



## John Demmer

June 19, 1953 - September 6, 2025

John Joseph Demmer, age 72, of Cedar Falls, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, September 6, 2025, at Unity Point Allen Hospital in Waterloo.

John was born June 19, 1953, in Dubuque, Iowa, the son of Elmer “Red” and Rita (Bakey) Demmer. He graduated from Western Dubuque High School in the class of 1971. He attended the University of Iowa, graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1975. On September 23, 1978, John was united in marriage to Jane Noonan at St. Patrick Garryowen Catholic Church in Bernard, Iowa. Together, John and Jane made their home in Cedar Falls, and raised their two children, Molly and Matthew. John spent his career as a mechanical engineer at John Deere in Waterloo, retiring in 2013. He was a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

John was an avid Iowa Hawkeye football fan and had season tickets for almost 20 years. Tailgating Saturdays with family and friends created many lasting memories. Recently, he enjoyed watching Caitlin Clark as both a Hawkeye and Fever player.

He enjoyed being involved in sports with his children as both a coach and a referee, and most recently loved watching his grandchildren in their many activities.

He liked to get things done, but wanted to remain in the background. He was the project manager for the Parish Center at St. Patrick Church and from the beginning thought an excellent project would be a Lenten fish fry. He cooked fish for 23 years, again in the background. In 1998, John started A World In Motion (AWIM), a STEM educational learning experience at St. Patrick School for 7th and 8th graders. For his work with this program, John received the SAE International Award for outstanding AWIM volunteer in 2005 and the St. Patrick School Outstanding Volunteer in 2010.

John is survived by his wife, Jane of Cedar Falls; his daughter, Molly (Daniel) Lahart of Cedar Falls; his son, Matthew (Lindsay) Demmer of Germantown, TN; his three grandchildren, Nora Lahart, Maddie Lahart, and Henry Demmer; his sister, Joanie Demmer of Davenport; his brother and sisters-in-law, Karen (Larry) Bell of Dyersville, Diane (Clay) Gavin of North Liberty, Stephen (Janet) Noonan of Marion, Maureen (Nick) Gaeta of Hiawatha, and Caroline (Michael) Erickson of Elkader and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Red and Rita, and his in-laws, Glynn and Betty Noonan; his nephew, Patrick Bell, and niece, Miya Erickson.

The family would like to thank Angie Schreiber and her nurses for the excellent care they gave John over the last few years.

Memorial mass will be at 10am Thursday, September 11, 2025, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Cedar Falls. A gathering of friends of family will be from 4-7pm Wednesday, at Richardson Funeral Service in Cedar Falls as well as one hour prior to the service at church. Rosary will be 3:30 Wednesday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to St. Patrick Catholic Church or St. Patrick Catholic School World in Motion or STEM

programs.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenwood Cemetery

the end of College St, north of First Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 273-8628

# Previous Events

## Rosary

SEP 10. 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service  
615 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-3525  
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com  
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

## Visitation

SEP 10. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service  
615 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-3525  
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com  
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

## Visitation

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SEP 11. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Saint Patrick Catholic Church  
705 Main St  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

## Memorial Mass

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SEP 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

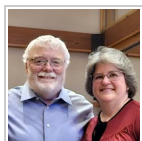
Saint Patrick Catholic Church  
705 Main St  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

# Tribute Wall

MN

“ Jane, Molly, Matt and Demmer Family and close friends—Jim & I were saddened to hear of your great loss. You and John have an everlasting love story, Jane. A marriage of almost 50 years and a long courtship that resulted with n two beautiful children and now grandchildren. Rich Scalise, Jim & I had a chance to meet and visit today and he shared the sad news. May the long life of memories give you comfort during this heart-breaking time. John lives within you and all those good times. †

Mary Lynn Neuhaus - October 24, 2025 at 07:15 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to you Jan and your family. I worked with "Big" John a lot of years at Engine Works. Louise and I are very sorry for your loss.

Ed & Louise Adams

Edward-Louise Adams - September 13, 2025 at 11:34 AM

HJ

“ Harry and Vicki Joseph planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Demmer.

Harry and Vicki Joseph - September 12, 2025 at 04:36 PM

NL

“ What a great grandpa to all 3 of us! He was my favorite man I've ever met! So much fun and lasting memories with him. Maddie, Henry and I will miss him so much!

nora lahart - September 11, 2025 at 10:00 PM

BL

“ I want to extend my sympathy to Jane and the family. I had more interaction with John on the soccer field than while working at Deere. He was always very friendly, helpful, and a good referee mentor.

*Bruce Luehmann*

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**Bruce Luehmann** - September 11, 2025 at 01:04 PM

RH

“ I had the pleasure of interacting with John for many years in many capacities:  
Co worker at John Deere for decades; learned to be a Soccer Referee from him as part of CVYSA; invited to teach and later judge SAE A World in Motion at St. Patrick School and admirer of all the work he did for St. Patrick Parish. John was always a fan of getting things done rather than talking about doing things and worked to improve the lives of youth. He will be missed by many.  
Prayers and Thoughts are with the family.

