



## John Edward Zunic

July 25, 1947 - March 31, 2019

John Edward Zunic, 71, of Belle Vernon, passed away on Sunday, March 31, 2019. A son of the late John S. and Edna Mary Albright Zunic, he was born in West Brownsville on July 25, 1947. A resident of Belle Vernon most of his life, John was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving from 1965-1968. He had been a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Belle Vernon and many organizations including the Naomi Club, Raven's Athletic Club, the Fairhope Rod and Gun Club, Pitt Panther Club, and the Belle Vernon Football Hall of Fame. John was not a college graduate, but he did love Pitt. He was in his glory on Saturday mornings at Heinz Field on game days. He was so proud of his corner at General Robinson and Art Rooney Boulevard and being there five hours before the game. Tailgating became his passion and John loved cooking for the crowd of friends who stopped by. He never forgot to include his friend Steve Russell at the Will Call window. You always saw John riding his scooter, taking him some goodies. John was a man of surprises. None more than when he voiced an interest in camping. He fell in love with camping at Hillegass Campground in Schellsburg, PA. John spent numerous days and weekends enjoying his time camping. He loved spending time with his grandkids, building fires, riding the golf cart and watching them play and laugh. John enjoyed his time with his friends there and always looked forward to the next trip. Being a mill worker, John seldom had summer vacations but in 1986 he was lucky enough to begin summer vacationing with his family, taking them to Ocean City, MD every year for 26 years. John also loved his annual

golf trips to Ocean City to cook for his friends. Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Sharon Heath Zunic; a daughter, Kimberly Dawn Zunic of North Belle Vernon; two sons, John William (Jennifer) Zunic of South Park and Eric Michael Zunic of Belle Vernon; four grandchildren, Brad Orr, Scott, Zachary, and Levi Zunic; a sister, Pattie (Randy) Burnworth of Belle Vernon; two sisters-in-laws, Bernadette Zunic of West Newton and Lorraine Zunic of Belle Vernon; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Donald Zunic and James Zunic. Friends will be received on Tuesday from 2 to 4 P.M. and 7 to 9 P.M. in the Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc., 700 Broad Avenue, Belle Vernon. 724-929-5300 [www.FergusonFuneralHomeAndCrematory.com](http://www.FergusonFuneralHomeAndCrematory.com) Funeral services will be held on Wednesday at 10 A.M. in the funeral home with Rev. Suzanne Currie officiating. The family would like to extend a special thank you to the Allegheny Health Network hospice nurses for their excellent care.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 2. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.  
700 Broad Avenue  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
(724) 929-5300

## Visitation

APR 2. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.  
700 Broad Avenue  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
(724) 929-5300

## Funeral Service

APR 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.  
700 Broad Avenue  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
(724) 929-5300

# Tribute Wall

BM

“ Sharon and Family :

*We are deeply saddened to hear of John's passing. I remember John umpiring many of my games over the years- he was my favorite. Can't say enough about his love of Pitt athletics. Every Sunday prior to church service, John would give me his critique of last week's games. I'll miss these chats. He loved his family, sports, camping, cooking (tailgating) and his many friends. He won't be replaceable. God bless John and his family.*

*Deepest Sympathy,  
Brad and Sharon Manown*

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**Brad Manown** - April 03, 2019 at 08:47 AM



“ Sharon, Kim, and Brad,

*We are so sorry for your loss. Our hearts go out to you guys!  
Sending love and prayers!*

*Love,  
Lisa, Becca, Kristina, & Tyler Steban*

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**Lisa Steban** - April 02, 2019 at 09:43 PM

VF

“ *I worked with John at Clairton mill a good guy he will be missed if anyone needed directions to Ocean City he had the all types out and ready to go and it was the best route.*



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**Victor Frye** - April 02, 2019 at 06:06 PM

RB

“ Sharon and family,

*We are so sorry to hear of John's passing. He was a great man and we'll always cherish the times spent with him.*

*Ross and Chelsy Bowker*

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**Ross Bowker** - April 02, 2019 at 07:21 AM

