



John Howard Zupfer

March 31, 1939 - May 24, 2025

Beloved Brother, Father, and "Papa", age 86 of Roseville joined his beloved wife Kathy in heaven on May 24, 2025. Preceded in death by parents Howard and Helen Zupfer, and sister Faith Kelly. Survived by his sons John (Liz), Jim (Amy), and Jeff (Naomi), grandchildren Jack, Sam, Sylvia, Benji, Mira, Elijah, Gideon, and Gabe, and sister Bev (Gregg) Paulus. John will be remembered for his unwavering faith that sustained him through polio as a child, heart bypass surgery, and prostate cancer. Remarkably, his faith and commitment to prayer only deepened as his body failed him and his mobility and agency deteriorated. We are truly grateful for his caregivers at Johanna Shores, and for his aide Samantha, who tirelessly and lovingly helped John navigate his health challenges for the last 9 years. John was a graduate of Murray High School, Macalester College, and the University of Minnesota. He was a passionate secondary science teacher in the Roseville School District for 35 years, and an active member of Warrendale Presbyterian and Roseville Covenant churches. He adored his grandchildren, and his favorite sweatshirt declared "Papa is my Name, Spoiling is my Game" - a claim that he certainly lived up to. His indomitable faith in God and love for others were not just parts of his life, they were his life, and inspiring examples to those who knew him.

Funeral Service 2 PM Friday, June 6, at ROSEVILLE COVENANT CHURCH, 2865 Hamline Ave. N., Roseville (visitation beginning at 1 PM). Interment Elmhurst Cemetery.

Memorials preferred to Covenant Pines Bible Camp.

<https://covenantpines.org/donate/>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Roseville Covenant Church
2865 Hamline Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Funeral Service

JUN 6. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Roseville Covenant Church
2865 Hamline Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Reception

JUN 6. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Roseville Covenant Church
2865 Hamline Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Graveside Service

JUN 6. 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Elmhurst Cemetery
1510 North Dale Street
Saint Paul, MN 55117

Tribute Wall

JC

“ I am so glad I was able to hear the testimonials spoken, written and played musically by the family members at the service for John. God gave them the mercy, talent and strength to be able to get up and speak to the testimony of Christ and how John Howard’s main desire and purpose was to reflect and help magnify Christ and His Glory with his words, deeds and overall example to his friends and family. It appears to me that his most yearning desire is that this legacy and joy and peace-filled life that can only be gained through Christ alone be passed on to his kids, grandchildren and their greatest of future grandchildren. Pass on this legacy as God uniquely designed you to do.

John Crellin - June 10, 2025 at 03:19 PM

LM

“ I had Mr. Zupfer for 9th grade Biology in 1963. He had the unfortunate task of telling our class that President Kennedy had been shot. I could tell he was fighting back the emotion he felt. He was a great teacher.

Linda Manders - June 01, 2025 at 04:01 PM