



## John Abraham

January 1, 1923 - August 1, 2016

ADRIAN – John Abraham, age 93 of Adrian, passed away Monday, August 1, 2016 at his home.

He was born January 1, 1923, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of Samuel and Rashada (David) Abraham, and graduated from Adrian High School. He also attended Western Michigan University and the University of Toledo.

In 1947 John met the love of his life, Loraine, while working at Faraday in Adrian, Michigan. They were engaged and on June 25, 1949, John married Loraine James at the First United Methodist Church. John and Loraine were a committed and loving couple who enjoyed traveling and gardening together. She preceded him in death in 2004, having been blessed with 55 years together.

John worked on a farm with his father, Sam (Farhat) Abraham, and in the early 1950's built a small house on Tipton Highway for him and Loraine. Before the house was even finished, a young couple returning from the service purchased the house from John. Seeing an opportunity, and believing that everyone should have a place to call home, John went on to build thousands of houses all over Lenawee County and beyond. He enjoyed a 65 year career in real estate as a builder, developer and agent. He was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church, and an active member in the Adrian Rotary Club, visiting and helping other Rotarians and Rotary Clubs in his travels. He was also instrumental in saving the historic "Free-Soil School", an old one-room schoolhouse north of Adrian, and having it relocated to

Heritage Park, where it is used today as a teaching tool, helping hundreds of children connect to their pioneer heritage.

John was very proud of his Lebanese heritage, and loved sharing colorful stories of his life with his children and grandchildren. Also, he hosted and helped many foreign students and others as they established a life in this country. He was known for his generosity, a dry sense of humor, his quick wit, and letters to the editor on a variety of issues.

He enjoyed gardening and canning, making wine, beekeeping and working on his farm. Other times, he could be found feeding the catfish in his pond, searching for arrowheads in the woods, or walking his dog, which was his loving companion in later years.

Surviving are his children: Carmen Abraham-Walden and David Abraham; a sister, Annie June of Adrian; eight grandchildren: Sonya and Brandon Huff, Kimberly (Josh) Baker, John (Jennifer), Samuel, Aaron, Ashlyn and Austin Abraham; and four great grandchildren: Keeli, Miles, Dylan, and Aiden.

In addition to his wife, Loraine, he was preceded in death by brothers: Edward, Nathan, and George Abraham, and sisters, Harriet McKinney, Rose Sharkus and Julie Snyder.

Funeral services will take place Saturday, August 6, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Adrian with Rev. Christopher Brundage officiating. Burial will be private. Friends may visit the family Friday at Wagley Funeral Home in Adrian from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Contributions in memory of John are suggested to Lenawee Humane Society or First United Methodist Church. Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHome.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com).

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

AUG 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
1245 West Maple Avenue  
Adrian, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Abraham*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *John Abraham, what a great man and community leader. He will surely be missed. Thinking of the Abraham Family in our thoughts and prayers...Garry and Su Clift.*

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**Garry Clift** - August 08, 2016 at 03:13 PM

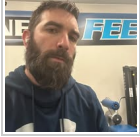


“ *James McCarley And Family lit a candle in memory of John Abraham*



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**James McCarley and family** - August 08, 2016 at 02:02 PM



“ John was a kind funny man he was also traditional and said whatever was on his mind and no one's opinion mattered he was a strong smart man who did alot for his town and other's he helped out families and business he had alot of trades. In his life he seen many things to come and go many changes in the world that he got to experience. I have known john and his family for 15 year's i first met this man buy making his sub sandwiches at Little Caesars Pizza a few year's later I was dating his granddaughter Kimberly at the time i didn't know that they were even related. I am now married to his granddaughter Kimberly i have had to opruntunity to get know john for the past 10 year's i always loved hearing his stories and enjoyed seeing him at a local grocery store that i worked at Country Market. I had a great time looking at houses with him. I never had a grandfather growing up so it was nice to be around him and his wisdom. We were blessed to have him healthy active and alive for all these year's. I had the privilege to have him at my wedding and meet his great grandson Aiden he always would call him the wizard because he so smart for his age and that he was going to do something great one day unfortunately he did no make it to see his great granddaughter Adalyn. Thank you grandpa john for everything you will be missed. Sending love form Josh Aiden Adalyn Kim Baker (Huff)

