



## Mr. John A. Finch

February 25, 1949 - August 23, 2020

John A Finch, 71 of Traverse City, passed away on Sunday, August 23, 2020, at Munson Medical Center from ALS.

John was born in Adrian, Michigan on February 25, 1949, the son of the late John and Mildred (Bowen) Finch.

John graduated from Adrian Public High School in 1967 and Michigan State University in 1971, he also attended Wayne State Law School.

John found his way into the flooring business in 1990, at the Kitchen and Home Center selling residential and commercial carpet, wood, and ceramic tile. He became the Floor Covering department manager for Northeastern Paint Supply, went back to residential and commercial sales for Floor Covering Brokers, Project Manager for Commercial Floor Covering for Traverse City Flooring and territory manager in Northern Michigan for Florstar Sales for 16 years, receiving many accolades for his performance. He loved his job and went above and beyond for service his dealer's needs. A number of times he would drive to Chicago to pick up an order that couldn't be delivered in time for one of his dealers, one time it was personally very costly for him, as the weight of the load blew his transmission. United Methodist Church in Lake Ann and Bay Point Community Church (Kensington Church) were a particularly important part of John's life. He volunteered for five years in the Children's Ministry and never missed being at church on Sunday.

Throughout his life, John possessed a great passion for golf and sports on TV. During football season he created NFL and college football pools for the season, which he loved doing. Many took advantage of all his hard work getting the pools together. John loved to travel, in his sophomore year at college after two friends backed out, he was able to backpack through Europe for three months. He also attended the famous "Woodstock" with tales to tell. During his 50's & 60's he took up snorkeling in exotic places during his vacations when it was cold in Michigan.

John was blessed with many grandchildren, His very best days were filled with the many activities he shared with them, playing pig, coaching them in a church basketball tournament, bike riding, attending their sports, and school events, concerts and Harbor Days in Elk Rapids. Every Cherry Festival, he was downtown at 5AM placing chairs on "our spot" for the big parade and sitting there until the parade started at 11AM so all the

grandchildren would have front row seats. When the Blue Angels were in town, he would again save places on the break wall at the marina to get as close as he could get for great viewing.

John is survived by his loving wife, of 23 years, Jacqueline Finch whom he married on December 23, 1996; two children, John Robert Finch and Catherine (Steven) Rinella from a previous marriage; four step-children, Michelle (Michael) Martin of Traverse City, Major Smith of Traverse City, Robin (Dale) Robbins of Florida, and Christopher (Stephanie) DeBortoli of Traverse City; twelve step-grandchildren, Jerry Hager, Justin Chouinard, Jordan Martin, Amber McAllister, Erica DeBortoli, Olivia DeBortoli, Cameron DeBortoli, and Wyatt DeBortoli of Traverse City, Austin Robbins, and Dillon Robbins, of Florida, Hannah DeBortoli of Utah, Nicole Saltalamacchia of Fort Hood, TX; six great-grandchildren; one brother, Robert (Tamera) Finch of Stevensville; three brother-in-law Richard (Janice) Fort of Florida, Gary (Barb) Fort of Indiana, and Jeff (Dinah) Fort of Traverse City; one sister-in-law, Kim Fort of Traverse City.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Ann Marie (James) Lakatoes.

John was a loving, giving and kind man, and he will be missed by many.

A celebration of John's life will be announced at a later date, due to the COVID-19.

In lieu of flowers, memorials contributions may be given in John's name to a Fidelity ABLE account benefiting his 20-year-old grandson, who suffers severe Epilepsy and Autism.

Checks may be written to Stephanie DeBortoli, 3235 N. Arbutus Lake RD. Traverse City, MI 49686.

Cremation arrangements provided by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home. Our Family Serving Yours.

# Comments

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“ John worked for me many years at Florstar. We always had had a great time traveling together. He was a hard worker and will be missed. He loved his family and always talked about them. Rest in peace my friend  
Renz verbeek

**Rsnz verbeek** - September 01, 2020 at 08:51 PM

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“ Jody Wagner lit a candle in memory of Mr. John A. Finch



**Jody Wagner** - August 31, 2020 at 12:14 PM