



## John Anthony Giannotta

September 13, 1923 - March 22, 2012

Long time Carson City resident, John A. Giannotta, passed away on March 22, 2012. He was born on September 13, 1923 in San Jose, California. John was preceded in death by Helen, his beloved wife of 64 years, and granddaughter Debbie Baskin. He is survived by his daughters Sharon Howard (Rick), Sandy Jacopetti, Susan Davis (Phil), and Shelley Giannotta, sisters Dorothy Kosowski and Michele Jade Harvey, Half Brother Clifford Neal, and 9 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

“Fast Talking” John, as he was affectionately known by friends and business associates, was one of America’s “Greatest Generation” serving with the 99th Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge and in Germany and Belgium. Returning from the war, John worked as a carpenter during the day and by night pursued his Associate’s degree in the carpentry trade. He became a successful building contractor in Santa Clara County until 1968 when he relocated to the Lake Tahoe basin building custom homes, as well as a dream home for his family in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. He was a member of the Carson Valley Contractor’s Association for over 30 years and held the position of president for 4 of those years.

John was an active member of the Elk’s Lodge for 40 years leading and participating in numerous fundraisers and benevolent activities in support of the Lake Tahoe and Carson Valley communities. He valued the camaraderie, enduring friendships, and the brotherhood of his fellow Elks.

Over a span of 17 years, John and “his Helen” took pride in volunteering their time and energy making 500 trips from Carson City to the Reno Veteran’s hospital to distribute donated books, magazines, flags, and toiletries to hospitalized veterans. In addition to his volunteer work, John’s favorite hobbies included golfing, gardening, collecting stamps and family photos, reading, and playing Yahtzee.

John had a lifelong passion and love for all animals. As a youth, he raised rabbits, chicken, and homing pigeons. Over the course of his life, John had a variety of dogs including his beloved German shepherd, Thor, numerous cats, Ricky the skunk, and assorted other animals.

John, larger than life, and having lived his life to the fullest, leaves behind a legacy of enduring love and friendship, honesty, hard work, and loyalty. With his huge heart, he saw

the good in everyone and never met a stranger.

John was a wonderful and loving husband, father, and grandfather, beloved and cherished by all and will be greatly missed.

# Comments

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“ Dad....where to begin? I cherish each and every memory I have of you....from San Jose to Tahoe to Gardnerville & Carson City...so many special times and wonderful experiences. I will miss you always - and I am comforted by the thought of you and Mom "up there" taking care of the animals together and watching over all of your loved ones. I love you with all my heart - your "baby daughter"...Shelley

**Shelley** - April 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ My Dad learned a lot watching John remodel our family home in Campbell and then our cabin in Tahoe, he always had something to say... my Mom (Nadine) sends her condolencesw

**Patrick Chandler** - April 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ John, Thank you for your life. You will be missed deeply and never forgotten.

**Phil Davis** - March 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ There are times when the right words just don't exist,times when feelings are to deep to be expressed..but at this sad time we hope it will help you a little to know how much we are thinking of you.

**Greta DeHart and family** - March 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ For my special wonderful Daddy: I love you and will miss you always! You will be in my heart forever. Your loving Daughter Number 3, Susie

**Susan Davis** - March 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ Our sincerest condolences to John's family. He was my friend and I will miss him.

Respectfully,

Frank & Camille Svharo

**Frank & Camille Scharo** - March 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ John,

I first met you in December 1979 when you and Helen picked me up at the Reno Airport and you welcomed me into your home. You ultimately welcomed me into your family when you gave your blessing to marry your daughter. I have cherished the time we have spent together. On the golf course, in the casino waiting for the girls or going with you to visit our Warriors at the Reno VA Hospital, You were more than a Father-in-Law, you were a friend. I grew to think of you as a father figure after I lost my mine. I will miss you and Helen more than you could ever imagine. Take care of the animals Dad and I look forward to our next golf date down the road. Your Son-in-Law, Rick

**Rick Howard** - March 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ Shelley and family,

Life is not what happens to you but what you make of what happens to you.  
Everyone dies, but not everyone fully lives.

Your father packed a lot of living into his years here. He made a difference,

Please accept my empathy for you at this time. May only the warmest memories remain.

My best to you, Crystal, and your family,

Susan Spencere

**Susan Spencer** - March 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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**Lucille (DiLeonardo) McClure** - March 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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Rest in peace dear friend. You taught me alot about carpentry back in the early 50's when I was the young grunt on many jobs in San Jose building duplexes for my dad, James P Cowell. You also drove us wacko with your constant chatter. All in fun, and we had plenty of it. Thank you John. It was a pleasure. My deepest condolences to your family.

Jim Cowell. San Jose, CA

**James Cowell** - March 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ A sympathy card has been sent to the family of John Anthony Giannotta c/o Autumn Funerals & Cremations funeral home.

March 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM