



John A. Forbes

October 10, 1934 - December 29, 2016

COLEBROOK – John A. Forbes, 82, died peacefully at the Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital on Thursday evening, Dec. 29, 2016, after a year-long battle with cancer and with his loving family by his side.

He was born in at home in Colebrook on Oct. 10, 1934, a son to the late Lyman and Helen (Cordwell) Forbes. John was a Colebrook Academy graduate in the Class of 1952, and he was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He had various types of employment in different parts of the country in the 1960s. He was a licensed real estate broker in California for a number of years before returning to Colebrook to establish his own real estate firm that was in business for more than 20 years. John continued to operate a property management business at the time of his death.

John was active in numerous organizations in his community. He was proud to be a founding member of the Colebrook Kiwanis Club, and held several offices at the district and international levels. He was a member of the American Legion, Post 47, in Canaan, Vt., and also the North Country Board of Realtors and the New Hampshire Board of Realtors. He served on the Colebrook Planning Board for 18 years, with 8 of those as chairman. He was also a member of the Board of Trustees for UCVH for 6 years.

He is survived by several children who he helped to raise and who were his “proudest accomplishment”: Dana Tillinghast of Beecher Falls, Vt.; Lina Dasconio of Oregon; Roy ‘Buzz’ McKinnon, Jr. of Beecher Falls; Kevin McKinnon of Tennessee; Robert McKinnon of Colebrook and Patricia (McKinnon) Hinds of Colebrook; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. John also leaves behind two sisters, Lillian (Forbes) Thibeault of Epsom, NH, and Hazel (Forbes) Daley of Hopkinton, NH; his closest friend whom he called his brother, Frederick ‘Dusty’ Dustin of Colebrook; his love and companion, whom he called his ‘Angel & Rock’, Betty Hughes of Canaan, Vt., who John said “shared so much with me in such a short time, including her beautiful family in which I have been honored to be included.”

He is preceded in death by a step-mother, Althea (Roby)Forbes; a sister, Elaine (Forbes) Hanneman, and his beloved wife and soulmate Jeannie (Dasconia) Forbes.

Memorial calling hours will be held at the Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook, NH, on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, from 2 to 5 p.m. A graveside service with military honors will be held in the spring at the Reed Cemetery on Forbes Hill Road in East Colebrook, of which notice will be given.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Mr. Forbes may be made to the Les Beal Scholarship Fund, c/o Colebrook Kiwanis, P.O. Box 241, Colebrook, NH 03576.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to www.jenkinsnewman.com.

Funeral arrangements in NH are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook.

Cemetery Details

Reed Cemetery

Forbes Hill Road
Colebrook, NH

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home
103 Main Street
Colebrook, NH

Tribute Wall

FD

“ Where do I even begin, so many memories with John and his family, worked on the dairy farm in the day, backed into the silo one time, all he did was laugh, John was my best friend I miss this man to this day and always shall. RIP my brother, my friend, my mentor, Calif in 1961 was the best trip of my lifetime, Thank you again I shall never forget,
MY BROTHER IN LIFE JOHN A FORBES.
fw dustin

fw dustin - August 26, 2021 at 11:25 AM

FD

“ 1961 John and I got our kicks on Route 66 Calif bound ... best trip of my life..
never forget friends and bothers for 57 years... RIP John will see you again..
Love your Brother Fred/Dustin/Dusty

FW Dustin - June 27, 2017 at 09:22 AM

FD

“ *REST IN PEACE MY BROTHER GOD LOVE YOU.. YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN*

FW Dustin - June 27, 2017 at 09:19 AM

FD

“ *FW Dustin lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



FW Dustin - June 27, 2017 at 09:18 AM

JD

“ *John was a true gentleman - we enjoyed working with him for several years at the Tri-State GRI courses.*
Janet Davis

Janet Davis - January 13, 2017 at 01:42 PM

NH

“ *I had the distinct pleasure of working with John as a director for the Realtors GRI program for a number of years. we grew to be good friends and I have nothing but fond memories of John and his ever present smile and twinkle in his eye. I was very sad to read of his passing and certainly wish to extend my condolences to his family and friends. John was a true North Country Treasure.*

*Norman Head
Bartlett, NHY*

Norman Head - January 13, 2017 at 11:19 AM

JC

“ *To the family of John Forbes, I am so sorry for your loss, John was loved by all who knew him, I had the honor of having him in my family when he married my beloved sister Jeanne, and loved her daughters as his own. John was a wonderful dancer too. Thanks for the memories.. RIP John. Jackie Caires*



Jackie Caires - January 11, 2017 at 05:45 PM

LT

Thank you.

