



Railsplitter Obituary



John A. Recklies

22 May 1948 - 23 November 2024

John Recklies, a cherished family man, respected veteran, and active community member, passed away on November 23, 2024, in Milwaukee, WI, at the age of 76. Born on May 22, 1948, in Recklinghausen, Germany, John's journey led him to a life full of dedication, service, and joy, which touched the lives of many.

John's early life in Germany set the stage for a life characterized by resilience and hard work. His move to the United States brought new beginnings and opportunities that John embraced wholeheartedly. In Milwaukee, he found love, companionship, and a sense of purpose that would define his years.

John's beloved wife, Karen (Laskowski) Recklies, predeceased him, leaving a legacy of love that continued through their children and grandchildren. A devoted father, John is survived by his three sons, John (Lisa) Recklies, Mike (Heather) Recklies, and Chad (April) Recklies. He took immense pride in his role as a grandfather to Brianna, Gabrielle, Laura (Justin Hall), Katherina (Elliott Meadors),



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Abigail (Danny Gavahan), McKenna, Ryan, and Jordyn, and as a great-grandfather to Lennorah. His guidance and example have left indelible marks on their lives, shaping them into individuals who carry his spirit forward.

John's commitment to his country was evident in his 29 years of service in the United States Army Reserve, where he retired as a First Sergeant. His dedication to duty and leadership skills earned him the respect and admiration of his peers and subordinates alike. John worked as a cost estimator in a steel stamp house. He later worked for Wisconsin's W2 administrator, where he once again showcased his talent for meticulousness and efficiency until his retirement.

Beyond his professional life, John was an active participant in the American Legion Post 449 and the Polish Legion of American Veterans. His involvement in these organizations reflected his unwavering patriotism and his desire to connect with fellow service members. John's contribution to these groups was not just through his presence but also through the wisdom and camaraderie he brought to every meeting and event.

John's love for the outdoors was a well-known aspect of his life. He enjoyed camping and fishing, often sharing these passions with his family and friends. His laughter and storytelling around the campfire became cherished memories for those who were fortunate enough to join him on these adventures.

Those who knew John understood that his heart was ever generous and his door always open. He will be remembered for his robust laughter, his firm handshake, and the genuine interest he showed in the lives of others. John's legacy is one of love, honor, and a deep commitment to family and country.

As we bid farewell to John Recklies, we celebrate a life lived with conviction and joy. His impact on our lives will continue to resonate, and the memories he created will be cherished forever. John's passing is not just a loss to his family but to the broader community that he served with such distinction and care.

A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered. John Recklies will be deeply missed, but the example he set and the love he gave will continue to



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inspire those who were privileged to know him. Rest in peace, John. Your legacy endures.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, December 4, from 10:00 AM, until time of Service at 12:00 PM at CHURCH AND CHAPEL FUNERAL HOME, 1875 N. Calhoun Rd., Brookfield. Burial to follow at Holy Cross Cemetery. A livestream will be available beginning at 11:00 AM via the following

link: <https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTczMjcyNDIxNjMzODkwMSZvbmVyb29tLWFkbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw=>

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As well, you are welcome to return after the service and see a recording of the live stream for 90 days following the service.