



John M. Frances

September 11, 1954 - July 6, 2025

John Michael Frances, 70, of Limestone, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Sunday, July 6, 2025 following a strong battle with cancer. He was born on September 11, 1954 in Pittsburgh; son of the late John and Mary-Ellen Mager Frances.

John proudly served in the United States Army during Vietnam where he met the love of his life, Sudee Singmart. They were married on November 27, 1974 and spent 50 wonderful years together. He attended Clarion University, graduating with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. John then worked there as the Controller for 35 years until his retirement in 2009.

He was a member of the Eagles Club #3807, American Legion Post #066 and the VFW Post #2145 all of Clarion, and an active member of the Clarion Oaks Golf Club where he was an avid golfer. John also loved traveling with Sudee, especially to Thailand.

In addition to his wife, John is survived by his sons, Jason Frances and Morgan of Butler and Ron Frances and Stephanie of Pittsburgh; his grandchildren, Kai and Keenan Frances of Butler; a brother, Jack Frances and his wife, Tricia; and his sisters, Katherine Hoffman and her husband, Pete, Rosemary Huber and her husband, Rich, Margaret "Peggy" Bartlett and her husband, Eugene, and Darlene Doubikin and her husband, John; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will be received from 3 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at the Robert V. Burns Funeral Home in Clarion. Military Honors will

be accorded by the American Legion Post #066 of Clarion at 5:45 p.m. in the funeral home with funeral services to follow at 6 p.m. with Rev. Cory Pius presiding.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in John's name to the Clarion Oaks Golf Club, 694 Mayfield Drive, Clarion, PA 16214.

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 10. 3:00 PM - 5:45 PM (ET)

Robert V. Burns Funeral Home
638 Wood Street
Clarion, PA 16214
(814) 226-6300
<https://www.rvburnsfuneralhome.com>

Military Service

JUL 10. 5:45 PM (ET)

Robert V. Burns Funeral Home
638 Wood Street
Clarion, PA 16214
(814) 226-6300
<https://www.rvburnsfuneralhome.com>

Service

JUL 10. 6:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Robert V Burns Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John M. Frances*



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - July 09, 2025 at 05:24 PM

DM

“ *We were shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of our friend and golfing buddy. I worked at Clarion University with John where he was a well respected and a hard working employee. We came to know him as a friend after retirement through golf and enjoyed many happy moments in his company on and off the course and after moving to Florida, always looked forward to visiting with him by phone or when we visited Clarion.. Our sincere condolences go out to Sudee and his sons. He will be missed. David and Judy McAninch*

David & Judy McAninch - July 13, 2025 at 12:49 PM

BR

“ *We are very sorry to hear of John's passing. Sending our thoughts & prayers to his family.*

Bobby, Barbie, Owen, Pheonix, Connor, Hunter, Bella, Liv, Corbin & Ana Rupp

barbie rupp - July 10, 2025 at 05:24 PM

NB

“ Thoughts and prayers to the Frances family and especially my boys Kai and Keenan. John was the structure and leader of the family. Rest in Peace.

Nicole Benavente - July 10, 2025 at 05:17 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John M. Frances.



July 10, 2025 at 10:52 AM

BB

“ Heartfelt condolences to Sudee, Jason and Ron Frances and family's, so sorry for your loss prayers Bill and Brenda Bollinger

Brenda and Bill Bollinger - July 09, 2025 at 10:43 PM

PM

“ Pattie Matthews purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John M. Frances.



Pattie Matthews - July 09, 2025 at 08:48 PM

PM

“ Pattie Matthews planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.

Pattie Matthews - July 09, 2025 at 08:48 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John M. Frances.



July 09, 2025 at 07:13 PM



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

July 09, 2025 at 07:13 PM



“ We will remember always the fond memories we shared with John. Dick and I vacationed with John and Sudee together several times and have shared so many wonderful meals. John and Dick golfed together for 15 years; John was Dick's mentor. He left us way too soon

karen and Dick Means - July 09, 2025 at 06:02 PM



“ 595 files added to the album Life Tributes



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - July 09, 2025 at 05:15 PM

SL

“ My sincere condolences to the many friends and family of my Golf Buddy John Francis.

I have known And admired John about 15 years as I travel to Clarion each summer and play golf in the senior league with all the grandpa's.

John is such a kind man and so selfless as he took care of our golf scores and winnings two times a week for these many years.

