



## John "Jack" Martin Sr.

August 1, 1933 - July 16, 2017

Attorney John J. "Jack" Martin, Sr., 83, of Pittsfield, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family, on Sunday morning, July 16, 2017.

Jack died of congestive heart failure, having fought his battle courageously, never losing his keen wit or incredible sense of humor. His family will be forever grateful for having had the opportunity to say goodbye.

Born in Pittsfield on August 1, 1933 the son of Frederick W. and Julia Hoover Martin, he was a 1951 graduate of St. Joseph Central High School. He went on to earn a Bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts in 1955 and a law degree from Boston University in 1958.

After completing his education, Jack returned to Pittsfield with his wife, "Bobbie", as an associate of the late Silvio O. Conte's firm, until Conte was elected to Congress. In 1986, after practicing for many years as a solo practitioner, his oldest son, John, joined the firm and his youngest son, Bill, joined the practice a few years later. He was thrilled that two of his grandsons, Thomas and Michael, also joined the firm and two more, Daniel and Joseph, are in law school. Throughout Jack's career he served clients with passion, commitment and the utmost loyalty. His counsel and advice was appreciated by each client, who more often than not became a close, loyal and lifetime friend, for which he was most grateful.

While his career was important, nothing meant more to Jack than his wife and family. Jack and Bobbie were childhood sweethearts and were inseparable throughout his entire life. His children were everything to him. He looked

forward to David, the second son of a second son, and his wife taking him and Bobbie to Saratoga each year on his birthday. He spent hours reading to Beth, his favorite daughter, who he called "Bird", when she was young and loved watching her ski as she grew up.

Jack and Bobbie traveled extensively and were able to see many wonderful sites. Early on, they camped as a young family and took road trips to Florida and Myrtle Beach and more recently enjoyed trips with their entire family, including all four children, their spouses and eight grandchildren: Tom, Mike, Danny, Jackie, Jake, Katie, Joe, and Emily. They enjoyed ski trips and trips to Lake George, but the fondest family memories were from the time they spent together at their home on Onota Lake. They raised all of their children on the lake and spent countless hours with them together on the waterfront, enjoying every outdoor activity imaginable.

Jack knew how fortunate he was. He watched all of his children grow, graduate from college, marry, return home and have children of their own. He observed and participated in an uncountable number of his grandchildren's activities and he and Bobbie continued to host regular family get-togethers up to the moment of his passing. There were always children or grandchildren present in their home. His mind was sharp until the end and he continued to have a remarkable memory. He could tell stories and jokes like no other.

Jack was active in numerous professional civil and religious activities, including service as a member of the Executive Committee and Treasurer of the Berkshire County Bar Association, a position he held for many years and enjoyed immensely, particularly relishing the opportunity to present the Association's yearly financial report at the annual Bar Association dinner, where he brought laughter and smiles to all. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys' and Girls' Club, an advocate for the Berkshire County Knights of Columbus and a past Chairman of the Board of Directors of Hillcrest Hospital, overseeing the building and construction of the first major building addition. He was President of the Notre Dame Parish Council, a Trustee of the Silvio O. Conte Scholarship Foundation and a member of the

Berkshire Community College Board of Trustees.

Jack is survived by his wife of 61 years, the former Roberta "Bobbie" Clark, whom he married on September 1, 1956 at St. Mark's Church. He also leaves his four children, John J. Martin, Jr. and his wife Susan, David M. Martin and his wife Anne, William E. Martin and his wife Lisa and Beth Martin Flaherty and her husband Timothy; a brother, James A. Martin and his wife Phyllis; 8 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, Thomas J. Martin (Amanda) and their daughter, Mia, Michael J. Martin (Kathryn), Daniel J. Martin (Nikki Stone), Jacqueline M. Martin, Jacob M. Martin, Catherine A. Martin (Nathan Bovard), Joseph R. Martin and Emily C. Martin. His older brother Frederick W. Martin passed away on August 19, 2014.

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Mr. John J. Martin, Sr. will be Thursday, July 20, 2017, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 11:00AM at St. Mark's Church celebrated by the Rev. David Aufiero, Pastor and co-celebrated by Rev. John Smegal, Pastor of St. Brigid's Church in Amherst, MA. Burial will be at a later date. At Jack's insistence, there will be no formal calling hours, instead the family will host a time for friends to share memories and to come and go as they please at the Dwyer Funeral Home from 4:00PM to 7:00PM on Wednesday. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jack's honor to the Boys' and Girls' Club of the Berkshires, in care of the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North St., Pittsfield MA. DONATIONS CANNOT BE MADE ONLINE, but may be made through the Dwyer Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **19**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home  
776 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 442-5094  
info@dwyerfuneral.com  
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

## Service

JUL **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mark's Church  
400 West St.  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

# Tribute Wall

NM

“ My parents, Philip and Virginia Ahern, rented from Jack in the 70's the former home of Dr. Albert Enland at the corner of Wendell Ave. and Broad St. At that time, Jack had his law office on the first floor and my mother and father had the 2nd and 3rd floor. It was always a pleasure to walk in the front door and be greeted by Jack and his pleasant secretary, Nancy ( if I remember correctly). There was a huge aquarium filled with exotic fish there which my young son, Greg, loved. When Karl Heckler objected to his locating his office in a residential zone, Jack moved his office to North St., I think. Surely, Jack, after his remarkable life is resting in peace and enjoying his eternal reward with his Lord and Savior. It was a pleasure to have known him.

