



John Gaylord Paulson

May 22, 1953 - February 16, 2026

John Gaylord Paulson, 72, of Victoria, Minnesota, went home to be with the Lord on February 16, 2026, after courageously battling glioblastoma brain cancer.

John was born on May 22, 1953, in Minneapolis, MN, and graduated from Minnehaha Academy in 1971.

He was a man of strong and steady faith in God, which defined his life with warmth, kindness, and genuine connection with others. He carried his beliefs quietly but powerfully, guiding the way he treated people with compassion and kindness. He was a calming presence to those who knew him, and lived simply but deeply and found joy in life's quiet pleasures and meaningful moments. He loved spending time on the golf course, casting a fishing line out on the water, and sharing laughter with family and friends. Known for his sense of humor, his easy smile lit up a room the moment he walked in, and he was an optimistic and positive person who always looked for the everyday "wins" in life. He had a natural gift for conversation and a rare ability to connect with anyone, making them feel like an instant friend.

Above all, John was a proud and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. His love for his family was unwavering, and he took great pride in the lives they built together.

John is survived by his wife, Cheri; their children, Annie, Johnny, and Beth; and his grandson, Jack. He is also survived by his sister, Joy (Don) Knackstedt, as well as several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in

death by his parents, Jack and Ruth Paulson, and brothers, Gary and Billy. A visitation will be held at 10:00 a.m., followed by a funeral service at 11:00 a.m. on April 27, 2026, at Grace Church in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Family and friends are invited to gather to remember and celebrate John's life.

John's legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched-with his kindness, his faith, and his enduring love.

Memorials to Samaritans Purse or Grace Hospice in Minneapolis.

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of John Gaylord Paulson.



May 04 at 11:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Gaylord Paulson.

May 04 at 11:53 AM



“ *Dustin & Amanda* purchased the *Pretty Please* for the family of John Gaylord Paulson.



Dustin & Amanda - April 20 at 11:06 PM



“ *I remember this tall skinny guy who played football with his glasses on. He loved football. Thanks for the memories John*

Christian Mordh - April 18 at 07:58 PM