



John Fischer

May 23, 1930 - December 5, 2020

John Fischer was born in 1930 in Hungary to parents József Fischer and Eszter Pécsi. He and his brother Gyuri spent a happy childhood in Budapest. John graduated from the Evangelikus Gymnasium in 1948. He and his family actively assisted Jews in Budapest during the Nazi occupation. After World War II ended, John decided to emigrate to the United States.

Upon his arrival to this country in September 1948, John spent one year at the Institute of Design in Chicago, a continuation of the famous German Bauhaus. He then enrolled in the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, and graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1954.

From 1955-56, he worked for the architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, then opted to leave NYC. He was associated with the Merchant, Seidel and Hickey Architectural firm in New Brunswick from 1956 until 1961, when he opened his own architectural office on Patterson Street with a focus on both residential and commercial properties.

John met Jennie Lee Braddock in New York City in 1953. They were married the next year and raised five children, Paul, Laura Lee, Barbara, Marika, and Lawrence, in Highland Park, New Jersey. During this time, John was active in the civil rights movement in New York City and New Jersey. He and Jennie Lee were among the founding members of the New Brunswick Quaker Meeting. He was also active in the Homebuilders Association.

John retired from architecture in 1975, but had started working as a developer in 1972 and continued in this occupation until 1978. He built Birchwood Terrace Apartments in New Brunswick, NJ, and his indispensable manager, Cindy Serge, became his trusted business partner.

John took a strong interest in his extended family, both his wife's family in Ohio, and his family that remained in Budapest.

John had many interests that he pursued with passion, including music, tennis, sailing, skiing, and travel. He played violin, attended opera, and knew most of Beethoven's works by heart. For many years, he played tennis every day. And he and Jennie traveled all over the world, from Alaska to Antarctica, and with yearly trips to the Virgin Islands and Paris.

In 2019, John and Jennie moved to Capitol Lakes retirement community in Madison, Wisconsin, where two of their daughters lived, and where they had weekly family dinners until the pandemic hit. John suffered a number of strokes, and his health declined. A series of underlying conditions, made more challenging by the addition of covid, proved too much. He died on December 5, 2020 at the age of 90. He is survived by his wife Jennie Lee, his children and their spouses, 8 grandchildren, and many other beloved family members.

Graveside services will be held 11 AM Wednesday, December 9 at the Friends Cemetery in Waynesville, Ohio. Stubbs-Conner Funeral Home in Waynesville is serving the family. Condolences at www.stubbsconner.com.

Cemetery

Friends Cemetery

481 High St.

Waynesville, OH, 45068

Events

DEC

9

Graveside Service

11:00AM

Friends Cemetery

481 High St., Waynesville, OH, US, 45068

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Stubbs-Conner Funeral Home - December 09, 2020 at 04:59 PM



“ Dear Jennie,

I am so saddened to hear of John's passing. What a wonderful team you and John were and how lucky were we in New Brunswick to have the benefit of your years here as one of our very treasured residents. We are forever grateful for your passionate dedication and service to our community. John was truly a kind, gentle and wonderful person with a special sense of humor.

I hope you and your children are being comforted by many wonderful memories of sharing life with John. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.

Jim Cahill

James Cahill - December 11, 2020 at 10:54 AM



“ Jennie,

By chance I happened to see the Home News obituary. Sorry for your loss. Hope you are still well and enjoying life.

Irene

Irene Senick - December 10, 2020 at 10:15 PM