



John Joseph Quirk Sr, 78, of Grand Forks, ND passed away peacefully Sept 10, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

John was born September 11th, 1947, in Grand Forks, ND to Casey and Sylvia Quirk. He grew up on the family farm in Mallory, MN and attended school at Sacred Heart Catholic school graduating in 1966.

John joined the Navy in 1967 where he served as an Aviation Store Keeper on the USS Ticonderoga in Vietnam. He was then stationed at Quonset Point, RI and through his best friend, Guy Ellis, he met the love of his life, Nancy Ellis. John and Nancy were married in 1969 and were absolutely inseparable. It was very rare to ever see one without the other. Through that union came 4 children. After John got out of the Navy they moved back to Mallory, MN for a short time before moving to Grand Forks where he and Nancy built their life together and raised their family. Throughout John's life he had different careers, the longest being a night foreman on the loading dock at Bridgman Creamery until they closed, and then for the City of Grand Forks in the Public Works Dept for over 21 years where he retired in 2014.

John was a quiet man, it was once said that he was quiet because Nancy never met a stranger, would talk to anyone, and wouldn't let him get a word in. He had a very strong work ethic that he passed down to his children, had a quick wit, was a prankster, and had a great sense of humor. His "dad jokes" would make everyone roll their eyes and laugh and he took great pride in that. John enjoyed bowling, going to the lake, going to his grandchildren's activities (even if it meant sitting on the soccer sidelines in the cold ND weather), watching the Vikings, Westerns and playing Candy Crush where he would very proudly boast that he was on level 9,000 something.

John's family was his pride and joy. John was an incredible husband, devoted father, and proud grandfather. He took immense pride in his children and the lives they built.

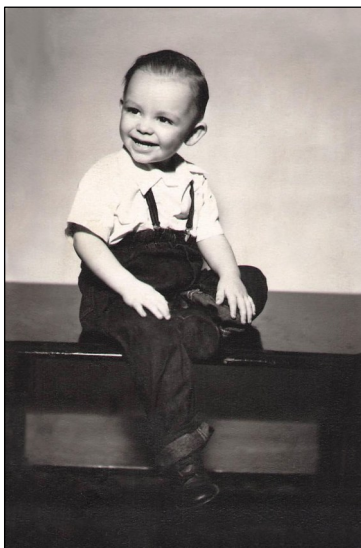
John is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, his children, Ann (Dean) Higginbotham, John (Shelly) Quirk, Bonnie (Jason) Gallagher, and Fred (Melissa) Quirk. Sisters, Paulette (Michael) Lindquist, Susan (Bev) Quirk, 12 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. John was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

Through his example, he taught us how to laugh, enjoy life, and love one another. He was the very best husband, father, and grandfather and will be missed immensely.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

— JOHN —
QUIRK SR.





WHAT IS A SOUL.

What is a soul, do we know
Is it beauty hid or does it show
Or does it lie inside a shell?
Ask me my child, I know so well.

Can you hear it as to you it calls?
And tries to escape it's prison walls,
Inside so quiet it has to lie
Till its maker calls, the day we die.

Then out of its shell, it will arise
Soaring onward home it flies
Till once again home with God
Its reached its goal, its land of nod.

Yes! my child, it will find peace
Where all our worries someday will cease,
So keep it pure and keep it clean
You'll know no shame when all is seen.

By;
Sylvia Quirk

JOHN JOSEPH QUIRK SR.

September 11, 1947 - September 10, 2026



MEMORIAL SERVICE

1:00pm ▪ Wednesday ▪ September 16, 2026

Amundson Funeral Home Chapel

Grand Forks, North Dakota

OFFICIATING

Pastor Rachael Puttbrese

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

“I Can Only Imagine”: MercyMe

“Scars in Heaven”: Casting Crowns

“Go Rest High on That Mountain”: Vince Gill

“Love Without End, Amen”: George Strait

MILITARY HONORS

United States Navy

American Legion Post: 157

VFW Post: 3817

The family wishes to express their appreciation
for your thoughts and prayers. Please join them
for refreshments following the service.

