



John Catlin III

April 25, 1957 - September 1, 2020

John Edward Catlin, III, 63, of 4725 Wards Road, Evington died Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at Centra Lynchburg General Hospital. He was the husband of Cindy Hogan Catlin for ten years.

He was born April 25, 1957 in Bedford, a son of the late Douglas Bond Catlin, Sr. and Evelyn Farmer Catlin. He was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and a member of Solid Rock Baptist Church in Madison Heights. John was a retired law enforcement officer having served on the Altavista Police Department, Lynchburg Sheriff's Department and lastly with the Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Department.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Jennifer Adkins and her husband, Clif of Luray, Tara Hogan Lancaster and her husband, David of Asheboro, NC, and Jessica Hogan of Altavista; two brothers, Mike Catlin and his wife, Dianne of Lynchburg and Doug (Skip) Catlin and his girlfriend, Diann Erskin of Gretna; a sister, Joni Freeze and her husband, Harold of Cleveland, NC; five grandchildren, Noah Adkins, Cate Adkins, Ryland Lancaster, Ruth Joy Lancaster and Isabella Radford.

A memorial service will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, September 5, 2020 at Solid Rock Baptist Church, 110 Church St., Madison Heights by the Rev. Dave Cash.

The family will receive friends from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m., Friday at Finch and Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials consider Friends of Campbell County Animal Control, 1400 Edley Place, Lynchburg, VA 24502.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 4. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Finch and Finch, Altavista
809 Main St.
Altavista, VA 24517

Memorial Service

SEP 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

Solid Rock Baptist Church
110 Church Street
Madison Heights, VA 24572

Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Webcast in memory of John Catlin III*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - September 09, 2020 at 08:45 AM



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of John Catlin III*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - September 04, 2020 at 03:13 PM



John. What can I say. I love all of those Catlins. Friends. Each and every one. John could make us laugh with his stories. He also set up some great pictures. The world will miss him and so will the animal world. How he loved Elmo. He was a good guy. Love each one of you. Losing a sibling is so hard. God will see you through. Cindy I know your life will have a huge empty place. But we have the blessed hope of seeing him again one day.

Alice Worley - September 04, 2020 at 07:21 PM

TS

What a beautiful video and what a great way to show John as he was!! Fun loving, kind, funny and just an all around great person!! My love and prayers to all of his family 💜

Tina Short - September 12, 2020 at 12:11 PM

RO

“ *Spent a lot of time around John in the 80's. Lots for fun memorizes. I jumped (parachuted) with John once. What a time to remember. Rest in peace friend.*

Steve Owen

roger owen - September 10, 2020 at 09:02 AM

JC

“ *Janet Cothran-Gross lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Janet Cothran-Gross - September 08, 2020 at 11:08 AM

JM

“ *Jacquelin Mays lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Jacquelin Mays - September 08, 2020 at 04:53 AM

BD

“ Bobby Doss lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Bobby Doss - September 05, 2020 at 05:04 PM

TC

“ John will be greatly missed. My memories of 823 Clay st. will forever be intertwined with my memories of John.



Tom Childress - September 05, 2020 at 07:02 AM

LI

“ Cindy, Jennifer, Mike, Skip and Joni... I am so sorry for your loss and our loss. I have some wonderful memories of John and the entire Catlin family, and its times like this that those memories mean so much. We lost a giant, but he has some wonderful family and friends waiting for him. Memories will live in our hearts forever.



Linda Gray Manis

linda - September 04, 2020 at 04:37 PM

KM

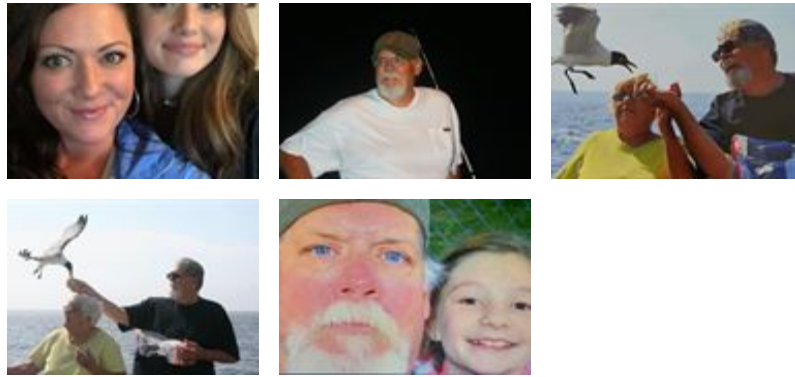
“ Kenneth R Martin lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Kenneth R Martin - September 04, 2020 at 03:53 PM



“ 91 files added to the album Life Tributes



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - September 04, 2020 at 03:12 PM

