



John McGivern

August 6, 2025

Surrounded by his Children and Family, and only seconds after being given permission, John McGivern passed away peacefully, surrounded by love, in his 76th year on Wednesday, August 6, 2025. John McGivern (Johnny) was born in 1949 to John and Rose (O'Hara) McGivern, the sixth of nine absolutely legendary children. Growing up on the tight-knit St. George Street in Chatham was not without its tough times, but the McGiverns and the O'Hara's never lacked for love, laughter, and family. John joined his dad at Ontario Steel (then Rockwell International & now MSSC), located at the end of the street, where they made many Chrysler torsion bars. He loved being a set-up man there and talked about his time there often.

While many only get one shot at it, John was very fortunate to have two shots at romantic love and marriage. Though those marriages couldn't stick he managed to net four amazing kids in the bargain, first Derek (Julie) and Heather (Brad) and then Jeff (Jami) and Mori-Lynn, who all simply adored him. John loved his kids and his grandkids deeply and was always up to lend a hand in the busy business of helping his kids and his grandkids.

John's kindness, agreeableness, and dedication are the stuff of legend. He had so many great friends who loved him and whom he loved. After a North American auto crisis separated him from Rockwell he eventually found his career home as a custodian with the Lambton-Kent School Board. He loved

that job, and more than that, he loved the people, making several enduring and deep friendships.

How do you adequately memorialize an epic, well-lived life? Well, it's quite likely that you don't do it justice in a few paragraphs. Each of us who knew and loved him has, we're sure, many unforgettable memories and one or two great stories about John to cherish forever. He's now free to join his passed, but much-loved and missed brothers and sisters and Mom and Dad in the hereafter, and if he's lucky, to meet and hug Mother Theresa of Calcutta and to finally scold Oliver Cromwell.

John was predeceased by his sister, Mary Seney, and her husband, Neil; his brother, Pat McGivern; his brother, Mike McGivern and his wife, Rita; his brother, Hugh McGivern; his brother, Francis McGivern; and his sister, Rose Johnston.

He will be remembered fondly by his sister, Theresa McDonald, and her husband, Mike; his sister, Bernadette Moor, and her husband, Brent; and his sisters-in-law, Leona McGivern, Rita McGivern, and Laura McGivern, as well as his brother-in-law, John Johnston, and by dozens of nieces and nephews.

In addition to his children, the memory of "Papa John" will be forever cherished by his grandchildren Kiara, Colm, Owen, Austin, Josh, Cadence, Will, Eva, Adilyn, Charlotte, Alice and great-granddaughter Aniya.

Family and friends are invited to gather for a visitation at the Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home, 409 Nelson Street in Wallaceburg (519-627-3231) on Saturday, August 30, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the celebration of John's life to follow at 1 p.m.. Interment in Maple Leaf Cemetery with his parents at a later date. If desired, donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association may be

left at the funeral home 519.627.3231.

Cherished stories and tributes may be left for the family at www.CavanaghFuneralHome.ca

Tribute Wall



“ Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John McGivern



Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home - August 27, 2025 at 09:59 AM

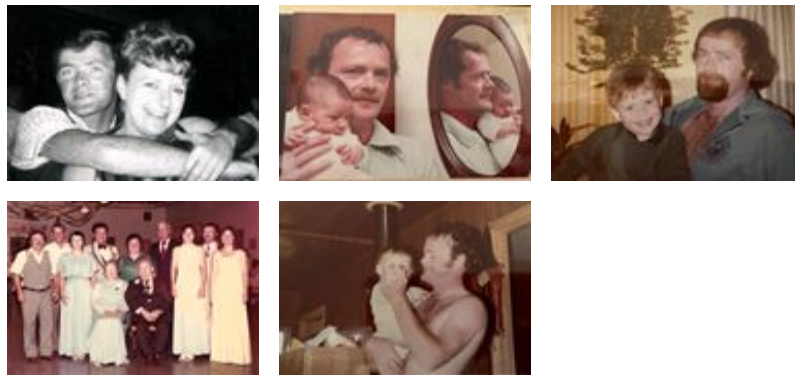
MS

Absolutely Beautiful Tribute to a Wonderful man.

