

John Edward Wilkinson, 52, Loving Husband and Father

John Edward Wilkinson passed away peacefully and unexpectedly at home in Scotch Plains on Sunday, June 16, at the young age of 52.



John E. Wilkinson

The son of Marilyn and Dr. Robert G. Wilkinson, John was born in Boston, Mass., on February 8, 1967 and was raised in Hingham. He attended St. Sebastian's School in Needham, Mass., then graduated from Boston College in 1989 with his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. It was at Boston College where he met the love of his life, Cheryl (Horne) Wilkinson from Westfield, N.J. John and Cheryl married on July 15 following their graduation, and they started their life in New Jersey. This would be their 30th anniversary year. He started working and furthered his education in the evenings, graduating from Montclair State University in May, 1994 with a Master of Business Administration and attained his Certificate of Public Accountancy (CPA). John had worked as both an accountant and Director of Operations at Gallo Wine and the past thirteen years at Southern Glaziers Wine and Spirits.

John was a wonderful and loving husband to Cheryl and the father of his three cherished children: Lindsey, John, Jr. and Daniel. His family was the most important part of his life and he could not have been a more proud dad. He coached each of his children in the sports in which they participated and he loved: hockey, softball and baseball. A former hockey and baseball player himself, he could not wait to get home from work in order to help coach or watch them in their various activities.

His integrity level was beyond reproach and his work ethic, tireless.

Known for his compassion, quick wit and trash talking, especially when rooting for his beloved Red Sox, Patriots or Bruins, John had many good friends during his lifetime and enjoyed their company as well as his two sons on the golf course. John was larger than life to all who knew him.

He will always be remembered for his positive outlook on life, his competitiveness in participating in any game that he played, his generosity, and especially for his love and caring for his family.

John is survived by his wife, Cheryl, and their children, Lindsey, John, Jr. and Daniel; his parents, Marilyn and Robert Wilkinson of Hanover and Cataumet, Mass.; brother Robert Wilkinson and his wife, Roberta, of Canton, Mass.; sister Mary Leonard and her husband, John, of Pembroke, Mass.; sister Colleen Shaw and her husband, Harold, of Norwell, Mass.; sister Catherine Duggan of Canton, Mass.; sister Bridget Fernquist and her husband, Peter, of Hingham, Mass.; and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Friday, June 21, at Higgins and Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home, 582 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, N.J., from 4 to 8 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, June 22, at St. Helen's Church, 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, a college fund has been arranged for the Wilkinson children. Donations may be made to "Lindsey, John and Daniel Wilkinson" and sent to the Horne family, 627 Hanford Place, Westfield, N.J. 07090. June 20, 2019

Obituaries

John M. Oshust, 72, Taught at WHS; Loving Husband, Father and Friend

John M. Oshust, 72, formerly of Bayonne, passed at home in Cranford, N.J., on Tuesday, June 11, with his immediate family by his side. He taught secondary science courses in Linden for 17 years, followed by 15 years at Westfield High School. John held a Bachelor of Science degree from Jersey City State College (1968) and a Master's degree in Applied Physics from NJIT (1982). His love for science extended well beyond the classroom doors.



John M. Oshust

John was a man of many hats. His numerous interests included photography, sketching, gardening and farming; in later years, he perfected creating wooden model airplanes and enjoyed sharing his progress through the online forum community (virtualaerodrome.com). He cherished moments with his family, friends, and most importantly his canine companions. Visiting the Pennsylvania countryside was one of his deepest passions.

John was a resident of Cranford for forty-three years. He was predeceased by his parents, William and Olga Oshust. His wife, Elaine, found John at her doorstep in 1974. Sev-

eral months later, the two lovebirds married.

John took great pride in his Ukrainian heritage. He was the organizer of Project Ukraine I and Project Ukraine II, which benefited both a school and hospital in the Ukrainian village of Pobina.

John will be deeply missed by his loving wife, Elaine, and their son, Anatoly, as well as his two hound dogs. All who knew him, treasured his brilliance, humor and willingness. John's love for others could never be forgotten and will always be missed.

Memorial donations may be made to: Associated Humane Societies, Popcorn Park, P.O. Box 43, Forked River, N.J. 08731-0043.

"Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened" - Ted Geisel "Dr. Seuss."

John's Life Celebration was held on Saturday, June 15, 2019, at Gray Memorial Funeral Home, 12 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, where his funeral service followed.

Please go to www.grayfuneralhomes.com to view his life tribute. June 20, 2019

Valerie Kollonitsch, Had Been Market Research Consultant For 50 Years

Valerie Kollonitsch, 91, of Morris Plains died peacefully on Saturday, June 15, at home.

Born in Gyula, Hungary, on December 17, 1927 (on her mother's birthday), she came to the United States in 1956, settling in Salem, Mass., soon after moving to Westfield in 1958, then Morristown in 1986. She has been a resident at Sunrise Senior Living of Morris Plains since 2013.



