving direction as their father. His family always came first and he will be sadly missed my all who knew him. Clinton and Sara Hickman (Katelyn and John-John & grandparents)

August 28 at 8:00 PM

SM

**Shona Marshall** posted:

Cathy Im so sorry for your loss my prayers are with you and your family !!

August 28 at 8:00 PM

GG

**Gwynne Gorr** posted:

John was my husband Bob's roommate at the Phi Kappa Psi house at BGSU many years ago. He was a great friend to Bob and a wonderful brother to the fraternity. We were so blessed to have had him as a big part of our college experience. Though the years have flown by too quickly and we haven't kept in touch as much as we should, he has always been in our hearts. We send his family our deepest condolences for this great loss. A bright light has been added in heaven. Our hearts our heavy with his loss and our prayers are with him and his family.

August 28 at 8:00 PM

MI

**Michelle** posted:

I am so sorry Cathy. You are in my prayers.

August 28 at 8:00 PM

ML

**Martha Lee** posted:

Dear Katelyn & John, I am very sorry to hear of the sudden passing of your father, John Bonko. May the memories of your father provide you comfort at this difficult time. With sincere condolences,  
Martha Lee

August 27 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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BJ

**Beverly Johnson** posted:

To the family of John Bonko: Sorry for your loss. John was a wonderful and kind person. He was always professional and took pride in his work. We were both employed at the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Prayers to his wife, family...and I'm praying for you too Julie Wukie.

August 27 at 8:00 PM

GF

**Gary And Jayne Fisher** posted:

We were saddened by the announcement of John's passing. Our thoughts and prayers go to all his family.

August 27 at 8:00 PM

MB

**Melissa Blazek** posted:

There are no words to describe, how sorry I was to hear about the loss of John. My most sincere condolences to the entire Bonko family, and all of the beautiful people he leaves behind. My heart is broken for you all, Im so sorry. Cathy, I am here for you always. xoxo

August 27 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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