



John Bernard Cleary

September 11, 1936 - January 6, 2026

John Bernard Cleary, 89, loving husband, father, and great grandfather passed away peacefully surrounded by his family January 6, 2026 at Trustbridge Hospice in Jupiter, FL.

John was born in Chicago on September 11, 1936 to James and Genevieve Cleary.

After graduation from Marquette University in Milwaukee WI in 1958, John became an Army Reservist and integrated himself into the family business Cleary Brothers Construction in Palm Beach county FL.

In the 1960s he met and married his wife Martine and they were blessed with 6 children.

John was a man of deep Catholic Faith participating extensively with the Knights of Columbus and St. Vincent dePaul. He was a friend of Bill Wilson and shared his journey throughout his life. With his wife Martine he helped facilitate Engagement Encounters, The Crusillo, and teen outreach programs Teen Encounters with Christ & The Search in the Diocese of Palm Beach. They also served with the Catholic Haitian Center in Belle Glade for many years.

Cherishing his memory are his wife of 60 years Martine deWinter Cleary;

daughter Yvette (Scott) Klepper, children Andrew and Caitlin Klepper; daughter Danielle (Paul) Hughes, children Christian, Maddie and Martine Hughes; son John B Jr. (Heather) Cleary, children Max, Kate, and Charlie Cleary; daughter Dominique Evans, children Nicholas (Krissy) Armstrong and Alec (Karla) Armstrng; daughter Martine (Dave) Kyle, children Hagen and Alexa Kyle; son Matthew Cleary (Jenna May); and four great grandchildren. John is preceded in death by his parents and siblings Dennis, James and William Cleary.

A Catholic Requiem Mass will take place at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Palm Beach Gardens FL on Thursday January 22 at 10:00a.m. There will be a reception in the Parrish Hall after Mass, followed by internment of ashes at Our Lady Queen of Peace Cemetery in Royal Palm Beach FL

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JAN 22. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
13591 Prosperity Farms Road
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Tribute Wall

LN

“*Martine when I heard his name in mass today I cried. I apologize that I didn't know but I'm close behind you in your sorrow with my Robert as I whispered to you today. I will miss waving to John on the front row every Sunday. He always gave me such a beautiful big warm smile that made me feel important. I am so sorry for your great loss but you will Never lose the Love.*

Laurie Nugent - January 18 at 01:35 PM

MP

“*My Uncle John was very important in my life. He and Aunt Martine never missed a Cleary event. He always shared a story with us and always had a joke to tell. My most memorable memory is that every time it would come to say goodbye, he would give me a kiss on my forehead, and say Good Bless you Mary Frances.*

Mary Pick - January 17 at 02:54 PM

BB

“*I was sorry to hear that my good friend, John, had left this "mortal coil". While we had lost contact in recent years, I looked fondly on the many years of close friendship. John was extremely intelligent, as well as one of the funniest people I've ever known. He found humor in the simplest of human conditions, yet was empathetic to all of us who suffer from those human conditions. He was the Catholic I've always wanted to be.*
To Martine, Yvette, Danielle, Dominique, Martine Jr, John Jr, and Matt, my deepest condolences and know that you will be in my prayers. He loved you all immensely.
Just remember " Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal".

Bob Butler - January 11 at 07:51 AM