Marj & Rick Smith - August 28, 2025 at 12:19 PM



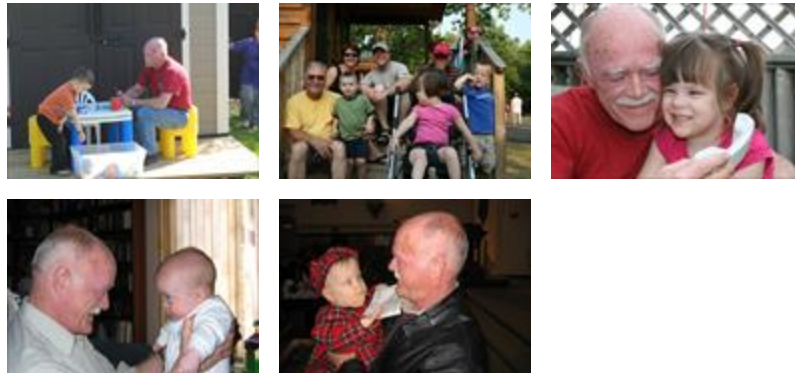
“ 63 files added to the album Life Tributes



Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home - August 26, 2025 at 03:57 PM

DM

“ 38 files added to the album Memories



Derek McGivern - August 15, 2025 at 08:00 AM

TH

“ Taryn Havens lit a candle in memory of John McGivern



Taryn Havens - August 13, 2025 at 08:34 PM

GS

“ Gary & I send our condolences to all of you. Although we did not know John well he was well liked by everyone. You could see the fun spirit and laughter in his eyes when people made him laugh and I am sure I see that in Derek. Thinking of all of you



Gary & Sharon Smith - August 10, 2025 at 11:32 AM

WE

“ Wendy Eveson lit a candle in memory of John McGivern



Wendy Eveson - August 10, 2025 at 11:10 AM

LB

“ Sending our love and prayers to all of John's family and friends. At any birthday or other special occasion, we attended together, he brought smiles and kindness to all. His love for his family and their love for him always shining. May the good memories and moments shared bring you all comfort at this difficult time.

Lynda & Bill - August 10, 2025 at 08:42 AM

SC

“ Sherry & Dave Crowe sent a virtual gift in memory of John McGivern



Sherry & Dave Crowe - August 09, 2025 at 09:13 PM

CC

“ Cathy Coke lit a candle in memory of John McGivern



Cathy Coke - August 08, 2025 at 05:28 PM

SP

“ *condolences to the family - I am a resident at the Oak's - he was a nice fellow*

Sandra Pegg - August 08, 2025 at 04:15 PM

HE

“ *I would like to extend my sincerest condolence on the death of John. My Father, Frank Teahan; always spoke highly of him and the years they spent working together. I've heard so many wonderful stories. May you find comfort in the memories you shared with him and may they bring you peace during this difficult time.*

Heather Teahan

heather - August 08, 2025 at 12:24 PM

DL

“ *John's friendly face and beautiful smile will always be part of my memories at WDSS. He was a tacher's custodian, always ready to help.*



Don & Kris Lee - August 08, 2025 at 11:20 AM



“ *Kathy Charron lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Kathy Charron - August 08, 2025 at 11:12 AM

TD

“ I'm so incredibly sorry. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sending love ❤️. My greatest childhood memories include John and I ll be forever grateful for that.



Tracy (O'Brien) Van Damme - August 08, 2025 at 10:49 AM

JJ

“ Derek, Julie and all members of John's family. One can see by the memories posted that John was a well loved, kind man. His obituary is a great tribute to a great man. May He rest in peace. Judy Tetreault and J.P. Wilson

Judy Tetreault and J.P. - August 08, 2025 at 10:31 AM

MB

“ Marty and Cathy Van Bunderen lit a candle in memory of John McGivern



Marty and Cathy Van Bunderen - August 08, 2025 at 10:23 AM

MJ

“ Sincere condolences to the McGiverern family . May John Rest in Peace

Marlene Judson - August 08, 2025 at 09:13 AM

KS

“ Ken Slack lit a candle in memory of John McGivern



Ken Slack - August 08, 2025 at 08:33 AM

KD

“ Kathy & Don Donahue lit a candle in memory of John McGivern



Kathy & Don Donahue - August 08, 2025 at 08:26 AM

JF

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of John's family. John and Joyce Feher

Joyce Feher - August 08, 2025 at 08:01 AM

DA

“ Derek, Julie our sincere condolences to you and all the family.



