



## John J. Benton Jr.

July 11, 1937 - September 9, 2023

John Joseph Benton, Jr., 86, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, September 9, 2023, with his devoted wife, Jennie, at his side. Born July 11, 1937, son of the late John J. and Bertha A. (Stachowicz) Benton, he was a lifelong Chicopee resident, and a longtime parishioner of the former Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Springfield. A graduate of Cathedral High School, John joined the US Navy shortly thereafter, serving aboard the USS William M. Wood during the Korean War. After discharge, John became a barber, and owned and operated Johnny's Barber Shop in Holyoke. He was also a licensed real estate agent in the local area. John began his law enforcement career as an officer for the Registry of Motor Vehicles, followed by many years as a MA State Police Officer, retiring in 1992. John held membership in the MA Police Association, Polish American Citizens' Club of Ludlow, Chicopee Falls Polish Home, and the Polish Center for Discovery and Learning in Chicopee. He was an avid polka fan, and he and Jennie followed their favorite bands, Happy Louie and Julcia, Marion Lush, and the Eddie Forman Orchestra (EFO), among many others. John is survived by his beloved wife of fifty-eight years, Jennie (Starzyk) Benton; caring brother-in-law, Joseph J. Starzyk and wife Elizabeth; two nephews, Robert J. Starzyk and wife Cynthia, and Christopher D. Starzyk; and godchildren, Thaddeus Kubacki and wife Lillian, Jeffrey Petroski, and Walter Piekarski. Funeral services for John will be held Monday, September 18th, from Kozikowski Funeral Home, 565 Front St., Chicopee, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30AM in Immaculate

Conception Church, Indian Orchard. Committal service and burial with Military Honors will follow in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Indian Orchard. Calling hours are Sunday from 4-6PM, and Monday from 10-10:45AM. Memorial contributions may be made to Immaculate Conception Church, 25 Parker St., Indian Orchard, MA 01151.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Stanislaus Cemetery

800 Montgomery St.  
Chicopee, MA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 17. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kozikowski Funeral Home  
565 Front Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013  
(413) 592-9256  
kozikowskifh@gmail.com

## Visitation

SEP 18. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Kozikowski Funeral Home  
565 Front Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013  
(413) 592-9256  
kozikowskifh@gmail.com

## Mass of Christian Burial

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SEP **18**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Immaculate Conception Church  
25 Parker St.  
Springfield, MA

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Jennie:*

*My prayers are with you and Johnnie. Remember the great times you both had as Johnnie watches down on us from Heaven. He made the world a better place and may he now rest in Heaven. God bless both of you...*

*Mike Smist*

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**Michael Smist** - September 12, 2023 at 11:41 PM