



John Robert Kennedy Jr.

September 2, 1944 - March 28, 2023

It is with great sadness that the family of John (Johnny) Robert Kennedy, Jr., shares the news of his passing on March 28, 2023 at the age of 78. He courageously fought Parkinson disease for several years.

John was preceded in death by Nancy Walker Kennedy, his wife of 34 years; his parents John R. Kennedy, Sr., and Daisy Bell Griffin Kennedy; his brother Jim Kennedy and wife Sarah Young Kennedy; and sister-in-law Sherry Wyatt Towers.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years Judy Wyatt Sparks Kennedy; sons Bryan C. Kennedy (Susan) and Robert M. Kennedy; daughter-in-law Shelley Cler Kennedy; daughter Gina Sparks Votel (Patrick) of Minnesota; beloved grandchildren Sarah Sansom (Cody), Rebecca Kennedy, Jacob Votel, Jack Votel, Julia Kennedy, Lucas Kennedy; great-grandson Fletcher Sansom; sister-in-law Joy Walker Patterson (Richard); and brothers-in-law J.B. Towers and Larry Wyatt; nieces Karen Kennedy Rutledge (Walter) and Wanda Towers (Mike Hiser); nephew Stephen Patterson (Katie); his church family at Abernant Baptist Church in Abernant, AL; and he was blessed with a host of many friends.

John was a cornerstone in his community. He was a devoted longtime member of Abernant Church where he held numerous positions including song director, chairman of deacons, and Sunday school director and teacher. He was an active member of the Abernant Masonic Lodge and the Alabama Scottish Rite. He retired from Griffin Wheel Company of Bessemer, AL after

more than 35 years of dedicated service.

We thank God for the blessings he gave, the Christian example he exhibited and the loving impression he left on us all. He was a loving husband, dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather who will be greatly missed.

The family would like to express appreciation to Amedisys Hospice of Tuscaloosa for the special care and attention they showed during his last days.

Services will be held at McCalla Memorial Funeral Home with Visitation Friday from 6-8 pm and Funeral Saturday at Noon. A graveside service will follow at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Bessemer. Active pallbearers will be Patrick Votel, Jacob Votel, Jack Votel, Walter Rutledge, Jeremy Rutledge, Doug McDougal and Lucas Kennedy. Honorary Pallbearers will be Cody Sansom, John Brook, Phillip Grammer, Larry Cottingham, J.B. Towers, Mike Hiser and David Walker. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Abernant Baptist Church Building Fund, 20283 Highway 216, Vance, AL 35490.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill Cemetery

650 Circle Heights Circle
Bessemer, AL 35020

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 31. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McCalla Memorial Funeral Home
4780 Letson Farms Parkway
Mc Calla, AL 35111
(205) 477-4888
info@mccallamemorialfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

SM

“ Jack and I are so sorry to learn of this! We had no idea Mr. Kennedy had passed. He was a kind, Godly man who will surely be missed by all you knew him.

Sandra and Jack McDougal - July 08, 2023 at 01:01 AM

TD

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying for comfort. John was a cornerstone at Abernant Baptist. He will be greatly missed

Tommy and Rosemary Dennis - April 01, 2023 at 07:09 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..



March 31, 2023 at 10:01 PM

SJ

“ So sorry to hear about your Dad. Chris and I are praying for Peace and Comfort in this time 🙏🙏. We Love Ya'll and we are here. Deepest Condolences, Chris and Sherry Jarrell and family.



Sherry Jarrell - March 31, 2023 at 07:15 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..



March 30, 2023 at 05:02 PM



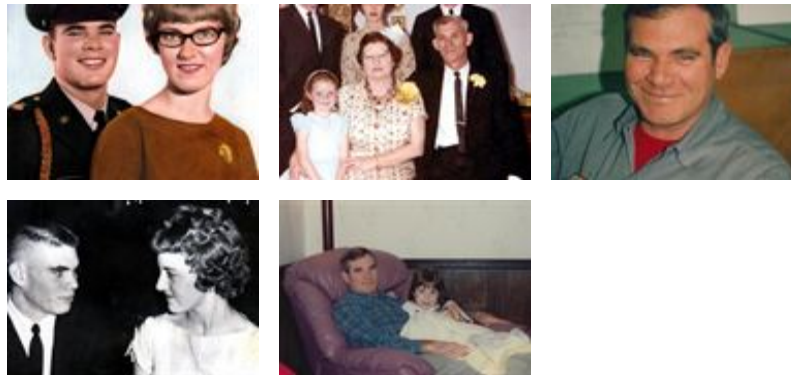
“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..



March 30, 2023 at 04:38 PM



“ 55 files added to the album Life Tributes



McCalla Memorial Funeral Home - Traditions - March 30, 2023 at 02:35 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..*



March 30, 2023 at 12:25 PM



“ *Eddie Bishop purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..*



Eddie Bishop - March 30, 2023 at 12:25 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..*



March 29, 2023 at 09:27 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Robert Kennedy Jr..*



March 29, 2023 at 02:23 PM