



## John W. Wagner

November 11, 1926 - June 21, 2021

John W. Wagner, 94 of Zanesville, died 6:40 PM, Monday, June 21, 2021, at Primrose Retirement Community. He was born Thursday, November 11, 1926, in Zanesville, the son of Dale O. Wagner and Clotilda "Cloe" (Archer) Wagner. He married Rita M. (Malone) Wagner on Saturday, April 23, 1949, and was a member of St. Nicholas Catholic Church.

John served his country with the United States Navy during both World War II and the Korean Conflict. During World War II, John served aboard the USS Birmingham in the Pacific Theater. He received the Purple Heart for his bravery in the Pacific onboard the Birmingham. John retired in 1989 from Armco Steel as a pipe fitter after 36 years of service and was a member of the K of C Council #505. John enjoyed fishing, hunting and working in the yard. John "lived one day at a time" and "that's a fact!"

John is survived by three children: John W. (Linda) Wagner II of Zanesville; Rosemarie (Chris) Gobeli of Delroy and Melanie (Lin) Avendano of Zanesville; thirteen grandchildren; nineteen great grandchildren; one sister: Joanne Andrews of Zanesville; and one daughter-in-law: Pam Wagner.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his wife: Rita M. (Malone) Wagner who died on Dec. 9, 2006; one son: Timothy D. Wagner; one daughter Genevieve Wells; one great grandchild; three sisters: Rita, Mary

Ellis, and Marguarite Mangin and two brothers James Wagner and Dave Wagner.

Friends may call from 4:00 to 7:00 PM, Sunday, June 27, 2021, at the Hillis, Combs & Nestor Funeral Home, 935 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, where a Christian Vigil will be held at 6:45 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be Celebrated 10:30 AM, Monday, June 28, 2021, at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 945 East Main Street, Zanesville, with Fr. Martin J. Ralko as Celebrant. John will be laid to rest in Mt. Olive Cemetery with the United States Navy, VFW Post 1058 and American Legion Post 29 conducting full military honors. To sign the online register book or to send a personal condolence note please visit [www.hilliscombsnestor.com](http://www.hilliscombsnestor.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olive Cemetery

2057 East Pike  
ZANESVILLE, OH 43701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Prayer Vigil

JUN 27. 6:45 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

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JUN 28. 10:30 AM (ET)

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

## Military Honor Service

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JUN 28. 11:45 AM (ET)

Mt. Olive Cemetery  
2057 East Pike  
ZANESVILLE, OH 43701

# Tribute Wall



“ *John W. Wagner*

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October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *Will always remember talking with Uncle Bill. He lived down the hill from my parents' home. When I was in college, I walked down the hill every weekday during the summer when I was catching a ride at the entrance to his subdivision to go to work. I climbed back up the hill to my parents' home after work. So I saw him a lot for four summers! Such a friendly man! He was so very sweet to his wife, my Aunt Rita. You put up a great picture of him!! I had been writing letters to him for the past few months. He will be missed. So very sorry for your loss.*

*Jane Dutro  
Lancaster, New York*

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**Jane Synan Dutro** - June 30, 2021 at 01:57 PM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,  
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,  
  
May your memories of John W. Wagner, give you peace, comfort and strength...  
  
Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.  
My thoughts  
and prayers to the family of ....  
  
US Navy Veteran, John W Wagner, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†  
  
† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †*

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**Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum** - June 27, 2021 at 04:04 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John W. Wagner.*



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June 26, 2021 at 05:03 PM

PQ

“ *When we were kids visiting Zanesville, we often stayed at the Wagner's house. Uncle Bill was a great man who served his country with pride and courage.*

*I am so sorry for your loss,*

*Pat Quinn  
Kansas City*

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**Patrick Quinn** - June 26, 2021 at 04:58 PM



“ *With Distinction was purchased for the family of John W. Wagner.*



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June 26, 2021 at 01:51 PM

JB

“ *Sorry for your loss, John. I really liked your Dad. I worked with him at Armco and he always had a smile on his face! Mike Blatt*

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**James M Blatt** - June 26, 2021 at 08:05 AM

CC

“ *Bill was a friend of my parents Dave & Bonnie Baker. I always thought he was such a fun and kind man. So sorry for your loss.  
Connie Baker Chappelear*

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**Connie Chappelear** - June 26, 2021 at 06:07 AM

MB

“ Sorry to hear of Wag’s passing. I went through the apprenticeship program to become a pipe fitter at Armco starting in 1981 . I retired as a pipe fitter 2014. No many people have left an impression on me like he did. He taught me a lot.I was just talking about him a couple of days ago. Once ag, sorry for your loss . Mark T.Border

Mark Border - June 25, 2021 at 10:37 PM

AB

“ Rest in heaven Uncle Bill. 🙏 I will always remember your kindness . ❤️



Annette Boykin - June 25, 2021 at 07:54 PM

JS

“ What a wonderful uncle he was!  
He was always kind and thoughtful and warm and friendly!  
Joe synan

joe synan - June 25, 2021 at 06:15 PM