



## John (Jack) David Wides

August 5, 1946 - November 1, 2024

IN MEMORY OF:

John (Jack) David Wides

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

John (Jack) David Wides (78) born August 5, 1946 in Murphysboro passed away peacefully on November 1st, 2024. Jack is survived by his children, David and Rachel and husband Alex; his grandchildren, respectively, Eirwen (14) and Arie (11), Corbin (8) and Sal (6); sister Kathy husband Joel; and his beloved nieces, nephews, and their children. Preceded in death are parents Louis and Mimi as well as brothers Jeff and Bob.

Jack graduated from Washington University with a degree in business, also serving as the editor of the yearbook, The Hatchet. During his career Jack prided himself as an entrepreneur, owning

and running many businesses including a beer distribution business, Widico Fire Extinguisher Company, Bresler's Ice Cream, Horace Mann Insurance, and commercial property management.

Jack spent his life in Southern Illinois as a devoted community member who cared deeply about the people here. He was an active member within the Jewish community through Congregation Beth Jacob, Camp Ben Frankel, and the Jewish Federation. He committed his time and energy to morning Rotary with service to the Boys & Girls Club, local schools and international service travel.

The most important thing of all was Jack's unconditional love for his children, grandchildren, family, and friends. He was kind, generous, loving, devoted, loyal, and accepting to all. Jack loved hosting bicycle riders through Warm Showers, opening his home for respite in exchange for great conversation. He enjoyed time with his lifelong friends through ROMEO and TIPS.

Jack embraced all who wanted a place to rest, a good meal, enjoyable conversation, and a sweet dessert. Many lives shine brighter because of Jack and his legacy lives through all who knew him.

A family only graveside service will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2024 in Beth Jacob Garden at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park. A celebration of life will be held at Temple Beth Jacob on November 9th, at 12:00. Address: 904 N. Northwest Ln., Carbondale, IL 62901. Jack loved color, so please join in this celebration in anything other than black.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorial donations to the VEDS Movement in memory of Jack Wides. This is a disease that has greatly impacted Jack and his family. [thevedsmovement.org/donate](https://thevedsmovement.org/donate)

The cremation of John (Jack) David Wides has been personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

Crain Pleasant Grove – Murdale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Pleasant Grove Memorial Park

31 Memorial Dr.  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-1145  
crain@crainsonline.com

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

NOV 9. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (cst)

Temple Beth Jacob  
904 N. Northwest Ln.  
Carbondale, IL 62901

# Tribute Wall

BR

“ Rachel and David, I'm so sorry you must suffer the loss of your father especially, given all that your family has faced and now with what's going on in our world.

*I believe I met your father around 1984 when you two and Zander and Madeline were in preschool at Rainbow's End. And then we had the Beth Jacob connection.*

*To think we've known each other for over 40 years somehow doesn't seem possible.*

*What I know about your father is that he adored the two of you and your families and your connection and love meant everything to him in life. He was a quiet and unassuming man and hidden behind that quietness, he was very smart and perceptive.*

*He was a man who did not ask a lot for himself, didn't call attention to himself and seemed pleased with what he had in life.*

*I know how much of himself he gave to the rotary and to Temple Beth Jacob. The pride, love and connection he had for you and your families was immeasurable and seemed to fill him up. You are fortunate to had such a loving father. May his memory always be a blessing.*

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**Beverly Rosenschein** - November 08, 2024 at 11:50 AM

NA

“ I met Jack here at The Landings assisted living facility. We shared many family and Murphysboro stories at mealtimes. I will miss him dearly. My deepest sympathy to the family.

*Jack's 3rd floor friend, Nancy*

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**Nancy** - November 05, 2024 at 03:21 PM

CF

“ So sorry to read this!  
I met Jack when I was visiting my Mother at the Landings. Had dinner with him several times. He was a super guy! He had a pleasant smile and personality! I'm sure he will be missed by many.  
RIP, Jack! ❤️🙏

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**Carol A Ferrari** - November 05, 2024 at 09:05 AM

JT

“ Dear David & Rachel,

*Heidi and I were saddened when we received word of your Dad's passing. It's been many years since we last saw Jack, but he and I would periodically speak over the telephone.*

*We've known Jack for over 44 years, since shortly after the birth of our daughter, Lauren, and you (David) were born. Our friendship grew as did our families, with the arrival of Rachel, and our daughter Lisa. We used to have our "baby club" along with the Allen & Hazelwood families. We had some great times on Crab Orchard Lake with our (unnamed) pontoon boat and Jack's boat, the Nitwit. I never found out what that boat was named after 😊.*

*Heidi and I, along with Lauren & Lisa left Carbondale in 1985, and after four years in Bloomington-Normal made our home in Binghamton, NY. It was there that we rendezvoused with Rachel one summer when you worked in a summer camp about an hour away.*

*I was very happy that your Dad and I kept in touch. We look back very fondly at the nine years we lived in, and started our families in Carbondale. I'll always recall the distinctive sound of Jack's voice, and Heidi and I greatly appreciated our friendship with him.*

*Rest in peace, my friend.*

*Joel & Heidi Thirer, Lauren & Lisa*

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**Joel & Heidi Thirer** - November 04, 2024 at 09:10 PM

KA

“ My husband Tom and I lived in Carbondale in the early 80s. We became good friends with Jack with the birth of our sons, David and Eric. Along with two other couples, we regularly gathered for 'baby playtimes, family events and celebrations. Jack and his family became our support. When in the mid 80s my husband left to begin a new job in NY, I was left in Carbondale with 3 very young children to sell our house and plan our move. Jack, understanding my need for respite would come over at bedtime to help me get the kids to bed and sit on the couch and keep me company. He was not a man, at least at that point in time of many words, but his presence was comforting and so very thoughtful! We have great memories of those early days and are saddened to hear of his passing! Our thoughts and prayers are with the Wides family! rest in peace Jack!  
Karen and Tom Allen

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**Karen Allen** - November 04, 2024 at 07:38 PM

BK

“ Jack was a lifelong friend that gave me my first opportunity in construction when he hired me to build his beer warehouse in Carbondale in 1975. We enjoyed summer days on the Nit Wit with Captain Jack at the helm. We reunited last in Panama prior to our retirement. I will miss him and send my deepest sympathies to his family.

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**Bryan Kane** - November 04, 2024 at 06:25 PM