



John L Rineer

January 20, 2025

John L. Rineer, 69, of Lancaster entered eternal rest on Monday, January 20, 2025, at his home with his loving wife Noreen (Ebersole) by his side. He was born in Lancaster, the son of the late Francis D. Sr. and Kathleen C. (King) Rineer. He was a parishioner of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Lancaster.

John attended Millersville College where he earned a bachelor's in history. He went on to earn his master's in library science at Clarion College. His extensive knowledge of the Civil War and WWII earned him his name in a documentary film about the Civil War as an expert on the subject.

He enjoyed hunting, working outside, gardening, and was an avid reader. College football was his favorite sport, and you could always find him cheering for his teams, Notre Dame and the Philadelphia Eagles. John loved spending months on their Island in Franklin County.

In addition to his wife, John is survived by eleven siblings: Francis D. Rineer, Jr. (Betty), Annette L. Rineer-Tighe, Edna B. Purcell, Margaret M. Harlan (William), Thomas J. Rineer (Sandi), Kathleen T. Hernandez, Paul J. Rineer, David A. Rineer (Tracey), Josephine E. Zeigler (Raymond), Bridget A. Rineer (Patricia Heffner), Joseph W. Rineer (Denise); brother-in-law, Alan C. Ebersole (Barbara); numerous nieces and nephews; and his fur baby kitty, Sweetie Pie. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister,

Mary Alice Rineer, baby brother, Patrick Joseph, and brothers-in-law, Jack Tighe, Richard Purcell, and Samuel Hernandez.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend John's Graveside Service at Conestoga Memorial Park, 95 Second Lock Road, Lancaster, PA on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. with Fr. Brian Olkowski officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in John's memory to Hospice & Community Care, 685 Good Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601, or the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 7023, Merrifield, VA 22116-7023, or American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704 Hagerstown, MD 21741.

Previous Events

Graveside

JAN **29**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Conestoga Memorial Park
95 2nd Lock Rd
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall

EP

“ Our mother was pregnant with John when our little brother, Patrick died on October 9, 1954. In the Catholic calendar, October 9 is the Feast Day of Saint John Leonard. In remembrance of this day, our mother named John after Saint John Leonard.
Mom and I always called him Leonard and I loved him very much. I will miss him every day.
Big sister, Edna Purcell.

Edna Purcell - January 27, 2025 at 05:02 PM

LH

“ I got to know and appreciate John and Noreen during my time on staff at Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster. We would cross paths as I was coming and going since John was often outside working - he always maintained his properties so well!

We had some really good conversations over the years that I'll always remember. He shared good memories of growing up on West Oranges Street - riding bikes with his siblings and friends. (This was one reason the church asked the artist to include people riding bikes in their mural near the parking lot.) In my experience, John was a good-hearted man who sought to learn and grow and live well - and I will always respect him for that.

Sending prayers for comfort and peace for Noreen and the whole family.

Pastor Leslie Homer-Cattell

Leslie Homer-Cattell - January 27, 2025 at 11:49 AM

JS

“ For those that knew John as a Historian, the man was also very good in working on the Road Crews of McMinn's, working with his Brother's, Sister and nephews. He was a true asset. May he rest in Peace!

Jeff sweigart - January 27, 2025 at 05:55 AM

FF

“ From Jeff Sweigart and the McMinn family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John L Rineer.

From Jeff Sweigart and the McMinn family - January 27, 2025 at 05:49 AM

FF

“ From Jeff Sweigart and the McMinn family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John L Rineer.



From Jeff Sweigart and the McMinn family - January 27, 2025 at 05:49 AM

CK

“ Noreen and family I am so sorry for your loss. Many prayers.

Carole Kirchner

Carole Kirchner - January 26, 2025 at 08:11 PM

BR

“ My brother John was a great guy! He was kind and had a fun sense of humor. We shared a lot of laughs. I will miss him. He always called me Bridgie and I loved that. ❤️

Bridget Rineer - January 23, 2025 at 09:31 AM

DR

*Ms bloogie, tons of fun as an older brother,taught me so much!!!
Hell be missed!*

David Rineer - January 23, 2025 at 06:57 PM

BR

Our condolences - Debbie & Bob Rineer Portland, OR.

Bob Rineer - January 26, 2025 at 10:43 AM

BS

I was a classmate of John's at St. Mary's Catholic school and was on the CYO basketball team with him. May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

Bruno S. Schmalhofer - January 26, 2025 at 12:22 PM

SR

It's been more than a few years since I last saw John and Noreen, a consequence of our aging. I didn't know John was a WWII and Civil War historian, I guess the topic never came up, or, more likely, John was too humble to announce his expertise. I remember John telling me that one of his siblings always called him "John Leonard", so if anyone is curious what the "L" is, now you know. My sincerest condolences to Noreen and all of my cousins from the West Orange Street Rineer clan.

Stephen Rineer - January 26, 2025 at 02:49 PM