Nancy Ahern McGill

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**Nancy Ahern McGill** - July 22, 2017 at 09:12 PM

SL

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Martin. My childhood was filled with lots of fun and laughter growing up with the Martins. I am blessed to have such great memories. My condolences and prayers to Mrs. Martin and the family. - Susan Lambert

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**Susan Lambert** - July 22, 2017 at 10:28 AM

TI

“ The Gallagher's send their deepest sympathy to you, John, and the rest of your entire family. You're in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless.

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**Tim** - July 20, 2017 at 08:55 AM

AC

“ Andrea Cransonflaherty, Anna & Patrick,Doug & Muriel Cranson purchased the Share the Health for the family of John "Jack" Martin Sr..



Andrea Cransonflaherty, Anna & Patrick,Doug & Muriel Cranson - July 20, 2017 at 12:53 AM



“ 60 files added to the album Life Tributes



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - July 19, 2017 at 01:47 PM



“ Fruit Abounds was purchased for the family of John "Jack" Martin Sr..



July 19, 2017 at 12:35 PM

DW

“ *My family remembers Jack as a wonderful, caring man with a generous heart. I will be forever grateful to him for the way he handled a family issue for us with grace, humor, sensitivity and expertise. My deepest condolences to his family for the loss of such a good man.*

*Debbie and Jim Watroba*



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**Debbie Watroba** - July 19, 2017 at 12:20 PM

MS

“ *To John Jr and Dave,*

*We were saddened to here the news of your Dad's passing. What a tribute you both are to your Dad.*

*Manny and JoAnne Schmaizl*

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**Manny Schmaizl** - July 19, 2017 at 11:08 AM

KB

“ So grateful to Beth in being instrumental for bringing Jack and Bobbie back into our lives after many, many years. Jack and I were roommates at Umass in the 50's; Jack was the manager of the cafeteria at the Butterfield dorm and I was his "gofer". During that time we made trips to Pittsfield where I had the honor of meeting his parents as well as Bobbie who, I believe, was in nurses training. A carful of "us guys" made a hastily planned trip to Miami Beach, Florida (in 1956 I believe) where, on the beach we ran into a high school class from Knoxville, Tennessee on a class trip. In that class I met my future wife, Kay and Jack, as well, made her acquaintance at that time (he approved!). Years later Kay and I made our home in Rockport, MA and Jack and Bobbie tore themselves away from their beloved lake home in Pittsfield to visit us. We met occasionally at UMass football games but in raising our families we unhappily lost touch. UNTIL Beth contacted me through Facebook a couple of years ago and said Jack wanted to contact me--could she get my phone number? She sure could. Jack and I talked by phone several times and we arranged for us to stop by on a trip back from Florida where Kay and I had a wonderful visit with Jack and Bobbie at their home in Pittsfield. We reminisced for hours, spent the night, went out for lunch at a favorite spot of theirs, and had a great boat ride captained by Beth herself who came by to meet us--our first time to meet her. It was obvious why Jack and Bobbie were so proud of her. That visit was just last year, so timely! And, thanks to Beth, Jack and I had one last hug before we left for Rockport.

Thanks again, Beth. Our love and prayers go out to you and your Mom.

Ken Bannon

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Kenneth Bannon - July 19, 2017 at 11:07 AM

MS

“ *To the Martin Family*

*Our thoughts at with you at this time.*

*Manny and JoAnne Schmaizl*

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**Manny Schmaizl** - July 19, 2017 at 11:01 AM

VD

“ *My condolences to John Jr. and family, and to the whole Martin & Oliveira "family." I am on Cape Cod until Saturday, or I would attend the service.--Vivian Dorsel*

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**Vivian Dorsel** - July 19, 2017 at 09:57 AM

LI

“ *I can't thank Jack enough for the 33 wonderful years he gave my sister, Anne. She loved him dearly as I know he loved her.*

*My sincere sympathy to the entire Martin family. Jack was a wonderful, funny, genuine human being.*

*May you all cherish the fantastic memories you have of such a wonderful human being.*

*I am so so sorry,*

*Much love,  
Liz Puntin*

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**Liz** - July 19, 2017 at 07:31 AM

SF

“ sincerely the Dorney family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of John "Jack" Martin Sr..



sincerely the Dorney family - July 18, 2017 at 06:07 PM

LC

“ Our deepest sympathy to you John J. Martin and your entire family.  
Liliana Cohen, Robert Romano and Andrew Romano



Liliana Cohen - July 18, 2017 at 04:52 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of John "Jack" Martin Sr..



July 18, 2017 at 11:20 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Jack" Martin Sr..



July 18, 2017 at 10:47 AM

LG

“ *Linda George lit a candle in memory of John "Jack" Martin Sr.*



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Linda George - July 18, 2017 at 08:06 AM

LG

“ *Our most sincere and heartfelt condolences to You Bobbie and the Family on your loss. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this most difficult time.*

*We remember how special and loving Jack was...Remember the time we had a dinner party here with various friends and at the dinner table Jack pulled his extendable fork out of his pocket and reached over to another guest's plate and removed what He liked=) Always the life of the party and we're so happy to have been a part of his life! We will always remember him with smiles! Love to all of you....Linda&Don George*

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Linda George - July 18, 2017 at 08:01 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of John "Jack" Martin Sr..*



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July 18, 2017 at 07:33 AM

KW

“ John, David, Bill and Beth, I am very sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you and your Mom. May Jack Rest In Peace.

Kathleen Warman - July 17, 2017 at 07:17 PM

LP

“ I have so many great memories of Uncle Jack as I was lucky enough to grow up close to his family. Whether it be camping, spending time by the lake or a family get together at the house, Uncle Jack could always tell a story, or two. I suppose everyone knows the one about the preying mantis? :-) God Bless you Uncle Jack, we'll see you later. ❤️



Laura Perry - July 17, 2017 at 06:33 PM