



John Edward Aho

November 17, 1942 - December 2, 2025

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John Edward Aho was born on November 17, 1942, in the iron range of Crosby, Minnesota. He was the second of five children born to Donald Aho and Violet (Hill) Aho. His family moved to St. Peter, Minnesota, where he played football for St. Peter High School.

After high school, John joined the United States Marine Corps and was stationed in Barstow, California. He played football while in the marines. He was then asked to try out for the Oakland Raiders but turned down the offer. Afterwards, he went to Gustavus College in St. Peter, where he played football for one season and then coached.

He fell in love with Alice Tentis, a young woman he met and worked with at the Holiday House, a local restaurant. He and Alice got married on April 8, 1967.

After a few years, they moved their family to Rapid City, South Dakota where he finished his master's degree in paleontology/geology. He worked as a senior hydrologist for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency until retirement.

John and Alice were married over 58 years. They had three children, John, Jennifer, and Jason, 23 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. Family was incredibly important to John. He had a way of making each family member feel unique and loved. He and Alice continued to be very involved in their families' lives, which was a great source of joy to all family members.

During the last three months of life, John suffered immensely but did not

complain. Alice spent every day at his side. For much of this time, John couldn't speak, walk, or swallow. John fought hard, but on December 2, 2025, John passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by many family members.

John is survived by his wife, Alice, his three children, John (Kimberly), Jennifer (Dale), and Jason (Toni), 23 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, sisters Becky (Greg), Liz (Dean), and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members. John was preceded in death by his father and mother, Donald and Violet, his brother Donald, and sister Donna.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held Friday, December 12, at 10:30 am at the Church of the Epiphany in Coon Rapids, Minnesota, with visitation beginning at 9:30 am. Visitation also will be held the evening before, Thursday, December 11, at Washburn McReavy in Coon Rapids, from 4-7 pm with rosary at 6:30. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Franciscan Brothers of Peace, an organization that John appreciated.

Cemetery Details

Epiphany Cemetery

10955 Hanson Boulevard
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Visitation

DEC 12. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Church of the Epiphany (Coon Rapids)
11001 Hanson Boulevard Northwest
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Mass of Christian Burial

DEC 12. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Church of the Epiphany (Coon Rapids)
11001 Hanson Boulevard Northwest
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Graveside Service

DEC 12. 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Epiphany Cemetery
10955 Hanson Boulevard
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Tribute Wall

AF

“ *Aimee Farrell lit a candle in memory of John Edward Aho*



Aimee Farrell - December 12, 2025 at 12:12 PM

LD

“ *so sorry for your loss. Lisa Davidson*

lisa davidson - December 08, 2025 at 07:57 AM



“ *John and I worked together for several years at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. We hit it off right away because of our shared "Finnishness" (I sometimes called him Jussi.). But beyond that I respected John's knowledge and way of doing things. One time John and I were at Mintac, a large taconite mine in Mountain Iron, and were viewing the pit from up above. I decided to test John's geology knowledge so I pointed at a rock on the ground and said, "Hey John, what kind of rock is that?" Immediately he responded, "Leaverite, leave er right there."*

Steve Leppälä

Steve Leppälä - December 06, 2025 at 12:14 AM