JC

“ Sharon and Family,

*We all are very sad to hear of Johns passing. Gary and I would always look forward to seeing him at the Pitt games, tailgating. John loved his Pitt Panthers. Gary and I saw him two years ago at a Pitt scrimmage on the south side. It was always great seeing him because we all had so much in common.( Growing up in BV and Pitt Football). I'm also very sad to hear that his brother Jimmy has passed. He was a grade school buddy of mine and even though we didn't see each other much we had a great friendship. We all lost a great friend and he will forever be in our hearts. May God bless John, his family, and his brother Jimmy. Our deepest sympathy,*

*Jimbo & Cathie Cramer*

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**Jimbo & Cathie Cramer** - April 01, 2019 at 11:10 PM

JG

“ So sorry for your loss....OUR loss in Belle Vernon Area. John was a lifelong friend starting when we were youngsters and I was his coach for the Colts kid baseball team in the Belle Vernon Lions summer league. At every game, his mom watched from a folding chair at the Graham Street Field and cheered us on, always promising us a Pepsi if we won. We won often and had lots of fun doing so.

Gosh, how times passes. I may have been a “Penn Stater” but John never held that against me, knowing that I am a Pitt fan as well. I’m sure I was the only PSU guy at his tail-gates; I was never “persona non grata,” and for that I am also thankful.

John was full of life and lived it to the fullest. We should all act and feel that way. He contributed much to local athletics, from coaching and umpiring to Pitt Golden Panthers and BVA Boosters from Day One. Farewell, my friend, on behalf of many!

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**JOE GRATA** - April 01, 2019 at 08:14 PM



“ Dearest One Casket Insert was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.



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April 01, 2019 at 06:25 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.



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April 01, 2019 at 03:32 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.



April 01, 2019 at 01:12 PM



“ So sorry for your loss.

pat long - April 01, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ Wayne & Betty Zackal lit a candle in memory of John Edward Zunic



Wayne & Betty Zackal - April 01, 2019 at 09:54 AM



“ John you will be missed. I remember the days growing up in BV and attending high school with you and Sharon. Also, the glory days of Bellmar Football together. Even though I left BV we still stayed in touch over the years and our friendship grew stronger. I always enjoyed visiting you during our class reunions when I came back to BV. You did a lot for the BV community and was always an avid sports fan for the local teams. I will always cherish the times we got together on various sporting events over the years especially when UC played Pitt. Take care and RIP. Norm & Sara Luce

Norman Luce - March 31, 2019 at 09:38 PM

CR

“ *The most sincere of condolences and sympathies to Sharon and their family! John was an icon and loved by so many! Thoughts and prayers to all who cared so deeply for John and for the lives he touched.*

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**Carol Nesti Riley** - March 31, 2019 at 08:59 PM

DS

“ *John,  
I am truly going to miss you at the Pitt games! Going to miss the good you made and the teasing! The kindness you always showed me! You are a great person! I will never forget! Keep on cooking up in heaven! God Bless* 💜💙💗

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**Deborah Sanner** - March 31, 2019 at 08:03 PM

DS

“ *Deborah Sanner lit a candle in memory of John Edward Zunic*



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**Deborah Sanner** - March 31, 2019 at 07:59 PM

DJ

“ *Diane Spiker Johnston lit a candle in memory of John Edward Zunic*



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**Diane Spiker Johnston** - March 31, 2019 at 05:59 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.



March 31, 2019 at 05:50 PM



“ He was a great man a great friend we would bounce BBQ stuff off each other he will be missed rest in peace big John your buddy. Coach an big Frank's BBQ

frank nangle big franks bbq - March 31, 2019 at 05:28 PM



“ I remember being stuck in the governor house, the door wouldn't open and John stood on the top of the battery laughing while I was panicing. You were a GREAT vicing foreman John. You will be well missed by many. RIP. Carolyn Gallick

Carolyn Gallick - March 31, 2019 at 05:24 PM



“ Friends for over 40 years! Great man! Rest In Peace John. Love you Sharon and the whole family!

Diane Johnston - March 31, 2019 at 05:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.



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March 31, 2019 at 04:49 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.



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March 31, 2019 at 04:38 PM



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



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March 31, 2019 at 04:28 PM



“ *Sharon you have my condolences. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.*

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**Mary Ann Boone** - March 31, 2019 at 03:38 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of John Edward Zunic.* ”



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March 31, 2019 at 03:12 PM



“ *Patti Sterner Davis lit a candle in memory of John Edward Zunic* ”



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**Patti Sterner Davis** - March 31, 2019 at 03:05 PM