



## John D. Berger

July 12, 1930 - September 7, 2025

John D. Berger, 95, of Jupiter, FL and Clark Mills, NY passed away on September 7, 2025. John was born on July 12, 1930, in Clark Mills, New York to Peter J. and Mary A. Clark Berger. He graduated from Clinton High School in Clinton, New York in 1948 and matriculated at St. Bonaventure University for one year before serving four years in the United States Air Force. John was a veteran of the Korean War.

Following military service, John resumed his education at Syracuse University and graduated in 1959. He continued with graduate studies at Syracuse until he joined the Ford Motor Company in 1961. After two years with Ford, he returned to the University and continued his studies. In 1962 he began his business career with Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Company, where he was employed for 19 years. During this period, he attended Harvard University and completed the Program of Management Development in 1965.

John was married to Elaine Barrett in Toronto, Canada for 16 years until their divorce in 1982. He moved to Florida in 1983, having accepted a position as Manager of Sales and Marketing in the development of The Loxahatchee Club, an 18-hole residential golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus. The Loxahatchee Club is regarded as one of South Florida's finest residential golf communities with 258 members and homes. John spent the next 30 years overseeing the development of the course and membership. He always had a

special feeling for the community and its members and staff. He retired from his position in 2013.

Throughout his life, John had a special love of nature, conservation and fly fishing. He traveled to Iceland for fly fishing for Atlantic Salmon for 28 years and often said he had a special love for the island and its people.

John is survived by his sister, Luella, in Raleigh, NC and many nieces and nephews and great- nieces and nephews. John was predeceased by his twin sisters, Bernice DeFrees and Shirley Petrie.

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Peter Catholic Church on Thursday, September 18th, at 10:30am, in Jupiter, FL (1701 Indian Creek Parkway). The Mass will be livestreamed for those unable to attend. Please click on the following link 5-10 minutes prior to Mass starting and scroll down to the Livestream box on the homepage. <https://www.stpeterjupiter.com/>

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making a donation in John's Memory to Busch Wildlife Sanctuary, 17855 Rocky Pines Road, Jupiter, FL 33478. (<https://buschwildlife.networkforgood.com/projects/74099-program-support>).

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

SEP **18**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Peter Catholic Church  
1701 Indian Creek Parkway  
Jupiter, FL 33458

# Tribute Wall

MC

“ *Mr John Berger, We are happy to have known you, your funny stories about fly fishing and you liked Marc so much todo your electrical work. So happy that we saw you March 2025 on our vacation to florida and you asked us to stay longer. Rest in Peace dear friend we will never forget you! Love always, Marleen and Marc Claus. And my mom Monica.*

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**Marleen and Marc Claus** - May 11 at 04:33 PM

JB

“ *Mr. Berger was a wonderful man. Always happy, full of energy, and he treated everyone with dignity and respect. The world is a little dimmer without him in it, but he certainly left a lasting impression on many lives. He will be greatly missed.*

*Jonathan Battillo*

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**Jonathan Battillo** - September 19, 2025 at 11:26 AM

JT

“ *We're so sorry to hear about Uncle John! He touched so many lives in very special ways! - Jane, Mike, and Tom*

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**Jane, Mike, and Tom** - September 18, 2025 at 11:46 AM



“ John was a wonderful person who touched many people's lives, including the Bean family. Uncle John was one of our daughter Emma's favorite people. He inspired us with his love of nature. John's home was a museum filled with nature exhibits, each with a story that he would graciously share with visitors. John will live forever in our memories. We are grateful to have had him in our lives.

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**Mark Bean** - September 18, 2025 at 11:21 AM

JU

“ John has been more of an older brother than a best friend over the past forty years. So, yes, we all loved him dearly as part of our family.

*He was a people person. He loved to make introductions with great flair and honesty.*

*It's one thing to do multiple real estate transactions together, to be a Lox neighbor, but you could not dream up a better fishing buddy for Fly Fishing for Atlantic Salmon in Iceland. Iceland's salmon fishing authorities generally recognized John as THE most accomplished American in this sport in Iceland. His name appeared in books on Salmon Fishing in Iceland. He started visiting Iceland well before it became a popular tourist attraction.*

*The photos section features a decades-old happy pose of his Guide Palmi, John, and his recent salmon catch.*

*I would need a book to fill all of the happy times together in his backyard garden with all of the wildlife he had befriended, especially birds. He quickly became Uncle John to our grandchildren, adopting a Mr. Rogers-style approach to speaking — slowly and simply.*

*All sixteen of the Utaski family will greatly miss John but have lifetime memories.*

*Jim & Nancy Utaski*

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**Jim Utaski** - September 16, 2025 at 12:18 PM

JU

“ 1 file added to the album John Berger



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**Jim Utaski** - September 15, 2025 at 02:41 PM

ML

“ We are the Lessard family and John took us to Lox 16 years ago and became un friend .  
We are so thankful for his values , his sincerity and his love of life.  
He is a great man , bigger than nature !  
Love you John  
See you in heaven  
Marie , Claude , the children and the grandchildren

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**marie lessard** - September 15, 2025 at 10:07 AM