



John Joseph Papagni

November 13, 2025

John Joseph Papagni, 63, of Riverside, Rhode Island.

Born October 12, 1962, in Worcester, MA, John passed peacefully at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence. He was a proud father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend who lived life with grit, humor, and a deep love for his family.

John spent 38 years behind the wheel as a truck driver, and he could tell you a story from every mile. Whether it was a wild tale from the road or a joke that caught you off guard, John always had something up his sleeve to make you laugh.

He was happiest grabbing a couple hot wieners at Santoro's in Coventry with his son John, sipping Dunkin' coffee, and catching up with loved ones. In his younger days, he served as a volunteer firefighter in North Providence—just one of many ways he gave back to his community.

John was predeceased by his mother, Beverly A. Papagni (Millman), and is survived by his sons Johnathan and Tyler Papagni, his granddaughter Mila (Tyler), and his cherished grand-pups Bella and Diesel (John). He also leaves behind his brothers Steven Tanzi and Michael Papagni, his sister Margret Millman, and a large extended family of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

A celebration of John's life will be held at The Olde Theater Diner, 33 Sandy Bottom Rd, Coventry, RI 02816, on December 14, 2025, at 12pm. All who knew and loved him are welcome to come share stories, laughter, and memories.

John's legacy lives on in the tales he told, the laughter he sparked, and the love he gave so freely. He'll be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

Tribute Wall



“ Will miss our talks. You always had great memories to share. Also getting to vent to each other about silly things. I know you are able to rest now but you are dearly missed. So happy you able to spend time with family, I know was the most important thing to you. Until we meet again. Fly high 🙏

Diana Rechert - December 10, 2025 at 06:10 PM

“ John was one of best volunteers for our fire department he was a great man I'm so sorry for your loss

Tommy Miller - November 29, 2025 at 01:00 AM