



## John Wesley Bradford

September 5, 1921 - March 29, 2016

John Wesley Bradford of Zanesville, Ohio passed away on Tuesday, March 29 at the Oaks at Northpointe at the age of 94. He was blessed with excellent health in his lifetime.

John was born September 5, 1921 in Washington, Pennsylvania to the late Hice and Mary Babbitt Bradford. He graduated from Washington High School and worked as a mould maker at Hazel Atlas and Brockway Glass. He retired at the age of 62. He and his wife enjoyed traveling after his retirement.

John enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was stationed in Key West, Florida and Cuba where he served as an aircraft mechanic. This past August and September, John was honored to have his Navy photographs, World War II postcard collection, and Bradford family genealogy displayed in a showcase at the local library through the Muskingum County Chapter Ohio Genealogy Society. He was also honored at the Washington Train Station in Washington, Pa. by having his name, branch of service, and dates of service engraved on a brick of the walkway along with his three sons who are also veterans. John was truly a part of the Greatest Generation.

John married Helen Boyko in 1946. He was a dedicated husband and father. His children are honored to have been raised by such a gentle and kind man. They will cherish many happy memories of family get togethers, outings, and vacations. John was a member of St. Nicholas Church. He donated many hand crafted wooden items to the St. Nicholas Christmas Bazaar.

John loved tools. He made a grandfather's clock for himself and his wife as

well as wall clocks for each of his children. In his later years, he kept a collection of tools in his car and under his bed at his assisted living facility. John did his own packing when moving from one facility to another. When helping him unpack at his new facility, his family discovered a big hacksaw in his suitcase. They always wondered if he was planning a breakout! John also loved desserts. In his younger years he would often announce "I'm going to have to put that last piece of cake out of it's misery." In his later years he was observed to eat his dessert before checking out his regular food. Even though John was generally quiet, he had a great sense of dry humor and enjoyed using sarcasm to make people laugh. He was able to crack himself up, not to mention those around him! He kept this up even in his final days.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Helen Boyko, a beloved granddaughter Leslie Ann Bradford, his brother Walter Bradford, and his sister Frances Van Gilder. John developed a special friendship with Colleen Williamson who passed away last August.

He is survived by his children, James (Donna) Bradford of Mooresville, Ind., John (Yvonne) Bradford of Washington, Pa., Kathy (Robert) Fahey of Nashport, and David (Tammy) of Zanesville. John is survived by 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the staff at The Oaks at Northpointe and Genesis Home Hospice for their many acts of kindness towards John.

John's Wisdom for a Long and Happy Life: 1. Spend time with those you love. 2. Make someone laugh. 3. Eat dessert first. 4. Pack your hacksaw. 5. Go to church every Sunday. 6. Don't buy green bananas- John said you can't be sure you'll be around to eat them. 7. In John's words "Take good care of yourself, stay healthy, and be careful."

Friends may call 6-8 PM, Friday, April 1, 2016 at the Hillis, Combs & Nestor Funeral Home, 935 Forest Ave. Zanesville, where a Christian Vigil Service will be held at 7:45 PM. Visitation will also be held 9-10 AM on Saturday at the funeral home prior to the service. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated

at 10:30 AM on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 925 Main St. Zanesville with Father Martin Ralko as celebrant. Burial will follow in the Mount Olive Cemetery where VFW Post 1058 & American Legion #29 will conduct full military honors.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Genesis Morrison House, 713 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, Ohio 43701. To sign the online guestbook or to leave an online condolence please visit [www.hilliscombsnestor.com](http://www.hilliscombsnestor.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Prayer Vigil

APR 1. 7:45 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR 2. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Nicholas Catholic Church  
925 Main St.  
Zanesville, OH

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Wesley Bradford*

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *Prayers and condolences to all. Memories will always be in your heart and and mind forever. Find solace in knowing that he is resting in peace and smiling down upon you.*  
*Michael & Charmaine Ryan*

**Char Ryan** - April 03, 2016 at 04:42 PM



“ *Dear Bradford Family,*

*Condolences and Prayers to you the Family!*  
*Sheryl Scanlon and Jake Scanlon in our hearts forever!*



**Sheryl Scanlon** - April 02, 2016 at 06:53 AM



“ *50 files added to the album Life Tributes*



**Hillis Combs Funeral Home** - April 01, 2016 at 03:09 PM

TB

“ *Jim, sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you. We know that you had high respect and love for your Dad and you will miss him a lot. We are very grateful to have you and Donna as friends and are proud to know that you and your family has served this country well. God Bless you and the rest of your family.*

Terry & Vickie Benton - April 01, 2016 at 12:27 PM

BT

“ *Cousins Jim, John, Kathy and Dave,*

*I remember Uncle John as kind, sweet and a gentleman. A truly good man. Keeping you all in my prayers.  
Cousin Beverly*

Beverly Talerico - April 01, 2016 at 12:06 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. such a beautiful well written obituary. prayers to all. love, keith, debbie and Anthony Groves (and Annie too)*

Debbie Groves - April 01, 2016 at 12:06 PM

TF

“ *The Collins Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Wesley Bradford.*



The Collins Family - April 01, 2016 at 12:06 PM

JB

“ My sympathy to the whole Bradford Family whom I never got to know.  
Sincerely Jean Bradford Bryner daughter of Walter Bradford and sister to Bob Bradford.

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**Jean Bryner** - March 31, 2016 at 09:46 PM

PR

“ Pat and Cheryl Radican purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of John Wesley Bradford.



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**Pat and Cheryl Radican** - March 31, 2016 at 09:32 PM

CU

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of John. May God be with with you during this time of sorrow.

Hazel Crozier (a resident at The Oaks at Northpointe) and her family.



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**Cheryl Untied** - March 31, 2016 at 02:29 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Wesley Bradford.



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March 31, 2016 at 12:32 PM

RF

“ *A life well lived. We thank John for our daughter in law and the wonderful example  
She provided as she cared for the needs of her parents. We also thank John for  
His service to our country. But most of all we thank God for John's life well lived.*

*Robert and Rudene Fahey*

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**Robert & Rudene Fahey** - March 31, 2016 at 11:43 AM

JJ

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**John Wesley Bradford Jr** - March 31, 2016 at 06:53 AM

JJ

“ *Named my son after my Poppy. We will uphold the family name in your honor.*

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**James Bradford II** - March 31, 2016 at 12:59 AM

RV

“ *I will always remember Uncle John as a quiet, sweet, gentleman. I am glad he lived such a full life. Love to all the family.*

*Ruth VanGilder*

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**Ruth VanGilder** - March 30, 2016 at 05:54 PM

JB

“ *The very Best Dad anyone could ever ask for .....I will miss him dearly.....He had a very long and productive life....  
And Yes Dad loved his desserts and one of his favorites was  
Blueberry Pancakes*



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**Jim Bradord** - March 30, 2016 at 05:04 PM