



## Jonathan W. Lewis

August 22, 1959 - June 1, 2020

Jonathan Winfield Lewis, 60, of Clarion, a prominent area businessman, passed away unexpectedly of natural causes on Monday, June 1, 2020 at the age of 60.

He was born on August 22, 1959 in Clarion; son of the late Emogene Brocious Lewis and Robert J. Lewis, who survives.

He graduated from Clarion High School in 1977, where he lettered in Cross Country, Wrestling, and most importantly, Pole Vault in Track.

From a young age, he always loved being outdoors, working on inventions, and building projects, which he later turned into a successful career, owning Jon Lewis Contracting and Leap of Faith Gymnastics, along with Laken Apartments in Clarion.

He never stopped working, whether it was getting up early to tend to the animals on the farm, work in his gardens, doing construction with his very good friend, Roy Zeigler, his brothers, and the crew, or coaching gymnastics and pole vault in the evenings. After coaching in the evenings, he would study and create new drills to help his athletes succeed, earning them many medals and titles.

The term “devoted father” doesn’t begin to describe the type of man Jon Lewis was. From walking the woods teaching Bailey about the types of trees, the value of hard work and coaching alongside her at the gym, to spending each day with his pride and joy, Laken- whether it was coaching her in gymnastics, track, and just being her overall best friend. In 2008 he constructed Leap of

Faith Gymnastics, opening in 2009. From there, he personally coached his daughter, Laken, up through Level 10, even taking her to Olympic Coach Liang Chow's in Iowa. He made numerous friends throughout his coaching career. He coached girls track through the 80s and picked it up again in 2016 to coach his daughter, Laken. Jon and Laken trained pole vaulting nearly every day and he was extremely proud of her accomplishments, including her state titles and records she set. Jon was looking forward to Laken's freshmen year at Clarion University for Physical Therapy and to continue to help coach her in pole vault. Jon also enjoyed spending a couple days each week with Laken at the Pole Vault Club in Franklin.

Jon was a devoted Christian who studied his bible daily. He wrote a note and kept it on his desk, "Take what life gives you, Make the most of it and enjoy it while it lasts."

He is survived by his devoted and loving wife: Patty; his daughters: Bailey Donaldson and her husband, Tyler, and Laken Noël Lewis; his seven brothers: Mark Lewis and his wife, Linda, Tim Lewis and his wife, Cheri, Robert "Steve" Lewis, Dan Lewis and his wife, Keri, Ben Lewis and his wife, Charity, Jason Lewis and his wife, Amanda, and Nate Lewis; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jon was preceded in death by his mother; two brothers: Phil and Adam; his paternal grandparents: Floyd and Dorothy Lewis; and his maternal grandparents: Clarence and Myrna Brocious.

The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 5, 2020 at the Robert V. Burns Funeral Home in Clarion.

A Private Family Funeral will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2020 in the funeral home.

Live streaming of the funeral will begin at 11 a.m. with Rev. Ron Swanson presiding. View the service via our facebook page at Burns Funeral Homes.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JUN 5. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Private Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Robert V Burns Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jonathan W. Lewis



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - June 04, 2020 at 02:37 PM

KD

What a precious, inspirational, loving tribute of a guy who reflected kindness, friendship, faith....God's loving blessings of peace & comfort upon the family....❤️🙏

Kim Dymock - June 04, 2020 at 05:53 PM

ZB

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. I am so very sorry for your loss.

Zanne Bigley

Zanne Bigley - June 05, 2020 at 05:53 PM

TS

This was a awesome inspirational loving tribute of a wonderful man for who I got to be friends with ( the only true and close friend I meet on July of 2019). May the light always shine upon you Jonathan Lewis. We will miss you deeply and will ever be in our hearts and thoughts. And may almighty God look upon the family and comfort them in this time of sadness and give them the necessary strength they need during this time. We love you Jonathan Lewis and thank you for coming into our lives and showing us what love is all about amongst other and sharing your love with us. Will miss you but you love for us will ever be in our hearts and thoughts. God bless you Jonathan Lewis. We love you Jonathan Lewis Patricia and Thomas schulte

Thomas Schulte - June 05, 2020 at 10:26 PM

DP

“ I only saw John from a distance at Leap of Faith gymnastics, but I know how much he meant to my granddaughter. A mentor, a coach, a kind man. A great loss for everyone.

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**Diane Dahlstrom Parkinson** - June 07, 2020 at 10:00 AM

GH

“ To live is CHRIST and to die is gain. Our brother Jon is hearing the most welcome greeting in the universe. " Well done good and faithful servant" . My favorite memories of Jon was sitting with him at lunch in second grade. What a hoot ! See ya soon brother. Our love to Patty and the girls. Wendy and Gary Haws

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**Gary Haws** - June 06, 2020 at 10:05 PM

SR

“ Beautiful tribute to a beautiful man ! So talented in so many things . Rest in Peace Jon. Norm and Suzanne.

