



# John Patrick Mills

JUN 9, 1948 - JAN 16, 2026



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## **John Patrick Mills**

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### **J**ohn Mills, Always a gentleman

John Patrick Mills passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family on January 16, 2026. He was born in Kearny, New Jersey, on June 9, 1948, to the late Patricia and John Mills.

John graduated from Kearny High School, where he served as class president for three years and was the quarterback and punter on the football team. He is in Kearny's Hall of Fame for his football skills. During those years, he formed lifelong friendships with many of his teammates.

He went on to graduate from Ursinus College, where he continued his football career as the punter and backup quarterback. He proudly held the college punting distance record for many years and played on the 1969 MAC championship team.

Later, he shared his love of the sport by coaching youth football while his son was playing.

John worked as a specialty steel salesman and retired in 2006 as Director of Sales for Haynes International's North Carolina plant. While working, he also served in the Navy Reserve, working at the Philadelphia Naval Yard. He retired earlier than he had hoped due to a sudden loss of vision.

Despite being legally blind, John remained active in his later years, enjoying travel and hiking, and was a dedicated member of the Hendersonville Lions Club. During his time with the Lions, he served in several leadership roles and received numerous awards for his service.

John is survived by his wife, Katherine; his son, Geoff; his three stepchildren, Laura, Chris, and Stacey, eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his loving sister, Catherine, and was predeceased by his sisters Patricia and Caroline.



## Obituary

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He will be dearly missed and forever loved. Per his wishes, there will be a small family celebration of life in the spring.

Please sign the tribute wall at this site.



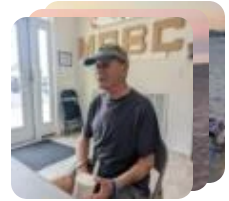
# Tribute Wall

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**Marilyn Coppola** shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Dear Katherine, He had such a wonderful zest for life and a smile that never faded. We still fondly remember him at the ice cream social—happily finishing his own and then making sure he had a chocolate chip one to-go for you. The bonfire remains a special memory for us because the joy you shared was so radiant. The devotion you showed him, right until the very end, is truly an inspiration. May your endless beautiful memories carry you and your family through this time; they are treasures that will last forever. With love, Matt and Marilyn Coppola

January 24 at 5:50 PM



**Marilyn Coppola** posted:

Dear Katherine, He had such a wonderful zest for life and a smile that never faded. We still fondly remember him at the ice cream social—happily finishing his own and then making sure he had a chocolate chip one to-go for you. The bonfire remains a special memory for us because the joy you shared was so radiant. The devotion you showed him, right until the very end, is truly an inspiration. May your endless beautiful memories carry you and your family through this time; they are treasures that will last forever. With love, Matt and Marilyn Coppola

January 24 at 5:48 PM



**Susan Hunkele** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Jackie, will forever remember our Seaside Heights summers, Christmas Eve celebrations, picnics at the park, your dear friends. Very sorry Katherine ❤️

January 20 at 5:21 PM



## Media

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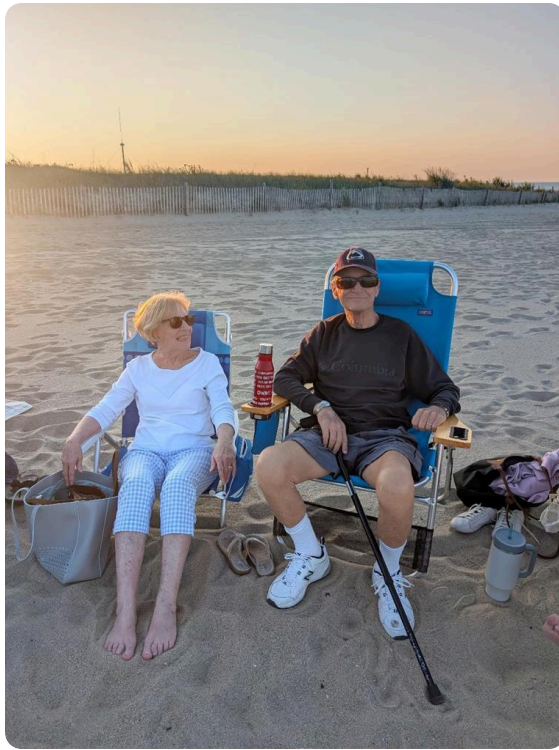
January 24 at 5:50 PM





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# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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