



## John C. Hardie

December 4, 1933 - July 21, 2024

A Funeral Service will be at 11:00 a.m. Friday, July 26, 2024, at the Wenner Funeral Home in Richmond, MN for John C. Hardie, age 90, of Cold Spring, who died Sunday at Assumption Senior Care. The visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m. Friday at the funeral home. Inurnment will be in the St. Boniface Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 30, 2024.

John was born on December 4, 1933, in St. Paul, MN to Raymond and Madalynn (Olson) Hardie. John served in the US Navy Reserves in high school and then on the Radar Ship out of Norfolk, VA. He was on active duty from 1952-1956 with his twin brother, Jim, where they saw the world together. After the Navy he was an industrial worker for St. John's Hospital in St. Paul for many years in the custodial maintenance department. John went on to work as a Camp Ranger for the Boy Scouts of America in the Bluewater Council at Silver Trails Camp until his retirement in 1996. John married Kathleen Decker on June 21, 1996, and they moved to Cold Spring, MN.

John was always willing to share camp stories and loved leading Scouts in a song! John enjoyed his Wednesday morning coffee at the camp with adults who volunteered to keep the camp in shape. He is well known for making trails for squirrels. John always looked to how he could make the camp experience more enjoyable for scouts and families.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; son, Mike (Susan) Hardie; daughter, Carla (Steven) Petrossi; grandchildren, Jordan, Austin, and Logan Tuttle and Alaina, Sean, and Miranda Hardie; many nieces, nephews and special cousin, Valarie Anderson.

He is preceded in death by his first wife, Gloria, his parents, and twin brother, Jim.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Boniface Parish Cemetery

Cold Spring, MN 56320

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 26. 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

Wenner Funeral Home - Richmond  
151 Oakwood Ave. SE  
Richmond, MN 56368

## Funeral Services

JUL 26. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wenner Funeral Home - Richmond  
151 Oakwood Ave. SE  
Richmond, MN 56368

## Inurnment

JUL 30. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Boniface Parish Cemetery  
Cold Spring, MN 56320

# Tribute Wall

WC

“Ranger John was the dedicated caretaker, jolly host, private counselor, spirited entertainer, and reverent master of ceremonies at our little Blue Water Council paradise of Silver Trails Scout Reservation for about 30 years. I first got to know John in 1978 while working as a nature director on summer camp staff. John always made time for us scouts no matter how busy he was. I will never forget that he always took me seriously; an idealistic young staffer who one summer, asked him to stop mowing the north end of the parade field so that the Bobolinks could nest in the long grass and fledge their young. John stopped mowing the area for several years from that summer. He trusted me with a key to the old red camp truck, a key to the fuel shed, and assigned me to paint new hazard signs, all when I was only 15. One winter, I volunteered to clean and rearrange the quonset hut which had become a cluttered mess. Working on the hut one cold weekend, I made a wood stove from a steel barrel and stuck the stove pipe out a window. John walked in and was shocked that the hut was so warm. I thought I might be in trouble for the fire hazard, but instead, he said, "Yoda!" (my famous nickname), laughed and shook his head in amazement. and complimented me on my ingenuity. Few have upheld the Scout Laws of Kindness and Cheerfulness as Ranger John Hardie did. We all remember well John singing "If You're Happy and You Know It" and "Kumbaya" down at the council ring during family night, of course after he fogged the lower camp for mosquitoes with who knows what. We all have such fond memories, were so priveledged to be a part of the Blue Water Council, Silver Trails, and to have had such great people in our midst like John Hardie.



William Collins - July 26, 2024 at 08:01 PM

JH

“ So many fond memories of spending time with John at Silver Trails. Such a genuine soul and good spirited person. Witnessing young scouts smile ear to ear when he led songs in the Dining Hall and at the Family Campfire! My condolences to his family and friends

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**Jon Hardman** - July 24, 2024 at 09:55 PM

DK

“ Sending you my sympathy in your loss of John! Will keep you in my thoughts and prayers! He was such a kind person who I got to know through waiting on him at the Bakery! He will be missed! Donna Knaus

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**Donna Knaus** - July 24, 2024 at 09:38 PM

SD

“ I worked with John for years at Silver Trails as a Scouter and as Properties Chair..... I wrote bi-monthly articles in our Council publication, “The Bridge”..... here is an article I wrote years ago that captures my feeling about John... I count him a great friend and tremendous example of the Scouting Spirit!