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**Suzanne RENNINGER** - June 06, 2020 at 06:22 AM

RM

“ Jon was a great friend in High School and we became even better friends since, because of our common interests in construction, high school sports, politics etc. We worked together on many interesting projects early on for a couple years, then only occasionally over the years, after I moved to VA. I enjoyed working with and watching him, his Dad & his brothers battle with each other over how to do things related to our work, but my sense was that they all mostly had deep respect for each other, it was a great experience! I always enjoyed meeting up with Jon, maybe only a couple times per year, but we would always talk for hours, good times. Jon & Patty own/managed 2 businesses, 2 large apartment buildings that Jon built & they still had time for Family & Friends. He had amazing skills, talents and many incredible accomplishments. He was very good at challenging conventional wisdom and finding a better way to do pretty much everything he took on in life. He was also a mentor to me, because of his knowledge, skills in all of the trades related to my work life and business. Jon was an inspirational, fascinating guy to know, talk to and have as a friend. He will be greatly missed!

*My thoughts and Prayers go out to the Family,  
Robert Murphy*

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**Robert Murphy** - June 05, 2020 at 10:57 AM

MH

*Nice tribute to Jon. Thanks for sharing. Mike Hartle*

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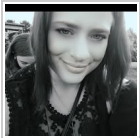
**Mike Hartle** - June 06, 2020 at 10:02 AM

JD

“ Lew will be terribly missed by many - a great friend, fishing buddy and teammate back in the day and an adulthood full of productivity, positive energy and love. I'll never forget a day on Redbank Creek - three trout swimming around a pool, no one could catch them, then John showed up and put all three on the bank! I kept thinking he'd make it up to Alaska and we could fish the Chignik for salmon...  
Jack "Nac" Donachy

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**Jack Donachy** - June 04, 2020 at 11:13 PM



“ Mr. Jon was an incredible gymnastics coach. He could always see the potential of an athlete. I loved how he would always talk to Jorja in ways she could understand to help her be a better gymnast. He was instrumental in helping her become a state champion. Jocelyn loved how he picked on her during ninja class and always called her Ralph. I loved getting to learn beside him and hear his silly jokes and stories from the past. Thanks so much for everything Jon, the Parkinson family sure will miss you! Till we meet again!

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**Melissa Wichrowski Parkinson** - June 04, 2020 at 09:22 PM

BG

“ Delores Grant and family send there condolences and deepest sympathy on the loss of Jon . Are prayers are with you all .

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**Bradley Grant** - June 04, 2020 at 07:55 PM



“ 66 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Robert V Burns Funeral Home** - June 04, 2020 at 02:28 PM

RL

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the Lewis Family. Jon was a good friend and a kind person.*  
*Jim and Rosie Lawrence and family*

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**Rosie Lawrence** - June 04, 2020 at 09:16 AM

CD

“ *My deepest sympathy to Patty, Bailey, Tyler and Laken. !*  
*Special thoughts and prayers to Jon's BEST FRIEND his daughter Laken and his daughter Bailey whom Jon shared a special bond with and also Co-Coached gymnastics with. Jon will be deeply missed by his wife Patty and his daughters Bailey and Laken !*  
*Prayers and Hugs,*  
*Cindy DeLarme*

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**Cindy DeLarme** - June 03, 2020 at 09:59 PM

TS

“ Jonathan who I called John is a loving and who I characterized him to be a dear friend whom I meet on July 1 2019. He was a friend who I will never forget and a pleasant man to know and was father to his family. Jonathan “John” it was a deep pleasure in getting to know you and I again characterize you to be a friend always. Thank you for all you have done to help make my life and my wife’s life’s easier to live and we will never forget all you have done for us and taken up your time to help us. Thank you for every thing you done for us and we will miss you deeply my friend. May the light always shine upon you and guide you.



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**Thomas Schulte** - June 03, 2020 at 08:20 PM

BT

“ John will be greatly missed I remember when he helped trinity with her back flip she was so happy john always treated me and trinity with the up most respect he always had something funny to say or wise advice we will continue to pray for you and your family God Bless

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**bobbie truckley** - June 03, 2020 at 07:23 PM

