



John Anthony Kusmitch

January 5, 1931 - February 15, 2025

John Anthony Kusmitch, 94, of Kingsford died Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025, peacefully at his home.

Mr. Kusmitch was born January 5, 1931 in Crystal Falls, MI, son of Stephan and Veronica (Syzlak) Kusmitch. He attended Crystal Falls School.

John enlisted in the U.S. Army in September of 1949 and served as a Corporal during the Korean War. He was wounded in the line of duty and received the Purple Heart. He was captured by Chinese forces and sent to a prison camp in Korea. After a 26 month incarceration, the POW was given a Hero's Welcome upon his return to Crystal Falls in 1953. After returning home, John moved to Chicago where he met his future wife Ellen F. Dahlke. They were married on Oct. 18, 1958 in Crystal Falls, MI and then relocated to the Iron Mountain-Kingsford area to start a family where John worked as a construction worker/laborer, becoming a lifelong resident of the area.

John enjoyed nature, especially birds and wildlife. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, and gardening. John was also an avid dog lover. Spending time with his family and grandchildren was important to him. He was a devoted Catholic and spent countless hours reading the Bible and praying the rosary.

John is survived by four children, Dolores "Dee" (Mike) Scholke of Iron

Mountain, Wanda Kusmitch of Kingsford, Michael Kusmitch of Kingsford, and Eileen (Dan) Matchett of Iron Mountain; four grandchildren, Michael Scholke, Matthew (Brilyn) Scholke, Melissa Scholke, and Amanda (Daren) Wittmann; great-grandchildren, Ella and Max Scholke, Julianna Matchett, Brexly Wittmann; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one son, John Paul Kusmitch; his former wife Ellen Kusmitch; his parents; four brothers, Peter, Joseph, Anthony, and Chester; and five sisters, Helen Kusmitch, Annie Worden, Julie Hicks, Mary Spence, and Agnes Fabbri; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He will remain forever in our hearts.

The family would like to express our gratitude to the dedicated caregivers in the following departments of the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain: Urgent Care, Cardiology, Tammie Goldschmidt and Primary Care; and Peter Rittenhouse and Urology. Your kindness, care, and support are greatly appreciated. Also a special thank you to Treasia and Brandi from North Woods Home Care and Hospice and to Marina from Cornerstone Caregiving for their compassionate care and support.

Visitation will be at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home, 901 Carpenter Ave., from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2025. Following the visitation Father Janusz Romanek will officiate the Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary & St. Joseph Catholic Church, 411 West B St., at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2025. The burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery of Crystal Falls in the Spring.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of John Anthony Kusmitch online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson- Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Memorial Cemetery

Crystal Falls
MI 49920

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 7. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

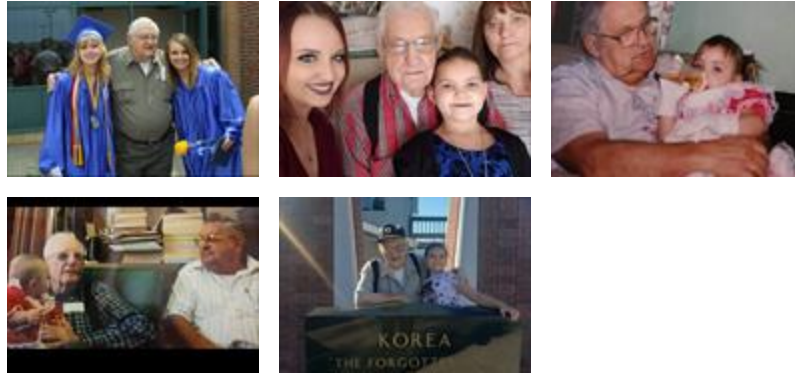
MAR 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary & St Joseph Church
W B St
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-2046

Tribute Wall

AM

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Amanda - February 26, 2025 at 09:13 PM

AW

“ Amanda Wittmann sent a virtual gift in memory of John Anthony Kusmitch



Amanda Wittmann - February 26, 2025 at 06:08 PM

CW

“ Chesnie W planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Kusmitch.

Chesnie W - February 26, 2025 at 03:29 PM

CW

“ Chesnie W purchased the Mini Classic Charcuterie & Board Gift Set for the family of John Anthony Kusmitch.



Chesnie W - February 26, 2025 at 03:29 PM

AW

“ Amanda Wittmann lit a candle in memory of John Anthony Kusmitch



Amanda Wittmann - February 26, 2025 at 03:26 PM

JF

“ Jeanette, Steve and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Anthony Kusmitch.



Jeanette, Steve and family - February 24, 2025 at 09:46 PM

JF

“ Jeanette, Steve and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Anthony Kusmitch.

Jeanette, Steve and family - February 24, 2025 at 09:46 PM