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**Josh Baker** - August 06, 2016 at 03:20 AM

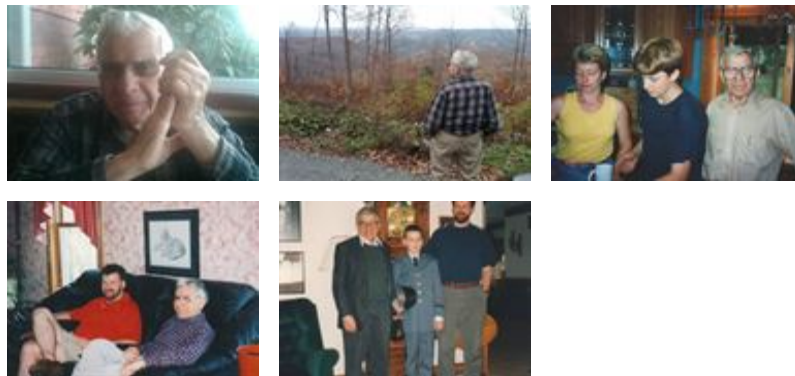
AH

“ Kim and David, I was so sorry to hear about your father. Uncle John meant a lot to me. Our family's spent many happy hours together. Whether picnics at the lake, or Christmas and Easter, there was always laughter and good times. I remember watching the first house that John built, going up. I remember when Aunt Lorraine began decorating houses. Grandma Abraham making Uncle Johns favorite birthday Honey Cake. She prepared it on the top of the chest freezer which provided extra space. My husband Al and I recently, in January, had Uncle John to our house. He told us even more of his life. Looking back at his life he was very humble, surprised at how his business expanded and always heaping praise on the people who worked for him. He loved his family and church. When they were married in the old Methodist church I was their flower girl. Arlene (Newell) Hanson and my husband Alan Hanson. Rest in the Peace of Jesus, Uncle John.

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**Arlene Newell Hanson** - August 05, 2016 at 12:00 PM



“ 73 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Wagley Funeral Home** - August 05, 2016 at 09:45 AM

TS

“ I had the great privilege of knowing John. Every time he greeted me with a big smile and a "how ya doin Tom". We would shake hands. Some small talk, then part ways,. I always felt a little better for a while after. I will think of him often and he will be fondly remembered.  
Tom Shaft Sr.

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**Tom Shaft** - August 05, 2016 at 06:34 AM

PH

“ Remembering a very good man....a man with quick wit .... an interesting man not afraid to state his opinions. It was an honor to have known him.

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**Paulette Hussey** - August 05, 2016 at 05:49 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Abraham.



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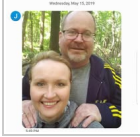
August 04, 2016 at 11:30 PM

 Cathie Schultz

“ Carmen, I am so sorry to hear of your father's passing. Both of your parents always made me feel so welcome when I visited the Abraham farm back in the day. Warm happy memories.  
Catherine Schultz (Adrian College '76)

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**Cathie Schultz** - August 04, 2016 at 05:56 PM



“Where do I begin..Father Abraham as I grew to call him. Was my first Broker at Abraham Realty way back in 1992. I first met John that year as I called him to see 1030 Fairlane, a new Modular, he had put together. It was perfect to start my family in.... While looking John Said Chuck "You'd make a good Realtor." Well even with 2 degrees from Adrian College and my Stock Brokers license. I took Johns advise. Didn't make a dime for 2 years..... Then Father Abraham came in my office, and gave me a tongue lashing that jump started me big time. The rest is history. I'd have to write a book to fill in all the memories from then till now. But he was a Broker, a Friend, a Mentor, and a political and religious advisor. He has helped and blessed my Family and I, in a 100 ways. Father Abraham was a Role Model in many ways. More of a friend at the many lunches we've had the last 4 years. It was funny because he'd forget his hearing aid, or it was broke that day, and we'd go to his favorite China Buffet restraurant. Every person in that building heard are whole conversations about politics, how America has much to fix, and religious thoughts.... Memories of Lorraine and the farm growing up. Many of the China Buffet lunch guests, would make comments to me on the way out, about their political or religious "beg to differs" lol.