AL

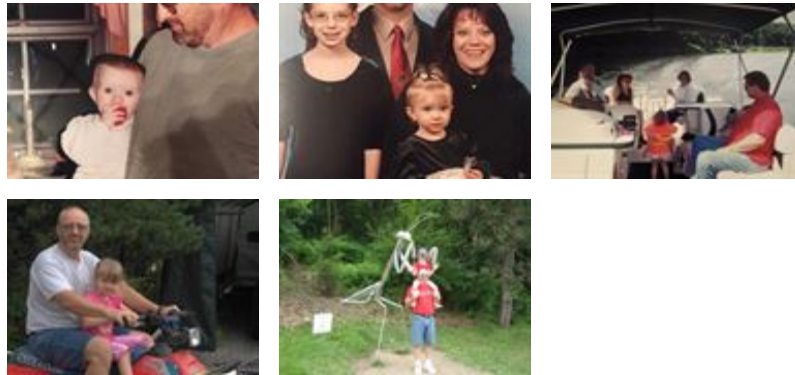
“ I remember all the fun we had with Briana at Uncle Jon's awesome house: playing with the baby ostriches, dancing in the basement, sliding down the carpeted stairs and just driving him crazy. Uncle Jon you will be missed. Love you

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**Alisha Lewis** - June 03, 2020 at 04:06 PM



“ 70 files added to the album Life Tributes



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - June 03, 2020 at 01:25 PM

MH

“ Jon will be greatly missed. He was a good man who liked to keep busy! Last year when I talked to Sandi Morris, one of the best pole vaulters on the planet, I told her about Jon's daughter Laken and her pole vaulting success. Bailey and Laken, your dad was a great guy and he will continue to watch over you until you see him again.

Mike Hartle - June 03, 2020 at 11:57 AM

PS

*My Husband Thomas and I had the privilege of renting from Jon and Patricia. Jon was honorable and always had his tenants best interest in mind. I had surgery in January of this year and Jon stopped as he always did and left me with profound words I will never forget. He said God Be With You. I had such peace going in for surgery and his words gave me comfort. When I returned home two days later Jon was there and stopped what he was doing to ask how I was doing. Jon and Patricia are the best landlords we have ever rented from. Jon always spoke highly of his Wife and Daughter's and was always pleasant and never too busy to stop and say hello. My Husband and I are here for the Lewis family and will keep watch over the buildings. God Bless Each of you and know your had the best Clarion had in Jon. I will miss him terribly. My love and prayers are with all of you.*

*Love,  
Thomas and Patricia Schulte ❤️*

Patricia Schulte - June 03, 2020 at 08:27 PM

JA

“*Jon was a fantastic father and coach. He has taught my daughter Rileigh lessons in perseverance and confidence that she will use for the rest of her life. She always knew if she asked for a "spot" he would be there and cheer her on the whole time. I always loved when he would bring the iPad over to me to show Laken training for gymnastics or pole vaulting and put things in slow motion and explain to me how they were working on such a fine detail, his attention to detail was amazing. He always beamed whenever he would talk about a successful meet and how proud he was of his talented daughters. Coach Jon will be greatly missed until we meet again.*

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**John Andreas** - June 03, 2020 at 11:57 AM

KR

“*Hey Patty, so sorry for your loss. Sending you and your family, Hugs and Prayers!!*



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**Ken Rex** - June 03, 2020 at 10:12 AM

KV

*So sorry for your loss. Sending hugs and prayers.*

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**Kelly & Gene Varner** - June 03, 2020 at 05:29 PM

JB

“*I'm very thankful for Jon's support and guidance while going through my divorce. Having me do odd jobs and mowing for him to get extra money. He was a good generous man. My condolences to his family and friends including his daughters.*

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**Jerry W. Barger** - June 02, 2020 at 10:09 PM

HT

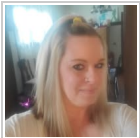
“ Jon was always in a good mood. He always was joking around and brightening people’s days. My daughter Jadyyn formed a close bond by coaching gymnastics with him every Tuesday and by him being her coach. My son Austin loved Ninja class. He even nicknamed him Burger. (If you know, then You know 😂) He made it so fun for him and always joked around with him. He has made a huge impact on my children’s lives and for that, we will always be grateful. He will truly be missed and forever be in our hearts.

heather truax - June 02, 2020 at 08:40 PM



“ When I was a kid I have very fond memories of spending time at the ostrich farm! I was friends with his daughter Briana, and it was one of my favorite places to be. John was so fun and patient. He even allowed us to turn the entire kitchen into a Barbie salon and spa. I’ll always think of those memories fondly.

Megan Oyler - June 02, 2020 at 07:19 PM



“ Im very thankful that my children had jon in their lives. He had such a big impact on them and taught them things they will never forget! I remember he could flip Madison with one hand. She would look like a little rag doll in the air! And he used to play football with Landyn in the gym even when it wasn’t Landyn’s class (which Landyn will never forget his kindness)! He never gave up on any of the kids he coached. Always encouraged them to try their hardest. He will be deeply missed by so many!  
Lots of Love,  
The Reed Family



Meagan Reed - June 02, 2020 at 06:55 PM



“ *You have my deepest sympathy* ”

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**Ellen Horner (walmart greeter)** - June 02, 2020 at 05:59 PM