*Ranger Hardie April 1996*

*High Water! This is the inevitable sequel to the spring break up. Stopping at a*

*few local streams to judge the flows ranks highly among the first rights of spring, and what a grand rite it is!*

*Exiting my truck at a key location on the Mill Creek, I was compelled to stop, and listen. The creek, running full and wide, was talking to me – the rush of the water itself; the responsive voice of the shore side brush; as well as other sounds,, the origins of which could not be discerned. In her many voices, the creek spoke of her powerful, yet delicate nature.*

*Then came the smells; those wonderful scents that seem synonymous with the spring thaw. This is the breath of the earth as the soil and vegetation revive for yet another season. Even the water contributes to the aroma as it is aerated by its wild flow! Approaching the bank, the mud swallowed my boots again and again, until finally I found that spot in which I’ve stood so many times. Here, the view of the creek is perfect as it winds past, boiling and churning. It is from this spot that a large boulder is visible, on which I gauge the water’s depth.*

*After so many years of looking to that boulder as a gauge, I was shocked to find it missing. That monolith, which certainly had been there since before the first canoe, and had found its way into my life as a river gauge, is now probably gracing the entrance to someone’s driveway!*

*Finally, after the shock of noting its absence, I as able to see that other stones, gravel, and smaller boulders were formed into an imprint of the larger boulder. Though it was no longer there, its impression was left behind – allowing me to make the necessary*

*judgements – correctly – in its absence.*

*So it will be, Ranger Hardie, when you are gone from our camp. You have stood for the most basic principles of scouting in your thirty years, and have left an impression which will outlive you. As the youth of Blue Water Council come to the scouting experience, the mold you have left will help to form them.*

*Thank you Ranger Hardie, for your personal investment in our future.*

*Steve Down 4/96*

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**Steve Down** - July 24, 2024 at 07:40 PM



“ *Red, White & Blue Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of John C. Hardie.*



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July 24, 2024 at 12:45 PM



“ *Remember John leading songs on family night. John had such a spirit for scouting. Steven morrish*

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**Steven morrish** - July 24, 2024 at 12:43 AM



“ *John & Gloria were our neighbors on Jeddo Road when my children were growing up. Terry & Louis were both Boy Scouts & my daughter Christine was Carla's friend. They were wonderful neighbors & the community of Jeddo has many fond memories.*  
*Ruth Hartman*

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**Ruth Hartman** - July 23, 2024 at 07:33 PM

JD

“ *My condolences to the Hardie family. It's sad knowing that indomitable spirit is no longer with us.*

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**JOHN DREW** - July 23, 2024 at 05:13 PM

RR

“ *Kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya  
Kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya  
Kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's singing Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's singing Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's singing Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbayah  
Someone's crying Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's crying Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's crying Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's praying Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's praying Lord, kumbaya  
Someone's praying Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
Oh Lord, kumbaya  
THIS WAS HIS SONG, at end of camp , by the fire , he was a wonderful man , nothing but great memories,  
John rest in peace, prayers an hugs to his family an friends. God bless you*

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**Ronald Rappaport** - July 23, 2024 at 04:36 PM

KK

“ Oh how the name of John Hardy brought back so many memories of a time long ago when I was a boy and a cub scout. I remember him as a kind man and full of energy with a passion for scouting and being the head scout master at Silver Trails in Jeddo, Michigan. I still live in Jeddo within a couple miles of the former Silver Trails campground location. My condolences and prayers to Mr Hardy's family.

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**Kenneth Keener** - July 22, 2024 at 10:33 PM

YG

“ Your Children & Grandchildren purchased the Heartfelt Sympathies Blue & White Funeral Standing Basket for the family of John C. Hardie.



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**Your Children & Grandchildren** - July 22, 2024 at 08:35 PM

JP

“ Being a long time friend of his son, I was fortunate to get to know John. He was a very devoted and passionate person. It showed in his every day life and his many stories. He will be missed.

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**John Packard** - July 22, 2024 at 07:12 PM