Lastly back in the day, we'd do home tours on Tuesdays in Johns Station Wagon. For 3 hours we'd drive around town and listen to Johns 1000 stories on the families he'd helped.. That house right there I built in 1967 for John and Mary Doe, and all the little details. It wasn't a few times, it was hundreds and hundreds of detailed JOY stories he'd love to share....John influenced and impacted my life. I TRULY LOVED HIM 💕 WILL MISS him briefly as I know we will be joined again in Glory soon with John and Lorraine 🙏😄😄😄

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**Chuck Davis** - August 04, 2016 at 11:10 AM



“ Thinking of you girls, Sonya, Kim & Keelie.  
Thinking of little Aiden, too!  
Sending warm thoughts and big hugs your way.  
Your grandpa was indeed, an original &  
NEVER a dull moment when he was present.  
Funny, witty, and told it like it was, always. He  
loved you girls a bunch! Definitely held a special place in his heart  
for Keelie, being first grand baby and all. I know we miss our loved  
ones after they're gone from here, however, I see him overjoyed  
now as he is reunited with his love.



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**Heidi Baker** - August 04, 2016 at 08:25 AM



“ To John Abraham family sorry for your loss he was a great man.

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**kent and shelley freiberget** - August 03, 2016 at 07:42 PM



“ What a great man! Loyal to Adrian and Lenawee County. A giver  
and a kind soul!

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**Vicki Hall** - August 03, 2016 at 06:02 PM

MA

“ John was a good, kind, and generous man. He and his wife Loraine were long time family friends to my parents, siblings and me. They helped us settle in Adrian when we first moved to Michigan in 1980. John sold us a house on Main Street, helped the younger children enroll in school, and helped the older ones find jobs. Although we eventually moved away from Adrian, our families remained friends through the years and we occasionally came back to visit.



We are very saddened to hear of John's passing. We, however, take comfort in knowing that he went to join his beloved Loraine at their eternal home with the Lord. John & Loraine touched, changed, and blessed so many lives with their generosity and friendship. They never boasted or asked for anything in return. They impacted the world with their good deeds; and they did it all for the Glory of God. May both their memories be eternal!

My mom and my siblings join me in extending our deep and heartfelt sympathy to John's children and grandchildren.

Marie Haddad Azzi

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Marie Azzi - August 03, 2016 at 02:36 PM

MA

“ My parents were APS teachers and so didn't have a lot of extra money to spend, so they needed value. They also needed to trust the person who built their home. They got both with their relationship with John and so we moved into a lovely home at 724 Alexander Drive where we spent many good years. My parents Ruth and Mike Ryznar always had good words for John as well as the utmost respect. It made us proud to have one of his homes and to be his neighbor. He was a good one.

Alexander Drive, being a cul de sac was a terrific place to grow up and there were nightly games played in the middle of the street, as well as bike races and block picnics. I am still in touch with many Alexander Drive kids on Facebook and we all mention how great it was to live there. John had that vision for us, I'm sure.

A side light is that my High school classmate Alyce Mott bought this house when we moved to the Detroit area and she need a good place to raise her siblings after the deaths of her parents. "Our" house was perfect for them and that has always made me happy. She and I still talk about it.

Marybeth Ryznar Anderson  
Nathrop, Colorado

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**Marybeth Ryznar Anderson** - August 03, 2016 at 08:37 AM

JH

I have many memories of John Abraham. He and my grandfather Andrew Seel developed Rolling Meadows subdivision in the 1960's. I also worked for John Abraham as a teen mowing yards that he had listed for sale. John Abraham touched many people in Adrian and will be missed.

Jeff Hoover  
Raleigh NC

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**Jeff Hoover** - August 03, 2016 at 10:09 AM