When I returned this year and learned about John, , it was a gut punch. I will miss him very much, and I know his other friends and his close family love him dearly..

Also, John had such a unique laugh which we heard frequently on the Golf Course.

Thanks for the great memories John.

Sam Leonard - July 09, 2025 at 02:23 PM

JF

“Dad, now that a few days have passed, and I lie here in my childhood bed in my childhood room, I can't help but think about how good of a man and father you were. From how hard you worked to give Ron and me the most amazing Christmases to making every sporting event we had. You never missed anything and always were there for us. Some of the simplest memories, I now realize, are some of my most cherished. One memory I will always hold close to my heart is when mom used to work weekends and it was just us boys. I remember you making Ron and me dinner, usually something as simple as frozen pizza or frozen pot pies. Also, you always spent time with us regardless of your other obligations. From playing catch outside to playing board games inside, you did it all.

I remember the long nights you worked just to make ends meet and working your way up the career ladder at Clarion University. When you went away on business trips, you always came back with something special for Ron and me. Thank you for teaching me about work ethic and working hard for what you want. Most importantly, I can't thank you enough for your dedication and love for your family.

I have such a void in my life now without you, and I know I need to continue to drive forward and make you proud. I'm struggling to cope with you not being there. My heart is in shambles knowing you are no longer just a phone call away to give me all the advice I need.

In five days this will be my first birthday without a card from you or hearing your voice sing me Happy Birthday. For 42 years you would go out of your way and get me a card and cake and sing Happy Birthday.

It just doesn't seem fair, but you always taught me that sometimes life isn't fair. You fought so hard all the way up to the end. I only wish someday I could be as brave as you, even in the face of death.

Now that I have kids of my own, I truly hope I can be the man you were. I am trying to follow in your footsteps in how you raised Ron and me. Your grandkids love you to death, and I will always make sure they remember you.

Dad, I love you so much and miss you more than words can express! I look forward to the day we meet again, but not until your grandkids are grown and your legacy lives on through them. I love you, buddy!

Jason Frances - July 08, 2025 at 10:34 PM

BD

“ *Prayers and sincerest condolences to the family of John M. Frances.*

*Brenda Sanders Dede, Ed.D.
Colleague and Friend
Clarion University*

Brenda Sanders Dede - July 08, 2025 at 10:19 PM

LF

“ *Larry Lanning and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John M. Frances.*



Larry Lanning and family - July 08, 2025 at 05:33 PM

NF

“ Nittyta and Garry Wilson & Family. purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of John M. Frances.



Nittyta and Garry Wilson & Family. - July 08, 2025 at 01:31 PM

DD

“ Darlene and John Doubikin purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John M. Frances.



Darlene and John Doubikin - July 08, 2025 at 12:38 PM

DD

“ Darlene and John Doubikin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.

Darlene and John Doubikin - July 08, 2025 at 12:38 PM



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

July 08, 2025 at 12:16 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John M. Frances.



July 08, 2025 at 12:16 PM

KY

“ Sudee, Jason, and Ron,

We give thanks for the life and service of your beloved soulmate and father. Godspeed, John.

Our love to you and everyone in John's extended family.

Kevan & Nee

Kevan Yenerall - July 08, 2025 at 10:27 AM

DA

“ *John will be sorry fully missed. He worked hard and love his family dearly. My condolences to his wife Sudee, Jason, Ron and Stephanie Francis.*

*Sincerely, Dorothy Gross
(Stephanie's Aunt)*

Dorothy Gross, Stephanie's Aunt - July 08, 2025 at 10:15 AM

KY

“ *Kevan & Nee Yenerall planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.*

Kevan & Nee Yenerall - July 08, 2025 at 10:14 AM

KY

“ *Kevan & Nee Yenerall purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of John M. Frances.*



Kevan & Nee Yenerall - July 08, 2025 at 10:14 AM

KD

“ My sincere heartfelt love go to Sudee and the family. I was privileged to know John through many avenues. He was a wonderful peer, then a superb boss who never raised his voice and handled all situations calmly, collectively with thoughtful intelligence. Then after my retirement, we became good friends, sharing many fun times, lots of good food and some great conversations. John will be missed by many of us. I'm positive he will experience his next journey with joy and wonder while waiting for Sudee to be by his side on the other side. Loving you. John

Karen Dupree - July 08, 2025 at 10:09 AM

TF

“ The Bartlett Family & Racke Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.

