



## John "Jack" Detweiler

February 5, 1928 - May 7, 2013

John "Jack" Henry Detweiler passed away Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at his home in Fort Collins, Colorado. Jack was born February 5, 1928 to Joseph and Margaret (Lawler) Detweiler, in Bound Brook, NJ, the oldest of 2 children. He graduated from Bound Brook High School in 1946. He attended Seton Hall University and graduated from New York City Community College in 1954 with a degree in construction technology.

Jack served in the Army during the Korean War, 179th Field Artillery, 45th Division. After his tour of duty in Korea, he met his bride, Mary J. Kennedy, and they married in 1960 in Somerville, NJ.

In 1963 Jack began his 25-year career as a cost engineer at Bowen Engineering. He enjoyed outdoor activities including hunting, canoeing, hiking and camping. He was a member of the congregation at Blessed John the XXIII Catholic Church and was active in the Catholic Mission in Fort Collins.

Jack is survived by his wife, Mary; daughter, Judy (Rick) Russell; daughter Patricia Kennedy; daughter Maureen (Mike) Dower; grandchildren Taylor and Gage Dower; niece Lynda Kennedy Cohen, and several cousins. Jack was preceded in death by his parents, brother Robert, and son John "Arthur" Detweiler.

Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 AM Monday, May 13th at Blessed John XXIII University Parish, 1220 University Ave., Ft. Collins, CO; Fr. Don Willett officiating. The family will greet friends at a reception following the Mass. A private internment will be at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver CO. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Sister Mary Alice Murphy Center For Hope ([murphycenterforhope.com](http://murphycenterforhope.com) ) or Larimer County Food Bank ([foodbanklarimer.org](http://foodbanklarimer.org) ). An Irish Wake, a joyous celebration of Jack's life, will be held at the home of his daughter Maureen in Berthoud, CO on Sunday, May 19th from 4-8 pm. Bring your best "Jack" jokes!

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

MAY 13. 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

St. John XXIII  
1220 University Avenue  
Fort Collins, CO 80521  
<http://www.john23.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *John "Jack" Detweiler*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *As Jack's oldest daughter I had a unique understanding of my Dad. With a twinkle in his eye and a wide grin across his face Dad often provided adventure and new experiences that were unique and bold compared to our friends' dads. He educated me my brother and sisters in a wide variety of skills that went beyond the traditional - some of the most memorable include how to deal with wild animals (including snake handling), shoot a pistol and a bow & arrow, repairing a car, one-on-one wrestling moves, the importance of paying attention to the weather and environment, tracking hurricanes and storms, building a campfire, how to tell a joke, how not to get lost in the wilderness (north/south/east/west rah rah rah) - and if lost the skills needed to stay alive until found. He cursed mosquitos, the '40 degrees and rain' weather of New Jersey, traffic and general stupidity. He talked about his adventures scaling volcanoes in Japan, kissing the Blarney stone, the food and languages and customs of Ireland, Japan, Korea, & Germany. He loved to fly - he could never get enough flying. There are so many memories the page isn't big enough for them all. He knew a little about everything and he could really tell a good story - which made him so interesting. My Dad was a man of character and humor and the most entertaining man I knew. I will miss him deeply.*

*Judy*

**Judy Detweiler Russell** - May 19, 2013 at 07:55 PM

“Many of you do not know me. I am Jack’s niece from Long Island. My father was Mary’s younger brother, Joe Kennedy. Although throughout most of my childhood the Detweiler family lived in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, we still spent the holidays with them and would see them periodically throughout the years.

My fondest memory of Uncle Jack was that he was always fun to be around. Whether it was him playing and singing songs on my living room couch or always having a funny story or a joke to tell. This is how many of us remember Uncle Jack. One time both of our families were enjoying a scenic vista in Pennsylvania. No one knew where Uncle Jack had gone. The next thing we see are two hands gripping the edge of the stone landing. Nutty Uncle Jack scaled the rock wall and surprised us all! A very typical “Uncle Jack-like” prank! These would be my most vivid memories of him as I did not see him often as an adult. My memories are those of a child enjoying her fun loving uncle on his family’s visits.