Valerie Kollonitsch

Ms. Kollonitsch started her career as a chemist in Budapest after receiving her Degree in Chemistry in 1949. In 1960 she began the next phase of her career, which lasted 50 years at Kline & Company, first as corporate librarian, then market research consultant. She was a market researcher extraordinaire and could get anyone at any level of any company to talk. She retired from Kline in 2010 at 82.

She was predeceased by her former husband, Dr. Janos Kollonitsch, in 1999. Surviving are her son, John Kollonitsch of Bernards Township, and a daughter, Katalin Kollonitsch

of Parsippany; a sister, Ann, and her husband, Remo Arancio, of Oakland, Calif.; a niece, Vicky Friedman, and nephew, Tom Kahan, both of Oakland, Calif.; a grandniece, Alexa Kahan of Oakland, Calif.; two grandnieces, Rebecca Friedman-Lissner and Julia Friedman, both of New York, N.Y.; a great-grandnephew, Noah, and two nephews, Ferenc and Pali Kovacshegyi of Budapest, Hungary, and several grandnephews and grandnieces in Hungary. She also leaves behind her two dear friends, Debra and John Hadley of Parsippany.

A memorial service in Manhattan along the East River will be held on a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of the Par-Troy Funeral Home, 95 Parsippany Road, Parsippany, (973) 887-3235, or visit www.partroyfuneralhome.com. Memorial donations can be made in her name to her favorite charity, Market Street Mission, 09 Market Street, Morristown, N.J. 07960. June 20, 2019

Cranford Reveals Events To Celebrate Independence Day

CRANFORD — The Township of Cranford will celebrate the nation's birthday this year with two special events.

The first event is the annual fireworks display, which will be held on Tuesday, July 2, followed by a second celebration, which will take place on Thursday, July 4.

The July 2 celebration will be held at Nomahegan Park, located on Springfield Avenue in Cranford, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with food vendors, amusement rides and games. The finale will be the fireworks, which will start at 9:15 p.m.

Limited parking will be available at Union County College, 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford. However, residents are urged to walk, if possible. In the event of cancellation due to inclement weather, there will be no rain date.

The July 4 festivities will begin at 9 a.m. with canoe races scheduled at the Cranford Canoe Club, 250 Springfield Avenue, Cranford. Registration at the Canoe Club will be immediately before the races at 8:30 a.m.

Also on July 4, the Jaycees will conduct their Annual Firecracker Run, beginning with a one-mile Fun Run at 8:30 a.m., followed by a four-miler at

9 a.m., at Nomahegan Park. For more information regarding registration and the race, go to cranfordjaycees.com.

For other information, call the Cranford Recreation and Parks Department at (908) 709-7283.

'Battle of Springfield' To Be Reenacted

AREA — The Brigade of the American Revolution will recreate the 1780 Battle of Springfield, the "Forgotten Victory" of New Jersey, this Saturday and Sunday, June 22 and 23. The weekend will feature reenactors bringing to life the history of Springfield and the battle that changed the course of the American Revolution.

Throughout the 10-acre Meisel Park and surrounding area, colonial life will be demonstrated in new and exciting ways. Attendees will be able to watch colonial soldiers pitch a tent, camp followers cook authentic recipes, and a battle reenactment each day. Meisel Park is located at 278 Meisel Avenue, Springfield. For more information, visit the event website, springfield2019.com, and follow the event Facebook page for updates.



GARDEN OF THE MONTH...The Garden Club of Westfield chooses one garden every month of the growing season to designate as the Garden of the Month. This June, the garden of Sydney Sherry, 641 Elm Street, has been selected for its landscape design (inspired by London gardens) of colorful impatiens, clipped boxwood and hydrangeas. The design complements her beautifully-restored 1927 home, which was a recipient of the 2018 Harry Devlin Preservation Award and the 2015/2016 Mark of Honor for Restorations.

Library to Offer 'Hamiltunes' July 8

SCOTCH PLAINS — Fans of *Hamilton: An American Musical* are invited to "Hamiltunes: An American Singalong" on Monday, July 8, at 7 p.m. Participants will sing along to the music at this officially-licensed, fan-based performance. Costumes are encouraged. Registration is required. Attendees are asked to come a few minutes early if they wish to sign up to lead their favorite song. The library will use the original cast recording; parental discretion is advised due to language.

To learn more about the library's other summer reading programs, check the library's website, scotlib.org, and stop by the Reference Desk. This year's theme will incorporate art, music, science, reading and prizes.

For more information or to register for programs, go to scotlib.org, email library@scotlib.org, call (908) 322-5007, extension no. 204, or stop by the Reference Desk. The Scotch Plains Public Library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue, one block from Park Avenue in the center of the township.