PR

“ Pam Reynolds lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Pam Reynolds - September 04, 2020 at 02:15 PM

NR

“ *NANCY ROLFE lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



NANCY ROLFE - September 04, 2020 at 01:59 PM

DT

“ *Dennis And Deborah Tweedy lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Dennis And Deborah Tweedy - September 04, 2020 at 06:53 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John Catlin III.*



September 03, 2020 at 10:59 PM



“ Was sad to hear of the passing of “ Big “ John Catlin earlier this evening. I think those of us who worked with John some years back with the Pittsylvania Co Sheriffs office can all admit it was never a dull moment when John was around. I once was joking with him about how big his gun belt was. His reply back was 4 black angus cows lost there lives just to make it lol. Some very fond memories of those days long gone. Seems we are loosing a lot of the “Old Guard “ here lately. Prayers and thoughts for his family.

Allan Blair - September 03, 2020 at 10:30 PM



“ Was sad to hear of the passing of “ Big “ John Catlin earlier this evening. I think those of us who worked with John some years back with the Pittsylvania Co Sheriffs office can all admit it was never a dull moment when John was around. I once was joking with him about how big his gun belt was. His reply back was 4 black angus cows lost there lives just to make it lol. Some very fond memories of those days long gone. Seems we are loosing a lot of the “Old Guard “ here lately. Prayers and thoughts for his family.

Allan Blair, Magistrate, Pittsylvania Co - September 03, 2020 at 10:28 PM



“ Kim Hall lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Kim Hall - September 03, 2020 at 09:58 PM

LP

“ *Lisa Paschall sent a virtual gift in memory of John Catlin III*



Lisa Paschall - September 03, 2020 at 07:24 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Catlin III.*



September 03, 2020 at 04:20 PM

LM

“ *Love, Tammy, Roger, Phillip and Matthew Maner purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of John Catlin III.*



Love, Tammy, Roger, Phillip and Matthew Maner - September 03, 2020 at 03:16 PM

MT

“ *Mike & Kim Towler lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Mike & Kim Towler - September 03, 2020 at 12:07 PM

TS

“ John was a customer many years ago at N&W Store, back then it was Elders. He was always always such bright spot in my life!!! He never failed to make me laugh!! Heaven surely rejoiced when he danced through the gates on TWO healthy legs with his Buddy and Elmo to welcome him home!! Much, big love and many prayers of comfort to his Sweet Tater and his entire family ❤️❤️

Tina Short - September 03, 2020 at 11:04 AM

JL

“ James & Sheila Little lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



James & Sheila Little - September 03, 2020 at 10:46 AM

TD

“ Many prayers hugs and kisses to you Cindy and all of John's family. You are in our thoughts.

Teresa David - September 03, 2020 at 10:15 AM

VC

“ Thoughts and Prayers to the Carlin family. I am so sorry for your loss.

Vicky Creasy - September 03, 2020 at 10:03 AM

PI

“ *Paul VanKerckhove II lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Paul VanKerckhove II - September 03, 2020 at 08:35 AM

AP

“ *Anita Phillips lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Anita Phillips - September 03, 2020 at 08:29 AM

HG

“ *I did not know John very long, a couple of years. We both were ex law enforcement. I felt as though I had known him my whole life. I will miss our conversations about current events.*

Herbert Gerhart - September 03, 2020 at 08:19 AM

JB

“ *Jerry Barnard lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Jerry Barnard - September 03, 2020 at 04:20 AM

KF

“ Prayers and condolences to all of the Catlin family..Huge loss for our Community..
~Kevin Taylor Family



Kevin Taylor Family - September 03, 2020 at 01:51 AM

RG

“ I looked forward every day to seeing what John had happened in his daily life. There was one thing that never changed, him boasting on what a great wife Cindy was to him. He knew he was blessed to have her in his life. John always took on every challenge that was thrown at him. He made me think that there were people in this world that is fighting just as hard or harder than I am. But Big John, I was Honored to be able to call you a friend. You are in Heaven now with your loved ones, and some day soon, we will see you again. To John's friends, always remember, John is looking down on us and telling us to do like he would do. May God comfort his family and all his loved ones. R.I.P. Big John.



Ray Guill - September 02, 2020 at 10:46 PM

Brenda Gardner

“ Brenda Gardner lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Brenda Gardner - September 02, 2020 at 10:44 PM

GE

“ I only knew John thru FB but I looked forward everyday to reading his comments. He was the kind of man we all should aspire to be. He met everyday with courage and wit and a love for his fellow man. I was in awe of his talents and am praying for his family. John was one of a kind, a man for the ages, he will be missed, but not forgotten, as long as two of his friends retell their life experiences with this amazing man.

