



## Dr. John J. Clifford DMD

August 19, 1943 - February 17, 2018

Rye Beach – John J. Clifford, DMD, age 74, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 17, 2018 at his home in Rye Beach after a brief illness. John was born on August 19, 1943 in Lawrence, MA, the second eldest child of four sons born to James H. Clifford and Josephine Callagy. John attended the University of New Hampshire in Durham and completed his DMD at Tufts University in Boston, MA.

John married Katherine Lumaghi of St. Louis, MO in St. Louis, MO in June of 1968. After serving two years as a Captain in the US Army, John and Kate settled in Rye Beach and raised three children, Katherine (Katie), John, and Elizabeth (Liz). In 1972, John established his dental practice, opening an office in Portsmouth, NH where he practiced family dentistry until retiring in 2001.

John was an avid sportsman with a lifelong love of pond hockey and iceboating. He loved the outdoors, gardening, working in the woods and especially being on the ocean, fishing and lobstering from Rye Harbor. He was active in civic affairs serving on various town committees. He will be fondly remembered for his cheerful spirit and genial engagement.

Surviving family includes his three children and their spouses, Katie Nadeau (Tom), John Clifford, and Liz Clifford (Wayne), and his five grandchildren

Henry Nadeau, James Clifford, Thomas Nadeau, Evan Clifford and Sasha Clifford.

John is also survived by his brothers Thomas Clifford (Geri) of Rye and William Clifford (Lee) of Hampton as well as his sisters- and brothers-in-law and his many nieces and nephews.

John was preceded in death by his wife Katherine, mother Josephine, his father James and his brother James.

Visiting hours will be from 4 to 7 pm on Thursday, February 22, 2018 in the Remick Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 am on Friday at St. Theresa's Church, 815 Central Road, Rye Beach. All those attending the funeral mass are requested to go directly to the church. Burial will be private.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. John J. Clifford DMD*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *It's never to late to say...I'm sorry...to all the Cliffords, and extended family, your loss is huge. John was the most congenial man in his profession...too much so. Always talking and asking questions when he had your mouth forced open with plastic bands and wire...no way could you answer him. His was hysterical...yet all I could do was talk back with your eyes and try to speak, which was impossible. He talked all the way through the drilling process and, if you were his patient too, you came out smiling. That was his gift. To distract you from the discomfort, the pain, to make you laugh and leave saying "See you next time, Doc." Whenever I ran into John, on the beach, at the club, at his Mom's, at the office, he always had some engaging thing to say. Personally, I will always be grateful to he and Kate for including me in the Clifford holidays, especially Christmases. They were very special times and I was privileged to be a part. John and Kate, you will be sorely missed. Hope there is loads of lobstering where you are. God Bless!*

Susan Tosi - August 08, 2018 at 07:51 PM



“ *Heavenly and Harmony was purchased for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



February 25, 2018 at 10:11 AM

KS

“ *Katie, Johnny & Lizzie, sorry we could not be with you to celebrate John's life. We were vacationing and just returned late last night. Great memories with your Dad. So sorry to hear of his passing. He was a good man. Your parents were good to my Mom after my father died so many years ago. May he rest in peace. Kathy Schmigle (Locke)*

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**kathy schmigle** - February 24, 2018 at 09:54 AM

ST

“ *My condolences to Dr. Clifford's family. He was my dentist when I was a kid, and I stayed with him into adulthood until he retired. I always remember him being very kind and gentle. He will be missed. ~Stephanie Nagel (McCullar)*



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**stephanie** - February 23, 2018 at 06:53 PM

PH

“ *To John's family: we are vacationing and are so sorry we could not be there to mourn John's passing and celebrate his life with you. We send our heartfelt condolences to all of you. Gary and Pat Holmes*

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**Pat Holmes** - February 23, 2018 at 09:18 AM

DT

“ Likely you are out there catching the big waves ahead of the boys of summer John. You'll always be body surfing alongside the gang, sending in some great rollers. May your peace be found. Know you'll be missed, wry comments and all. Affectionately- Debbi & Garritt Toohey



Deb Toohey - February 22, 2018 at 02:21 PM



“ 245 files added to the album Life Tributes



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - February 22, 2018 at 09:56 AM

FD

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Frank Drake - February 21, 2018 at 09:38 PM

FD

*January 16, 2010, Frank's 60th birthday. What could possibly be better than a game of pond hockey on Eel with great friends. Some of us had skated together for over 50 years. John was the Jean Ratelle of our games...smooth.*

Frank Drake - February 21, 2018 at 10:54 PM

JG

*“ Had many laughs w/Dr. John, even when he was drilling my teeth. Used to kid him about the AM radio and his Playboy socks. Hope he is skating and trapping lobsters.  
So glad to have known him,*

*Gary and Jane Grant*

j grant - February 21, 2018 at 06:23 PM

JP

*“ We went to high school together, UNH together pledged SAE together, took ROTC together, were Army officers and members at the be Beach Club along with both living in Rye. We winter in Florida so we will not be at your tribute of life. John you were taken to young. RIP John Pappas*

John Pappas - February 21, 2018 at 05:41 PM



*“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



February 21, 2018 at 01:58 PM

TN

“ *The Normandy's purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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**The Normandy's** - February 20, 2018 at 10:31 PM

RP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Ron Pettee** - February 20, 2018 at 08:47 PM

RP

*Went to both High School & College with John, then lost track for 50+ years. Sincerest condolences to all members family & close friends.*

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**Ron Pettee** - February 20, 2018 at 08:49 PM

JG

*Our deepest condolences to John's family and friends. He will be missed in the Rye Beach community.  
Stephen and Jackie Gacek*

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**Jackie Gacek** - February 21, 2018 at 03:10 PM

TC

“ *Tom & Gerry Clifford purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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**Tom & Gerry Clifford** - February 20, 2018 at 04:32 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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February 20, 2018 at 02:05 PM



“ *Rye Water District purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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**Rye Water District** - February 20, 2018 at 01:59 PM



“ *John was a really really good man, always involved, always knowledgeable and curious, always believable. T was a pleasure to have known him and he will truly be missed by all. Garry and Karol Layman*

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**garry layman** - February 20, 2018 at 01:55 PM



“ *Gail, Lisa, Christina, Julie and Families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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**Gail, Lisa, Christina, Julie and Families** - February 20, 2018 at 10:35 AM

BH

“ *Beth Callagy Harrington lit a candle in memory of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD*



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**Beth Callagy Harrington** - February 19, 2018 at 07:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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February 19, 2018 at 03:31 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. John J. Clifford DMD.*



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February 19, 2018 at 03:20 PM