Lillian Forbes Thibeault - February 17, 2017 at 12:49 PM

SC

“ *The members of the St Johnsbury VT Kiwanis Club send our condolences to John's family and friends and Kiwanis families too. John was there for us when he held his Kiwanis offices sharing his knowledge and help and also in the fun times he shared his friendship and humor with all of us.*

The St Johnsbury, VT Kiwanis Club members and friends

St Johnsbury Kiwanis Club - January 10, 2017 at 11:41 PM

SP

“ *On behalf of the Board Members of Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital, our deepest sympathy is extended to you and your family members.*

Scott Colby, President - January 10, 2017 at 12:43 PM

SG

“ *Today words get over used, embellished and somehow made to be more than they should be. Quite simply John Forbes was a classic. Kind, generous, fair and a gentlemen.*

I met John through the New England District of Kiwanis. I will never forget him. He helped me more than he will ever know and I hope that I have repaid part of what he did for me by passing it on to others.

John I hope you are at peace in the knowledge that you sir lived a life well spent. I miss you already. Until we meet again.

Stephen Hill, Past Governor - January 06, 2017 at 03:08 PM

PH

Thank you so much for your kind words and for travelling to pay your respects.

Patricia Hinds - January 08, 2017 at 08:35 AM

MM

“ *Mary Jane Mckinnon lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Mary Jane mckinnon - January 05, 2017 at 11:20 AM

MM

GOD has gained another special ANGEL to be in his house. THANKS John for being the great Dad and Gramps and Great Gramps and a friend to us all. no more pain rest in peace in the LORD'S HOUSE AMEN.

Mary Jane mckinnon - January 05, 2017 at 11:25 AM

SP

“ *Patti and family, I was sorry to hear of John's passing. My memories of him go back to 1973 when I joined the Realtor board. He was a great leader, always ready to assist others. Being named NH Realtor of the Year was a well deserved honor for all his dedication to the local, state and national organization. Sally Pratt*

Sally Pratt - January 04, 2017 at 05:34 PM

PH

Thank you very much Sally.

Patty Hinds - January 04, 2017 at 06:24 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of John A. Forbes.*



January 03, 2017 at 08:38 AM



“ It is funny how people are connected...I used to see John Forbes around town all the time...here and there...friendly guy...Always had a kind word for you...and when he asked how you were...you knew he was really interested to know the answer...A REALLY GREAT GUY!! I remember taking care of his mother at CCNH...What a Love...Very kind and Sweet woman...I knew where he got his ways from...What I really didn't know was how small the town was...because some of the people I had made friends with have strong connections to this man...



Dana, Kevin and Buzzy I love you all ...I met you all at different times, yet there are qualities and values that you and John Forbes all share...You are very Loving, caring, giving, friendly, and there is an openness about all of you that draws people to you. Maybe it is the internal drive to help others. Dana, your gift of voice...Buzzy your gift to make others laugh...John and Kevin the do gooders. My point being that he taught you all something...it rubbed off....I SAW that. I love you all a little bit for it.

Dana Kevin and Buzzy, I am profoundly sorry for yours and your familys loss. John was a GREAT MAN! He will surely be missed by many.

Ann Dobson - January 02, 2017 at 02:38 PM



“ We will see you again God bless

Charlotte Sanders Martinage - December 31, 2016 at 07:40 PM



“ *Charlotte Sanders Martinage lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Charlotte Sanders Martinage - December 31, 2016 at 07:37 PM

FR

“ *Our sincere condolences to Mr. John Forbes family and friends. Thoughts and prayers to Betty and her family. Francine & Andre Champagne*

Francine - December 31, 2016 at 02:09 PM

FD

“ *FW Dustin purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John A. Forbes.*



FW Dustin - December 31, 2016 at 12:06 PM

KF

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. He was special in my life as a Kiwanian. When I was coming up the ranks his knowledge and inspiration were helpful. I will miss his wit and humor. So glad I had time to spend with him over the years.*

Kathy Fenoff - December 31, 2016 at 11:42 AM



“ *Eva Guy lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Eva Guy - December 31, 2016 at 08:16 AM



“ *Judy Hunt Budge lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Judy Hunt Budge - December 31, 2016 at 07:15 AM