Glenn Evans - September 02, 2020 at 10:27 PM

RR

“ Cindy I am so was and shocked to hear about John I'm sure Eddie was waiting for him and I know he is checking out heaven. He brought so much joy and happiness to everyone that had the privilege to know him. I will forever cherish my wine glasses he made Eddie and I. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Love ya

Rhonda Reynolds

Rhonda Reynolds - September 02, 2020 at 10:00 PM

MS

“ Mark Carla Slusher lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Mark Carla Slusher - September 02, 2020 at 09:25 PM

JW

“ Justin Williams lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Justin Williams - September 02, 2020 at 08:53 PM

HM

“ To Cindy and the Catlin family, Sorry to hear about the passing of John. He was a really good guy and friend. I got to know John during my time on the Altavista Lifesaving Crew and always enjoyed talking with him. He's gonna be missed by all who's hearts he has touched. Please! Know that the family are in my prayers. R.I.H my friend until we meet again.



Howard Martin Richmond, VA (firmly Gretna)

Howard Martin - September 02, 2020 at 08:47 PM

“Emma and I were saddened to hear of John's passing although we are comforted that he is no longer suffering. I worked with John while he was with Pittsylvania County, and enjoyed travelling around the state with him on prisoner transports. I think John knew the location of every antique shop and Cracker Barrel restaurant in the state. And the story-telling he could do was amazing. You would wonder about the truthfulness of some of them if told by anyone except John, but knowing him I don't believe there was too much exaggeration involved. John could definitely find trouble effortlessly, I remember one night he returned to the office with a dead turkey stuck under his light bar on top of the car. He told of a shoot-out he was involved in in Altavista I believe, and in his words "by the grace of God" he was near the only tree in the whole that was "big enough to hide" all of him. He was cleared in that incident but the State Police investigator admonished him to use only regulation ammunition in his revolver in the future, seems they found wad-cutters and snake shot among the mix of ammo in his revolver. And the dune buggy, he really loved that thing, drove it to work, weather permitting, in uniform. Once as Emma and I were pulling into Hwy 29 from our home in Gretna John rode by on it and Emma said she wanted to ride in it, so there was nothing to do but chase him down and get him stopped. He said, "sure sugar hop in" and down 29 they went. Unbeknownst to us at the time, they passed the gas station where Emma's sister was fueling up, and boy the lecture she got later for ruining the family name, riding in that thing with a man other than her husband. We laughed and laughed. And I could go on and on about the good times and our friendship with John, but the best memory I'll always cherish was a visit with him at his home in Hurt one time, where he told us that he had accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. All the memories would be truly very sad by themselves if we were saying a final goodbye to John, but that's not the case, so Cindy and all the family, we want you to know that we love John and we will surely miss him, but we are already looking forward to seeing him again, but next time he'll be in perfect health with no aches, pains, hospitals, needles, missing limbs or anything, he'll have an absolutely perfect body. So we just want you all to

*know that we love him and you as well, and we pray you will find the comfort and peace that only God can give, and memories, I think we've all got enough great to last a lifetime. God bless you all,
Roger and Emma Walden*

Roger Walden - September 02, 2020 at 08:27 PM

DD

“ *Dear Catlin Family. I am sorry to hear about the passing of John. He was always a great guy and law enforcement officer. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. John, May You Rest In Peace.*

Dennis DeLappe - September 02, 2020 at 08:06 PM

AK

“ *Thoughts and Prayers for Cindy and all the family and friends.*

Alice Krantz Keesee



Alice k Keesee - September 02, 2020 at 07:50 PM

RW

“ Emma and I were saddened to hear of John's passing but are comforted by the realization that his suffering has ended. I worked with John with Pittsylvania County until his health forced him to retire. I always enjoyed taking long transports with John, seems he had favorite spots all over the state to eat a good lunch, shop for neat stuff, etc. He was a great story-teller. He told once of an incident in Altavista I think, where he got into a shoot-out with a guy, he told that when the shooting started that " by the grace of God" he was standing next to the only tree in town that was "big enough to get all of him behind". He was cleared in the incident but said the State Police investigator admonished him to use only regulation ammo in his revolver in the future, seems they found wad-cutters and snake shot among the mix in his revolver. Also heard of a time he got stopped by a fellow officer, for in the spur of the moment he decided to turn highway cones intended to close one lane, into a serpentine course. Most memorable is when Emma and I were pulling into Hwy 29 from our home in Gretna, John passed on his sexy dune buggy. Emma said, "I want to ride that" so nothing to do but chase him down and get him stopped. Emma hopped in and John gave her a ride straight into Chatham, where unbeknownst to us her sister was getting gas across from Old Dutch on North Main Street. Boy she caught it good when her sister got a hold of her, said she had ruined the family name riding that thing with a man who wasn't her husband. We had many laughs over that one. But most importantly, I remember one day we were visiting John at his Hurt home where he told us he had accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. Without that testimony all other memories would be sort of sad. So we want Cindy and all the family to know we loved John like a brother and we love you very much also, and we pray you will find comfort and peace during this time, we all truly have enough good, hearty, funny memories to last a lifetime. God bless you, Roger and Emma Walden

Roger Walden - September 02, 2020 at 07:48 PM

JC

“ Thinking of Cindy and the family at this sad time for them. John is free of suffering now and at peace. His humor and laughter will be memories forever.