Dennis and Annmarie Alexander - August 08, 2025 at 06:21 AM

KS

“ *kim smith lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



kim smith - August 08, 2025 at 12:54 AM



“ *Tim Bechard lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Tim Bechard - August 07, 2025 at 09:25 PM

CM

“ *We are so very sorry for your loss* ❤️

Chris & Chrissy Mahu - August 07, 2025 at 09:08 PM

KC

“ *John was such a wonderful man. I enjoyed working with him during the summer months*
My condolences to John's family he will be certainly missed

Karen Corr - August 07, 2025 at 08:32 PM

RH

“ *Russel Hebert lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Russel Hebert - August 07, 2025 at 08:27 PM

BM

“ *Bonnie Mallen lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Bonnie Mallen - August 07, 2025 at 07:24 PM

BM

“ *To the dear family I and my family send are Love and condolence to you..When my husband was alive we had great fun and times with your caring and Loving father We all Love to play Pool at the Moose Lodge. John will be at peace now and no pain.Love to the family and John will be sadly missed*

Bonnie Mallen - August 07, 2025 at 07:23 PM

LP

“ *Lola and Matt Pamer sent a virtual gift in memory of John McGivern*



Lola and Matt Pamer - August 07, 2025 at 06:59 PM

EJ

“ *Eric Johnston lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Eric Johnston - August 07, 2025 at 06:50 PM

LB

“ *To all of his children,
Thinking of you in this time, he will now rest peacefully and have his
ultimate game of Euchre. We will take care of your little girl Mori
Lynn in this time of sorrow.*

*Thoughts and Prayers
Lisa and Kyle Broad*

Lisa Broad - August 07, 2025 at 05:17 PM

KS

“ *kim smith lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



kim smith - August 07, 2025 at 03:57 PM

MB

“ *Marlene Bushey lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Marlene Bushey - August 07, 2025 at 03:10 PM

CM

“ Sorry for your loss. He was a gentle soul fondly remembered while we had gymnastics at the high-school.



Colleen Meyet - August 07, 2025 at 02:55 PM

TM

“ Derek, Heather, Jeff and Mori Lynn, What a beautiful and well deserved tribute. Uncle Johnny was a truly kind, gentle and loving soul. To know him was to love him. My heart goes out to you all for your tremendous loss. Hold those memories close. You know they're having a great union up there! Rest in peace Uncle Johnny.



Tammy McGivern - August 07, 2025 at 01:59 PM

MS

“ It was a true honour to have known this amazing, kind, caring, loving human being. Rick & I are extremely grateful to be able to call his first born son Derek our Son in Law. We extend our deepest sympathy to his children, grandchildren, his siblings & all extended family. John will live on in all of you & will walk with you forever. John you have been a good & faithful servant. Rest in Peace John.



Marjory & Rick Smith - August 07, 2025 at 01:30 PM

ST

“ *Derek, Heather, Jeff and Mori Lynn*
The obitury says it all. What a kind and loving uncle he was. I am so glad Patti and I along with Bernie and Theresa got to see about a week ago. He was so happy we had came. A memory I will cherish. Keep those wonderful memories close in your heart. Heaven has gained another McGivern angel to watch over us all.
Sally & Lloyd Thompson (Seney)

Sally & Lloyd Thompson - August 07, 2025 at 01:19 PM

KV

“ *Kathleen&Joe Vandevenne lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Kathleen&Joe Vandevenne - August 07, 2025 at 01:16 PM

BH

To Jeff, Mike M and Brandon J. Our prayers and thoughts are with all of you. God Bless

Betty Hawgood - August 07, 2025 at 02:28 PM

BS

“ *Bill and Lynda Scholtens lit a candle in memory of John McGivern*



Bill and Lynda Scholtens - August 07, 2025 at 01:10 PM

BW

“ *Sending sincere condolences to John’s family.* ”



Brenda Wilson - August 07, 2025 at 12:59 PM