Trinity Fundraiser Sunday To Aid Food For The Poor

CRANFORD — The Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 119 Forest Avenue, Cranford, will host a fundraiser this Sunday, June 23, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Sherlock Hall.

"Proceeds will benefit Food For The Poor, helping the poor in Latin America and the Caribbean," said the Reverend Andy Kruger, Trinity's Priest-in-Charge.

So far in 2019, Food For The Poor has provided more than 100 million meals and built over 1,200 homes for people in need. The Reverend Holly Ostlund, of Food For The Poor, will speak about the organization and its programs at morning services and the fundraiser.

"Please join Trinity in supporting such important, life-saving work," Father Kruger continued. For more information, call (908) 276-4047.

Food For The Poor began in 1982

Walking Tour to Look At Morristown's Past

AREA — The Morris County Tourism Bureau will present a "Morristown People & Places Walking Tour" on Saturday, June 29, from 11 a.m. to noon. It will originate from the Morris County Tourism Bureau, located at 6 Court Street, Morristown.

Participants will take a leisurely walk through Morristown with author Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, former director of the Morris County Historical Society. Her postcard book on Morristown will come alive as she points out architecturally important buildings within the nationally-registered historic district. Attendees also will hear the stories of past and prominent Morristonians.

This tour will be repeated on Saturday, August 10, at 11 a.m.

For more information, call (973) 631-5151 or visit revolutionarynj.org/event/morristown-people-and-places-tour/.

Mayors Wellness Campaign To Hold 3K Walk Saturday

GARWOOD — The next Mayors Wellness Campaign 3K walk will take place this Saturday, June 22, at 10 a.m., at the Garwood Recreation Complex at the end of Myrtle Avenue in Garwood. All are invited to participate in this event. It is a walk, not a competition, and participants of every age and level of activity are welcome to join.

On Sunday, June 23, the Mayors Wellness Campaign is planning a special nutritional presentation to be held at 11 a.m. in the Bethlehem Room of the Church of St. Anne, located at 325 Second Avenue, Garwood. Victoria Coglianesse, registered dietician from Garwood ShopRite, will be the guest speaker.

Over the past few months, the

Wellness Campaign has held several events, including a nutritional meal/snack presentation at a recent Garwood Parent-Teacher Organization meeting and a nutritional tour of the Garwood ShopRite for Lincoln School's third-grade classes, hosted by Ms. Coglianesse.

Future summer plans include a healthy barbecue and a chiropractic presentation, beneficial to the body as well as the mind. Dates for these events will be determined shortly.

The Mayors Wellness Campaign committee encourages all residents to follow it on social media to find out about the group, its meeting dates and dates for upcoming events. Anyone interested in membership in the group, or who may have ideas or suggestions for the committee, is welcome to submit them at MWC@garwood.org.



WELCOME TO ROTARY...Newly-inducted Rotary Club of Westfield member Fred Zellner is welcomed by his fellow Rotarians. Pictured, from left to right, are: Sergeant at Arms Tony LaPorta, Membership Chairman Joe Mindak, President Clark Lagemann, President-elect Liz Ensslin and Past District Governor Dr. D. Michael Hart.

Fred Zellner Inducted Into Rotary Club of Westfield

WESTFIELD — The Rotary Club of Westfield inducted new member Fred Zellner into the organization on May 25.

Mr. Zellner grew up in Queens, N.Y., and married his high school sweetheart in 1984. They wanted to start a family and began looking for a neighborhood that had a good school system, a downtown, playgrounds and parks, and that was commutable to New York City, where they both worked.

Mr. Zellner worked for Con Ed as an engineer for 41 years. He and his wife love Westfield. Their daughter grew up in the town and is now married, and has purchased a house in Scotch Plains. Mr. Zellner and his wife are both retired and love traveling. Their next trip

is a safari in Tanzania and Kenya to see the Great Migration and to stop by the David Sheldrake rescue reserve to say "hello" to the four orphaned baby elephants that they sponsor.

Mr. Zellner said he is excited to be joining such an active service club. He is looking forward to giving back to the community with volunteer work through the organization.

The Rotary Club of Westfield meets on the first three Tuesdays of the month for lunch, at 12:15 p.m., on the second floor of the Westfield Area Y. Guests are always welcome.

'The Glorious Sun' On Tap at Library

MOUNTAINSIDE — "The Glorious Sun," an event for children ages 5 and above, will take place next Thursday, June 27, at 4 p.m. It is part of the library's Enjoy Explore India program. Participants will hear a story from India about light, heat and the sun, see how Indian artists created sun symbols in folklore, then make their own sun spinner to take home.

Registration is requested since this program is limited to 15 children. To register, visit the library or call (908) 233-0115. The Mountainside Public Library is located at 1 Constitution Plaza.



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