Unfortunately, I did not know him that well as an adult. However, although both of my parents passed away many years ago, I still remember their deeper understanding and appreciation of my Uncle. They spoke lovingly of him as I grew old enough to understand. My father always said that he brought out the best in his sister. My parents also greatly respected choices that he made when his family was young. These choices brought him closer to his wife and children.

I was told that he was a patient and kind son-in-law as my Grandfather was a force to be reckoned with. My father always said, “Thank God, Joyce (as he referred to his sister who we all know as Mary) has Jack to support her when she is dealing with Pop!” He was her support during the time she was taking care of my aging and stubborn grandfather.

To me, my Uncle Jack and Aunt Mary always came as a package. Their house, filled with four children and as many cats, was full of activity. To an only child, this was paradise! Age wise, I fit in right between Tricia and Mo. It was always a treat to be with the Detweilers as their house couldn’t have been more different than mine.

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*As I reflect back now, as both an adult and a parent, I am so impressed at my aunt and uncle's ability to let each of their children be themselves and choose their own path. This is no easy feat, as any parent can tell you. As a result each of my cousins are very special and totally unique.*

*Many of you know that my aunt and uncle suffered a loss that no parent should have to face, the death of a child. When my cousin John (Known as Arthur to many of you.) passed away, I was worried about, my then aging, aunt and uncle. True to form, they handled it with grace and strength. Their faith and personal grit are what got them through this difficult time.*

*Their faith and grace benefitted all of us who knew my Uncle Jack and continue to love my Aunt Mary. When my mother was gravely ill in ICU. I was sitting alone, as my father had passed away many years before, keeping vigil at my mother's bedside. Who comes in to join me? ...my aunt and uncle from so far away! This is the kind of compassion that they have for others and I will always be grateful to them for that.*

*As we continue to carry on with our lives, I hope that all of you will try to keep a little of Uncle Jack in the back of your minds and deep in your hearts as I have, and always will.*

*With deepest love and respect...Lynda Kennedy-Cohen*

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**Lynda Kennedy-Cohen** - May 12, 2013 at 08:47 PM

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Unfortunately, I did not know him that well as an adult. However, although both of my parents passed away many years ago, I still remember their deeper understanding and appreciation of my Uncle. They spoke lovingly of him as I grew old enough to understand. My father always said that he brought out the best in his sister. My parents also greatly respected choices that he made when his family was young. These choices brought him closer to his wife and children.

I was told that he was a patient and kind son-in-law as my Grandfather was a force to be reckoned with. My father always said, “Thank God, Joyce (as he referred to his sister who we all know as Mary) has Jack to support her when she is dealing with Pop!” He was her support during the time she was taking care of my aging and stubborn grandfather.

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*With deepest love and respect...Lynda Kennedy-Cohen*

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**Lynda Kennedy-Cohen** - May 12, 2013 at 08:38 PM

RM

“ I can only second everything my brother John said about "Uncle Jack" . I have fond memories of our visits to their house in Somerville, NJ. He seemed to really enjoy being with all of us children.

Mike said there is one charity missing from the donation list... the I. R. A.!

We will be thinking of all of you at this time of loss.

Mike and Rosemary McGarrah

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Rosemary McGarrah - May 12, 2013 at 08:16 PM

JD

“ "Uncle" Jack-- what I remember most is the laughter when our families would get together. I can still hear him playing the guitar and singing " Johnson's motor car". Teaching us how to shoot and gun safety (stand behind the shooter!). May he rest in peace and I hope he and my Mom (Aggie) don't make too much noise up there!!!  
Love to the Detweiler family,  
John and Betsy Demeyer

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john demeyer - May 10, 2013 at 03:03 PM