



## John E. Zmarthie

May 30, 2006

John E. Zmarthie, 58 of Camillus died unexpectedly at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in NYC with his family at his side. Born in Auburn he served in the Army during Vietnam and received his Masters in Engineering Management from SU. He was a Licensed Professional Engineer and recently retired as Syracuse Division Engineer of NYS Canal Corp after 38 total years with the state. He was a member of the Camillus Canal Society and received the Excellence in Engineering award from NYS DOT in 1992.

John was a loving, devoted and beloved husband and father who always put the welfare of his family first. He will be fondly remembered for his optimistic and delightful attitude about life.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years Suzanne (Henderson) Zmarthie; a son Evan of Camillus; his parents Elwood and Helen of Auburn; brothers Bernard and Kevin; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 am Monday at St. Joseph's Church, Camillus. There will be no calling hours. Private burial in Onondaga County Veterans Cemetery.

Contributions in lieu of flowers to Camillus Canal Society in c/o funeral home.

Please sign the guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ *riqhhwq*

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**djwruuv djwruuv** - March 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ *I served with John in Vietnam in the Fire Direction Center of A Battery 6/27 Artillery. He was an excellent leader as our Chief in 1969 who exemplified great courage and skill during a very challenging and dangerous period. I will remember him for his exceptional character and unselfishly risking of his life for the safety of others in his charge. I salute you, John, as as a great American and outstanding warrior. Thank you for being my exemplary and inspiring leader.*

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**Thomas Atkins** - July 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ *The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, Auburn Field Office, worked with John on many Canal projects. Our deepest condolences go out to his family and friends at the Canal Corporation.*

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**Sandie Doran** - June 14, 2006 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ *I worked with John for many years and will always miss him. He was a truly nice person who always treated others with respect. He was a very important part of the NYS Canal System. It will not be the same without him.*

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**Nancy Bishop** - June 12, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ I wish to express my deepest sympathies to John's family. As many have said before John was indeed a fair and gentle soul. I had the pleasure of working with John while with the Thruway in the Syracuse Division. His knowledge, desire and willing to teach others about his "craft" has always been and will continue to be an inspiration for years to come. Reast in peace, John. You will be sorely missed.

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**Christopher Anderson** - June 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I had the pleasure of knowing John for only a few years. Yet I felt like I'd known him for 30. He was an instantly likeable person. Every quality you could ask for in a friend. He was a good soul, and the best part is, he always will be.... I'll miss you John. Scott Fleming (Syracuse Division Garage)

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**Scott & Patty Fleming** - June 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Dear Sue, I was so sorry to read of your loss in the Camillus Advocate. Please know my thoughts are with you and the family.  
Esther Chapman

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**Esther Chapman** - June 08, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ I met John when he I first came to work in section 6 in 1995. John wasn't just an engineer, he was a canaller. He will be missed by all. My condolences to his family. God bless.

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**Bernard Ruggeri** - June 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ From the time Canals and the Thruway joined, in the Syracuse area there was always a smile from the Canal side. Patience and professionalism were John. No words can cover the sadness felt by those touched by this caring and very special individual. We all have our stories of those moments with John and we shall carry them with us always. Our hearts go out to his family.

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**Don and Andi Brooks** - June 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ to a man who was fair and just! one who listened to what you had to say who did not prejudge! may you rest in peace as God is now your keeper your work here on earth is done now. but our thoughts and prayers will be with your family always. may God keep them safe and healthy till there time comes

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**wesley wright** - June 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ When John passed away, it was like loosing a family member. I remember fondly the many times John would join us at the Thruway lunch table where we discussed politics, books, movies, and TV shows. John was too modest a person to realize how much he meant to all of us, but thankfully, I think he might have gotten a clue at his retirement party when Richard had all of us go around the room and say something to John. John remarked to me that he was very moved by the cards and encouragement that he received from everyone after he retired. My heart goes out to Suzanne, Evan, his parents, brothers, and the rest of the Zmarthie family. May their many happy memories sustain them.

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**Susan Leonard** - June 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I have been with Canals for 28 years and have known John for much of that span. John promoted me to Floating Plant Supervisor in April of 2004-which I always will be thankful for, to me that meant that John had the confidence in me to do the job-something that I myself was not sure of. Whenever a problem arose, I turned to John for guidance, he always was willing to help without reservation-another quality which I will always be grateful for. My heart felt sympathy goes out to John's wife, son, parents and other family members who will surely miss John.

