



John Bentley

October 27, 1929 - April 30, 2013

John Martin Bentley, 83, passed away on Tuesday, April 30, at his home on Clear Lake in Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin. He was born on October 27, 1929, to Ben and Mildred Bentley in Greenville, Pennsylvania. John grew up in western Pennsylvania where he attended Perry Township grade school and Hadley High School. He attended Thiel College and Penn State University and in 1951 received his B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. He served in the Army Reserves Signal Corp from 1950-56. In 1956 he married Joan "Jo" Baer. John and Jo were happily married for 57 years. They lived in Pittsburgh PA, Buffalo NY, Cedarburg WI, and finally in Manitowish Waters WI. John had an illustrious career as a prominent electrical engineer in the field of control and drive systems for the paper industry worldwide. Over the course of 45 years, John was employed by Westinghouse, Allen-Bradley/Stromberg, and ABB. He was an author and instructor in his areas of expertise for many years. John was appointed the status of "Fellow" in two technical associations, TAPPI and IEEE. These prestigious honors are just two of the many awards and acknowledgements John received in his prominent career. After retiring in 1996, John continued to do part-time consulting and enjoyed attending annual technical conferences. John was an active member of Church of the Pines United Methodist Church in Minocqua, WI, where he served as Chairperson of the Mission Committee for many years. John's faith guided him since he was a young boy, and he was always very committed as a servant of Jesus Christ in his church and in his home. One of John's

passions in the years after retiring "up north" was his work with the Manitowish Water's Lion's Club. He served as Secretary of this organization for over ten years. In 2010, John was bestowed with the club's highest honor, the Bud Hyland Award for excellence in club achievement. John also received the Birch-Sturm Fellowship award from the Wisconsin Lion's Foundation and from the Lion's Club International Foundation he received the Melvin Jones Fellowship award. John's servant attitude guided him in his work with the Lions organization and in every area of his life. John is survived by his spouse Jo Bentley of Manitowish Waters, his brother Richard (Beverly) Bentley of Birmingham, AL; his son Eric (Sally) of Edwardsville, IL; his daughter Amy (Richard) Manns, of Waukesha, WI; his grandchildren Allyson & Benjamin Manns, Minka & John Bentley; and many nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held at the Church of the Pines United Methodist Church, 415 Chippewa St. in Minocqua on Saturday, May 25, at 11:00 am. Visitation will be from 9:30 am until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to the Lions Club of Manitowish Waters, P.O. Box 301, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545 for the benefit of the Lions Camp in Rosholt or the Church of the Pines United Methodist Church, 415 Chippewa St., Minocqua, WI 54548. Condolences may be left at www.bolgerfuneral.com. "Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21

Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Dear Jo and family*

Please accept our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one.

We will always remember John as highly respected drives professional and as a personal friend. We miss him greatly.

Peace, Prayers and Blessings
Juhani Haatainen

Juhani Haatainen - May 22, 2013 at 02:23 AM

KK

“ *I want to pass on my condolences to Jo and family. As a peson John was one of the finest and his knowlwdge in System Drives was enormous. Everyone wanted to work with him.*
Kurt Kampe Helsinki Finland

Kurt Kampe - May 14, 2013 at 01:26 PM

CW

“ *We want to pass on our condolences to Jo and family. It was always a pleasure to work with John. We all miss him greatly.*

Bengt, Carola and Fredrik Welin, Helsinki Finland
Carl-Johan and Marja Friman, Helsinki Finland

Carola Welin - May 12, 2013 at 11:05 AM

MT

“ *Jo and family,*

Cindy and I are sorry for your loss. John was a great engineer and teacher as well as a kind man who will be greatly missed. We always looked forward to seeing you and John at the IEEE conferences.

God Bless,

Marty & Cindy Troy

Marty Troy - May 11, 2013 at 02:52 PM

FR

“ *Esther & I want to pass on our condolences to Jo and family. I personally learned so much about drive systems from John during his time at AB/S. He was such a good and patient teacher.*

Fred & Esther Rusch - May 09, 2013 at 02:33 PM

FH

“ *You always greeted every one with a firm handshake and a smile. This was very refreshing in our turbulent lives. You worked so hard on so many committees. You cared about people.*

Posted by: Fred Hills - Minocqua, WI - friend May 09, 2013

Fred Hills - May 09, 2013 at 01:44 PM

BH

“ John was such a good neighbor and friend to our parents, Ollie and Betty Westby. We were always grateful to know that John and Jo were next door for support and companionship. It was such a joy to watch John and Ollie problem solve almost any situation that would arise around their homes. Two very talented gentlemen! Jo - Our thoughts and prayers go to you and your family.

Bill and Carolyn Holloway - May 08, 2013 at 11:13 AM

PF

“ Dearest Jo, Amy, Eric and family,

Joyce and I wanted to express our deepest sympathies at this time. We also rejoice in knowing that John is in a better place today. We have the hope to meet him again.

God Bless,

Pete & Joyce

Pete Famighetti - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

JK

“ John you will be missed greatly!

Jo know that your Canadian friends have you and the rest of your family in our prayers.

A memorium page has been created for this year's IEEE Pulp & Paper Conference, based on a document provided to me by John a few weeks ago!

Much love to you all. May God's grace be with you today.

John and Ruth Kay

John A Kay - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

BJ

“ I have know John for over fifty years; as a friend, co-worker (at TAPPI & IEEE), as a competitor in our Electrical Drive businesses, and as a Christian!

I am a better engineer and person for knowing him; and we will miss his technical input and friendly advise in the years ahead.

My prayers and thoughts have been with you, Jo in the recent weeks; it is never an easy time, but John has had a good life and we know he is now in an even better place.

God be with you and your family.

Burt Judson

Burt Judson - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

HB

“ John and I became good friends through serving on the Lions board together. John literally worked on Lions business every day. He was the official record keeper for our club and kept us on track. What a great person and very good friend. RIP John, you will be forever missed and in our prayers.

Henry L. Bauers - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

DD

“ A wonderful man and a someone who helped mentor me in my work. Always a "sunny side up disposition" to life.

David Duncan - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

RJ

“ My deepest sympathy to Jo and the rest of the family. I knew John for the past 20 years through IEEE and his work at ABB. He was an engineer's engineer. Truly one of the finest I've known in 35years of practice. But more importantly he was also one of the finest individuals I've known. He was straight forward and honest, kind and treated everyone with the utmost respect. He will be missed.
Rory Johnson

Rory Johnson - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

JA

“ Joanne and I offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to Jo and the Bentley family. They are BOTH a treasure to their community and our area. We have witnessed their service to others, the elementary school and District Lions. JOHN was the best Lions Secretary that I have seen in my travels. HE WILL BE MISSED!

John & Joanne Ader - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

GD

“ I first met John about 1995 while he was trying to convince us to buy a new ABB drive system. I've had the privilege to spend time with him at the annual IEEE Pulp and Paper Conferences over the last 10 years or so. John is an inspiration to me not only for what he accomplished during his career, but also for what he continued to do after he "retired." We will miss him here, but will look forward to meeting again someday. Our prayers are with your family during this difficult time.

Greg & Rebekah Drewiske

Greg Drewiske - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM

TC

“ John will be greatly missed, It was my pleasure to have worked with John and to have known him. I always like to think of him as a mentor and a friend I will truly miss him. I am truly sorry for your lose.

Thomas Cortes - May 07, 2013 at 09:18 AM