



## John Charles L'Abbe



### John Charles L'Abbe

Suffolk , VA

05.18.1936 - 03.17.2020

**Birthplace:** Canada

John L'Abbe, 83, passed away on Monday, March 17, 2020 at Obici Hospital located in Suffolk, VA.

John was born on May 18th, 1936 in Thunder Bay, Canada, the youngest of 3 children to the late Rose and Phillip L'Abbe. As a child, he and his family remained local to his birthplace with the exception of working summers with his father at a timber production company from age 15 on.

John graduated high school from Port Arthur Collegiate Institute following onto Queens University in Kingston, Ontario. Four years later, on May 16, 1959, John proudly achieved a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. On that same graduation day, he married the love of his life, Mary Frances Clark also from Kingston. Married almost 61 years, the longevity of such a relationship is certainly rare.

After having four children, John and Mary moved to the United States in 1966 where he enjoyed a successful career as a Chemical Engineer/Production Plant Manager at multiple companies in the pulp and paper industry. Towards the end of his career and still enjoying a challenge, John achieved multiple OSHA certifications in Hazardous Waste Management. He and Mary retired from Massachusetts to Suffolk, VA in 2001.

In his personal life, John was an avid reader as well as a big fan of fishing, hunting and camping. He often returned to his home roots in Canada to enjoy these favorite activities with friends and family.

After a seven-year battle with Parkinson's Disease, John leaves his beloved wife, Mary, four children: Charles, Suzanne, Paul and Louise as well as his five grandchildren to cherish his memory.

His family will celebrate his life in a private memorial service on Friday, March 20, 2020 at Baker-Foster Funeral Home, 5685 Lee Farm Lane Suffolk , VA 23435. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations be made to: <https://www.parkinson.org/ways-to-give>

The family values the love and prayers from family and friends during this time. Condolences may be registered at [RWBakerFH.com](http://RWBakerFH.com).

## Guestbook

**Craig Silvestri**

Wed, 03/18/2020 -  
03:05pm

So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Craig Silvestri

**Yvonne L'Abbe**

Wed, 03/18/2020 -  
04:10pm

I'm so sorry- love you Aunt Frances - will miss Uncle Charles so much - hugs and prayers with you .

Yvonne L'Abbe

**Cookie Bobo**

Wed, 03/18/2020 -  
08:30pm

My deepest condolences and prayers to the Family at this sad time 😊  
Barbara tell Paul he is in my Prayers and stay strong

Cookie Bobo

**Camella World Peace**

Sat, 03/21/2020 -  
07:55am

I am so very sorry. No one deserves to suffer any length of time with a disease that makes one struggle such as Parkinson's. Charles had many notable accomplishments which made you all proud. He was appreciated and will be greatly missed. He will live on in your hearts

Camella World Peace



R.W. Baker & Company  
Funeral Home and Crematory