



## John S. "Zeke" Zwald

December 14, 1956 - June 18, 2022

Mineral Point / Dodgeville – John S. “Zeke” Zwald, age 65, of Mineral Point, formerly of Dodgeville, passed away on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at Upland Hills Health Hospital in Dodgeville as the result of a heart attack.

John was born December 14, 1956 in Dodgeville, WI at St. Joseph’s Hospital. He was the youngest of 4 children born to Ernie and Mary (Synon) Zwald. John attended grade school at St. Joseph’s Catholic School and graduated from the Dodgeville High School in 1975. He attended college for 2 years at UW-Oshkosh and then transferred to UW-Platteville graduating with a degree in Business. He then moved to Milwaukee where he worked for National Premium. In 2015 he moved to Mineral Point and worked at the House on the Rock and was employed there at the time of his death. This move made it possible to renew a strong connection with many of his life-long friends.

John was an avid sports fan all his life. In his youth he played little league softball and baseball and played basketball in grade school. In high school he played football, baseball and basketball. He was a fan extraordinaire of the Milwaukee Brewers, having season tickets for many years. And needless to say he was a true fan of the Green Bay Packers. John loved to cook trying new recipes all the time. He loved to share what he made with others.

John is survived by his 3 sisters: Cindy Zwald, Mineral Point; Beth (Mike)

Thomas, Oshkosh; and Patti (David) Steine, Nashville, TN. He is further survived by his son Nick Poels, Plymouth, MN and nieces and nephews Denise Thomas, Jeremy (Heidi) Thomas and their son Dean, Joseph Steine, and Mara Steine. He is also survived by his aunt Rosie Franke, several cousins and the many life-long friends some dating back to his childhood.

John was preceded in death by his parents Ernie and Mary Zwald and many aunts and uncles.

There will be a Celebration of John's Life for John from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 13, 2022 at the DODGER BOWL, 321 King Street, Dodgeville, WI.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorials be made to the Dodgeville Public Library, 139 S. Iowa Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph's Cemetery

Compassion Way  
Dodgeville, WI 53533

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 13. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Dodger Bowl  
321 King Street  
Dodgeville, WI 53533

# Tribute Wall



“ Johnny: You single-handedly made the House on the Rock bearable for me. I just loved our chats. Def wish we'd met earlier in life, you had a great spirit. I still owe you a ball game! Thanks so much for the friendship and laughs

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**Janos Fonod** - March 03 at 09:25 PM



“ Happy Birthday  
Always remembered.....never forgotten.

*Denise and family*



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**Denise Taylor (friend)** - December 14, 2023 at 11:36 PM



“ John S. "Zeke" Zwald

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November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM

BF

“ Wimbledon started this week and that brought back even more fond memories of John. Zeke was a huge 'stick' fan and Wimbledon was a favorite time of the year. You never were sure what would be on tap for Breakfast at Wimbledon with Zmo.

Zeke was a very dear friend and a big influence on me in many areas, including sports, food, music and movies. I can remember leafing thru his record collection and being turned on to Roxy Music, Bowie's Pin-Ups and Hunky Dory, The Who's Live at Leeds among others. Z was a true modern film noir fan and loved a gritty story with great character actors; like True Romance or No Country for Old Men. How many ball games did I attend with John? Milwaukee County Stadium was our home away from home. He was a master tailgater and always executed an elaborate menu. John made a mean chocolate chip cookie, among other delicacies. John was highly competitive in anything he did and this included anything sports related. Great memories from touch football games at Centennial Park. John played quarterback and I was always lucky to be on his team. Whiffle ball at his parents' house, hoop games to 100 at St. Robert Parish in Shorewood, Baseball All-Star Card Game and an in-depth introduction to the 1964 NL and AL All-Stars.

John was a wonderful gentleman. He was always very generous. He was a kind soul. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed. I truly loved the guy!

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**Bill Faust** - June 28, 2022 at 02:59 PM



Great tribute. He was a great dude

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**Janos Fonod** - March 03 at 09:27 PM

JN

“ We grew up together. He was the cousin I was closest to. Fishing at Governor Dodge with Ernie and Andy, playing ball all day....all kinds of ball....it just depended on the season.

We lived together in Milwaukee for a couple years. We were wild and crazy bachelors in a small East side apartment where he cooked gourmet meals following Mary's recipes. He was a great cook. We watched ball together....any kind of ball, it just depended on the season. I married into Packer tickets, and John benefited from that. I loved his Brewers season ticket locations and he put me in position to catch two foul balls over the years. He was incredibly funny and clever and had a ton of good friends. I was lucky to be one of them. Peace Buddy.

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**Jeff Neuhauser** - June 27, 2022 at 09:16 AM

EF

“ As one of John's "Illinois" cousins, he always loved to give me grief and then some more grief about the Illinois/Chicago teams especially the Bears. During a recent move, I found two items pertaining to the Packers. First, an autographed Bart Starr photo addressed to "Eddie" wishing me good luck and second two photos where i am wearing a Green Bay Packer sweatshirt. My goodness, I can't even begin to think how much fun he would have had talking about those photos. I would never had heard the end of it. Go Pack!!

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**Edward Folts** - June 23, 2022 at 01:47 PM

KF

“ I'm so privileged to have gotten to know John the last several years during all my visits to House on the Rock. He one of the first to greet me with a huge smile, ask about my family, and share his stories. John always told the first time guests to find me if they got lost and we always had a good laugh if they actually did. I will be forever grateful that I got to hear quite a few of his stories from when he was younger working at the House building the Carousel and in the Organ Room.



Thanks John for stopping to point out the carousel animals that you helped to build. I will always see them and think of you....they're my favorite now too.

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**Kelsey Faust-Kubale** - June 21, 2022 at 04:30 PM

DW

“ Deb & Denny Wilkinson lit a candle in memory of John S. "Zeke" Zwald



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**Deb & Denny Wilkinson** - June 20, 2022 at 05:53 PM

DW

Thinking of you all at this very sad time.

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**Deb & Denny Wilkinson** - June 20, 2022 at 05:53 PM

LS

John always asked how you were before you had a chance to ask him. He loved to talk about his favorite sporting teams. People will notice his absence. We are sorry for your loss.

*Ken and Lori Seyfferth*

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**Lori Seyfferth** - June 20, 2022 at 07:14 PM

NS

*John's passing leaves a big hole in our hearts and on our House on the Rock Team. John's commitment to our Guests, the enthusiastic sports and food conversations, his snickerdoodles and pot luck goodies and the way he really made you feel like his "buddy", will be missed.*

*Our deepest condolences at this sad time.*

*Nancy as a part of The House on the Rock Team*

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**Nancy Schaaf** - June 20, 2022 at 10:15 PM

MH

*If there's anyway I could send flowers or a candle in John's memory to the HOTR break room please let me know! I would love to contribute as John had a great impact in my life.*

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**Mason Hein** - June 21, 2022 at 09:57 AM