*Dick Hurban*

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**Richard Hurban** - September 11, 2025 at 12:21 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of John Demmer.



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September 10, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Demmer.

September 10, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ To the Demmer Family

*So sorry to hear about John's passing. I worked near John at PEC from 1995 till his retirement.*

*John was always a great resource for me when I needed help. I joined him as a volunteer with World in Motion at St Pats School. It was always fun to get out of the office in the winter time to coach these kids along in building their cars or gliders.*

*So many great memories. My prayers are with you.*

*John Latusek*

John Latusek - September 10, 2025 at 11:10 AM



*I'm sorry to hear my friend, John passed. John and I worked together at John Deere (PEC). I send my deepest condolences to the family. God bless you. Rick Parish*

Rick Parish - September 10, 2025 at 03:47 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of John Demmer.



September 10, 2025 at 10:10 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Demmer.

September 10, 2025 at 10:10 AM



“ To the Demmer Family,

*I worked with John for many years at Deere and always considered him a great friend. He was so much fun to work with and had a sense of humor that was hard to miss. He was great at solving problems and taking on tasks until he found answers. He will be greatly missed but always remembered.*

*Dan Sturm*

**Dan Sturm** - September 10, 2025 at 09:35 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of John Demmer.



September 10, 2025 at 08:43 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Demmer.

September 10, 2025 at 08:43 AM

SE

“ To the Demmer family,

*I knew John through decades at John Deere and occasional overlap in youth soccer refereeing, where he helped me—and scores of others—get started. His calm, methodical approach to technical challenges—and his knack for defusing stress with quiet clarity—left a lasting impression. Whether fixing problems at work or offering referee advice after a tough call, John brought steady competence and thoughtful perspective. He had a way of seeing opportunity where others saw only problems, and that mindset quietly shaped the way many of us approached our own work. My prayers are with you at this time.*

*Steve Ephraim*

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**Steve Ephraim** - September 09, 2025 at 11:48 PM

JH

“ *I worked with John at the Engine Works He was such a nice guy. I am so sorry for your loss. He definitely made the world a better place.*

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**Judy Hutchison** - September 09, 2025 at 02:21 PM

GF

“ To the Demmer family,

*My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. John and I were co-workers at John Deere for many years. I considered him to be a good friend and a trusted soul to ask for advice when needed. I especially liked his dry humor and positive outlook on life, and his on-going desire to help others.*

*Greg Forster  
Atlanta, Michigan  
(retired Dec 2016)*

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**Greg Forster** - September 09, 2025 at 11:30 AM

BF

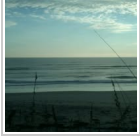
“ Dear Jane, Molly Matt and all family members,

*Our hearts go out to you and your family. We want you to know that we are with you in thought and prayer. We wish you comfort and peace as you remember all your times with John. I remember working with him while on the parish council. He was always pleasant and willing to listen to everyone. Our kids benefitted from his wisdom with his involvement with the World in Motion program. He was truly a great mentor.*

*Bruce and Terry Forystek*

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**Bruce and Terry Forystek** - September 08, 2025 at 07:41 PM



“ *John was one of my best friends through most of high school and after. We kind of parted ways when I went into the military, but we did keep in touch for several years later. Most of my most fond memories of my youth included John. He will be missed. My sincere condolences to his family.*

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**Craig Hildebrand** - September 08, 2025 at 05:19 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**Craig Hildebrand** - September 08, 2025 at 05:16 PM

FS

“ Dear Jane, Molly, Matt and Families:

*My heartfelt sympathy to all of you at this time of John's death. In my years as pastor at St. Patrick I came to value John's intelligence, skill, patience and practical wisdom during the Parish Center building project, school board, finance committee and the establishment of the Cedar Valley Catholic School system. I also enjoyed the fact that both of us appreciated the humor of Mad Magazine, a staple of our younger years!*

*I offered Mass for John yesterday (Sunday, September 7) and will continue to remember him and all of you in prayer. God grant him a generous reward for his faithfulness and service. God grant all of you his comfort and peace.*

*Fr. Jim*

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**Fr. Jim Secora** - September 08, 2025 at 03:21 PM



DG

*So many prayers and positive energy being sent to all of you during this difficult time of loss. May Christ hold each of you gently, ease your pain, and fill you with His inner peace. Hugs! Debbie Gross*

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**Debbie Gross** - September 08, 2025 at 04:50 PM

TH

“ *To the Demmer family: John was a neat guy who loved to help many folks. He selected me to be a judge for the world in motion finals at St Pat's school. The school kids he helped getting them interested showed so much knowledge from his guidance. John was an involved gentle man at St Pat's. I was proud to have known him. To John's family: John will be at Peace, when he knows his family is at Peace. Tom & Cathy Hagarty*

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**Tom Hagarty** - September 08, 2025 at 02:42 PM

MM

“ *Thinking of you at this difficult time. You are in our prayers. Venita and Mary Jane McLaughlin.*

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**Mary Jane Mclaughlin** - September 08, 2025 at 01:54 PM