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**Dan Sidman** - June 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I was John's secretary for the last six years. It was a pleasure working with him. He was the "best boss" anyone could ever have. Not only did he commend you for work well done he noticed when something was done without asking. Over the 11 years I have known him, he became a friend. John was an extremely kind person who listened to everyone with interest. He held his composure no matter what circumstance arose. His knowledge of the Canals will be sorely missed. John really enjoyed his retirement party. He was astonished at how many people went (126). John was the type of person that everyone likes. He has touched the life of thousands of people and he will be remembered fondly by all.

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**Lorraine Svecz** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ John Zmarthie was one of the first "canallers" that I met when I came to work for canals many years ago. From that time on, he was a very helpful, very wise, very dedicated professional, co-worker and friend. He is missed by his co-workers and my deepest condolences go out to his family.

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**Sharon Leighton** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ I have worked with John since 1989. I have many fond memories of him. I always enjoyed visiting with him and his smile. I will miss seeing him around.

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**Sharlene Reynolds** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ John was my Boss and my Friend, a rare combination these days. He will be sorely missed. My condolences to his family and the many friends that he made over the years. Michael R. Cortese Jr.

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**Michael Cortese** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ I am so saddened by John's passing. I worked with him in Syracuse for 10 years and I am thankful for the privilege of having had him in my life. On one of my visits after I retired, John and I talked at length about retiring and I feel that I might have had some sway in his decision. For whatever time that gave him with his family, I am glad he took it. John was a wonderful person and will be sorely missed. My prayers will include him and his family. God Bless.

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**Helene OClair** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ It is with a deep sadness that we received the news of John's passing. Both Ellisa and I considered him to be more than an acquaintance and a co-worker. I worked with John for the past 12 years and found him to be one of the most professional and sincere individuals to be around, always a smile, always asking about family and friends, and always before business. Please accept our deepest sympathy ... the world will not be the same without him. He will be missed, but not forgotten! God bless.

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**Ed & Ellisa Weber** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ John was a delight to be around, with a warm smile and genuine sincere nature that will be missed by many. He always took an extra minute to truly connect when he came to visit in Albany. I am grateful for having known him and sad at his passing. God speed John. God bless and keep your family. Polly

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**Polly Gurnett** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I was very saddened to read of John's passing. I've had the pleasure of working with John over many years while I was with the State DEC and now with Onondaga County - but always about water - be it Onondaga Lake or Oneida Lake. John was wonderful to work with and always kept his smile. He, his smile and his gracious manner will be missed. My sympathies to his family. Sue Miller

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**Susan Miller** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ I am very sorry for the loss John's family and friends surely feel. I worked for Syr. canals for 8 years. John was always courteous and professional with me. I, along with the entire canal family, will miss him very much. Good bye John!

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**Matthew Walsh** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ I was sorry to here of your loss,I was Johns golfing partner for a few years, What a great guy,he will be missed by so many,My prayers are with all the Zmarthie family.May GOD comfort you in this time.

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**Eric Oot** - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

HT

“ I had the pleasure to work with John from my post at Canal Headquarters for several years. John, you will be missed. My condolences to the family. Howard Taylor

Howard Taylor - June 05, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ John was always a gentleman . and professional sorry to hear about his passing.

MILTON TESTA - June 04, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ It was allways a pleasure to work with john gonna miss him

Brian Windey - June 04, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ We offer our condolences to the "Zmarthie Family" at this sorrowful time. Our Thoughts and Prayers are extended to all. John will be missed~!~ I had the priviledge to have "John" on my NYSDOT Team in the 1966-68 time frame on the Newark-Sodus Project. I was impressed with John's ability and interest in Engineering. It has been a few years since, I have seen John .Whenever we spoke or saw each other it was a pleasure to visit with him. GOD BLESS! Elwood ,Helen and Family.

Jerome and Kathleen Kemblowski - June 04, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ Sorry to hear about the passing of John Z. It was always a pleasure to work with John. He will be missed!

Mark Turner - June 04, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I worked for John for approximately six months in the Syracuse Division office of the New York State Canal Corporation. During that time I found him to be a gentle, caring, and understanding person. He was one of the "good guys." He will be missed. My condolences to his family. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

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**Janet Downey** - June 04, 2006 at 12:00 AM