The Bartlett Family & Racke Family - July 07, 2025 at 09:00 PM

TF

“ The Bartlett Family & Racke Family purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of John M. Frances.



The Bartlett Family & Racke Family - July 07, 2025 at 09:00 PM

AD

“ Annette, Matthew and David planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.

Annette, Matthew and David - July 07, 2025 at 08:36 PM

AD

“ Annette, Matthew and David purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John M. Frances.



Annette, Matthew and David - July 07, 2025 at 08:36 PM



“ John was a tremendous colleague. Super smart and a great friend. My condolences to his family. I know he loved you dearly. - Randy LeBlanc, IUP.

Randall LeBlanc - July 07, 2025 at 06:04 PM

GM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Gary and Cathy Meyers - July 07, 2025 at 05:49 PM

TP

“ My deepest sympathy to Sudee and sons. John was a University co-worker I held in high regard. His leadership and advice will never be forgotten.

Terry Pierucci - July 07, 2025 at 05:47 PM



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

July 07, 2025 at 05:38 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John M. Frances.*



July 07, 2025 at 05:38 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John M. Frances.*



July 07, 2025 at 04:57 PM



“ *John hired me at Clarion University and I worked for him for eleven years. He was a no-nonsense type of a guy. A good person and boss, super smart. I learned a lot from John.*

My condolences to Sudee, Jason, and Ron.

Mark Angel - July 07, 2025 at 04:40 PM



Like loosing a brother.

Randall LeBlanc - July 07, 2025 at 06:05 PM



“ *Rosemary,Rich,Melissa,Joe,Ollie, Brian planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.*

Rosemary,Rich,Melissa,Joe,Ollie, Brian - July 07, 2025 at 03:13 PM

RB

“ *Rosemary, Rich, Melissa, Joe, Ollie, Brian purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John M. Frances.*



Rosemary, Rich, Melissa, Joe, Ollie, Brian - July 07, 2025 at 03:13 PM

CS

“ *Christan Seidle purchased the Simply Elegant Sp athiphyllum for the family of John M. Frances.*



Christan Seidle - July 07, 2025 at 02:01 PM

“Dad,

You've been my anchor, my teacher, and the steady light through every season of my life. Now that you're no longer here, everything feels a little quieter... a little harder. But because of you, I won't face the road ahead unprepared.

You showed me what it means to live a fulfilling life not through speeches or advice, but through how you lived every single day. You taught me the value of hard work, the pride in doing things right, and the quiet dignity that comes from giving your all (even when no one is watching). I remember the long hours you worked, the late nights you came home exhausted, the long drives to and from various work meetings, and yet you somehow never missed a single baseball game, football game, or track meet. You were always there, cheering me on with unwavering support.

You built a life full of love and purpose. You gave Jason and me the greatest gift a father can give: your time, your attention, and your example. I'll never forget the vacations you planned for us (whether it was a big trip or a weekend away), you made sure that Mom, Jason, and I had joy in our lives. Those memories are stitched into the fabric of my heart.

And then, in these last eight months, you taught me something even deeper... how to fight with everything you have. You faced pancreatic cancer with courage, grace, and the same strength that defined your life. You battled fiercely, never losing your humor or your love for your family, even in the hardest moments. And now, after all that fight, I find comfort in knowing that you are finally at peace.

I miss you more than words can say, Dad. But I will carry your strength, your wisdom, and your love with me always. And I'll continue to try to live in a way that would make you proud.

*With all my love,
Your forever grateful son,*

- Ron

Ron Frances - July 07, 2025 at 01:47 PM

GB

Ron ! That is heart breaking but so nice. Sorry for your loss.

Gary Boddorf - July 08, 2025 at 07:09 AM

JC

*I remember your dad,
well when my son Ross Sandora played baseball with one of you guys.
He was always so encouraging and clearly loved his family. The world
and most especially, your family lost an incredible man. I will keep you
and your family in my thoughts and prayers as you struggle through
this most difficult time. My deepest sympathy to you, your mom, and
your brother. I remember you all well.*

Janie Campbell - July 08, 2025 at 05:17 PM

KH

“ *Kathy & Pete Hoffman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John M. Frances.*

Kathy & Pete Hoffman - July 07, 2025 at 01:45 PM

KH

“ *Kathy & Pete Hoffman purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John M. Frances.*



Kathy & Pete Hoffman - July 07, 2025 at 01:45 PM