“ *John, I will miss your wisdom. Thank you for teaching me so much about Kiwanis. Also, for all you did in our community.*



Lindy Falconer - December 31, 2016 at 06:55 AM



“ *Julie Fournier lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Julie Fournier - December 31, 2016 at 06:13 AM

AT

“ *Anita Terrio lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Anita Terrio - December 30, 2016 at 11:05 PM

CB

“ *Cindy Brigham lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Cindy Brigham - December 30, 2016 at 10:02 PM

AB

“ *Sincere condolences to John's family friends in the community. John was quite the character always do good for others. John will be missed many. Rest easy John*



Angel Morgan Brown - December 30, 2016 at 09:04 PM

FS

“ *I wish to express my deepest condolences to John's family and friends.
We worked together in Kiwanis and he was always kind and a gentleman.
Fran de Sousa*

Frances de Sousa - December 30, 2016 at 08:43 PM

MA

“ *Mary lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



mary - December 30, 2016 at 07:53 PM

MA

rip john

mary - December 30, 2016 at 07:55 PM

HH

“ *Our deepest condolences go out to the family on your loss. John lived a full and varied life. When he gave his biography at the Kiwanis meeting there were things I learned about him. He was a figure you would always bump into around town and he would stop to chat and see how things were going with you. He will be missed.*

Haven & Peggy Haynes - December 30, 2016 at 07:47 PM

 Wendy Caldwell

“ *Wendy Caldwell lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Wendy Caldwell - December 30, 2016 at 07:32 PM

NT

“ *I'm so glad I saw UNCLE John receive his award this summer. I will miss him. Love you*

Normand Thibeault - December 30, 2016 at 06:41 PM

NT

“ *Normand Thibeault lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Normand Thibeault - December 30, 2016 at 06:40 PM

PE

“ *Thoughts and prayers to all of John's family and many friends. He will be missed. He fought long and hard, and managed to smile and give great hugs till the end. A beautiful example of North Country grit and courage. So long for now..... ❤️ Your Lil horns pal.*

Penny - December 30, 2016 at 05:07 PM

LT

To my brother that always said I was born to aggravate him. We loved to banter back and forth. Sure will miss that. He was the best

Lillian Forbes Thibeault. - December 30, 2016 at 08:44 PM

SF

“ *Susan Forbes lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



Susan Forbes - December 30, 2016 at 04:54 PM

MN

“ *It has been my honor to be able to help John and his family. I will miss you all. MaryAnn Neary*



MaryAnn Neary - December 30, 2016 at 04:53 PM

JD

“ *June And Steve DeHorn lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes*



June and Steve DeHorn - December 30, 2016 at 04:53 PM

TT

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Tony B. Thibeault - December 30, 2016 at 04:26 PM

LT

A great day!!

Lillian Forbes Thibeault. - December 30, 2016 at 04:56 PM

TT

“ God of faithfulness, in Your wisdom You have called Your servant John Forbes out of this world; release him from the bonds of sin, and welcome him into Your Presence, so that he may enjoy eternal light and peace and be raised up in glory with all Your saints. Amen Rest Peacefully Uncle John I am so glad we created a special bond this last year and a half. I only wish we connected a lot sooner.



Tony B. Thibeault - December 30, 2016 at 04:14 PM

JM

“ I hope that I can someday be as kind and positive as John Forbes was. I considered him a good friend who I could look up to without reservation. My condolences to family and friends. May his memory be eternal.

John Maihos

A friend through the New England & Bermuda District of Kiwanis

John Maihos - December 30, 2016 at 04:08 PM

PH

“ Rest In Peace Forbsey, I'll remember all those talks racing from Job to job, you've accomplished your mission...Blessing so many!

Phil - December 30, 2016 at 03:51 PM

GJ

“ Thoughts and prayers for John's friends and family. He was a person known all around, and always had a smile and good words when we met him around town. I live on the land he grew up on - and that he sold to us decades ago, so he will not be forgotten.

Ginger Jannenga

Ginger Jannenga - December 30, 2016 at 03:49 PM

JO

“ A remarkable man with a remarkable family! So much love!

Jolen - December 30, 2016 at 03:32 PM

MR

“ Marie Rancloes lit a candle in memory of John A. Forbes



Marie Rancloes - December 30, 2016 at 03:21 PM

 Jeffrey Gould

“ Very sorry to see this. Extending prayers and sympathies from our family to yours.

Jeffrey Gould - December 30, 2016 at 03:08 PM