Jane Chapman - September 02, 2020 at 07:26 PM

GF

“ Glenna L Floeck lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Glenna L Floeck - September 02, 2020 at 07:23 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Catlin III.

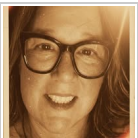


September 02, 2020 at 07:17 PM

MC

“ John was a good guy loved reading his stories prayers for Cindy and family rip

Michael cox - September 02, 2020 at 07:06 PM



“ I have known John since i was 15 years old, John loved to laugh and joke around but he didn't joke around when it came to loving his family. Prayers for the family

Heidi Scott - September 02, 2020 at 07:06 PM

BA

“ *Sorry for your loss*



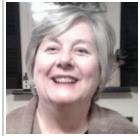
Boyd Arnold - September 02, 2020 at 07:06 PM

GW

“ *Sorry for your loss. Prayers*



Gwenda Willard - September 02, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ *Vickie Cocke lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Vickie Cocke - September 02, 2020 at 06:23 PM

CN

“ *Thoughts and Prayers*



Chuck Newman - September 02, 2020 at 06:15 PM

LC

“ Cindy I’m so sorry. You and your family are in my prayers 🙏❤️🙏❤️🙏❤️



Lynn Crouch - September 02, 2020 at 06:10 PM

YB

“ It was an honor to work with John at the Lynchburg Sheriff’s Office. His stories were always hysterical and kept me laughing until I had tears running down my face. Only person I ever knew who brought his lunch in a rolling cooler. Peace be with you John. You will be sorely missed.

Yvonne Beverly - September 02, 2020 at 06:08 PM



“ Ralph Woods lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Ralph Woods - September 02, 2020 at 06:08 PM

MF

“ Margie Freeman lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III



Margie Freeman - September 02, 2020 at 05:41 PM

TK

“ John was an amazing man. Always had a story to tell ya



Tiffany Boley Kirby - September 02, 2020 at 05:26 PM

BW

“ John was my friend and for a time my brother in law. In the years that we were the closest i never had a bad day when we were together doing anything or nothing. I have many memories of him and some of the most fun ever in my life were the couple of years we repossessed cars. I can't begin to describe John in just a few short lines, he was larger than life to me. I loved the man. He would make me laugh when i thought all my laughter was gone. He was able with his quick wit and silver tongue to paint a beautiful picture when in fact i was convinced otherwise. John could lift your spirits and in general lift your heart when you may have been heartbroken. There will never be another one like him. God broke the mold when he finished building John. My heart is truly broken and his bright light is gone from us now. Hallelujah to our Lord, John is home today, brand new, renewing old friendships, seeing loved ones again, what a reunion the old boy is having. Most important of all, he has seen Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. I will miss you John, and never forget the times we had together. Keep looking for me and we will meet again somewhere in Heaven. May our heavenly Father comfort his wife, and family in the coming days ahead.

Barry Williams - September 02, 2020 at 05:23 PM

TB

“ *John's daily writing's were always a treat to read. His sense of humor, mixed with buckets of love he shared for Cindy and animals will be missed . Grateful to have known him. God speed Big John...*



Tobie Church Bentz - September 02, 2020 at 05:07 PM



“ *Cindy,
So sorry to hear about John's death. I am praying that God will give you and your family strength and mercy.
Love
Laurie Myles Bystrom*

Laurie Bystrom - September 02, 2020 at 05:05 PM

CA

“ *My Thoughts an Prayers are with the family*



CarolRowland - September 02, 2020 at 05:01 PM

SE

So so sorry for your loss I really enjoyed all of his posts on Facebook especially his little dog so sorry Cindy prayers for all

sharon East - September 02, 2020 at 06:15 PM

CS

“ *Cindy Stewart lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



cindy stewart - September 02, 2020 at 04:51 PM

JM

“ *Jimmy Marr lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Jimmy Marr - September 02, 2020 at 04:43 PM

BW

“ *Barry Williams lit a candle in memory of John Catlin III*



Barry Williams - September 02, 2020 at 04:40 PM