



## John T. O'Brien

July 1, 1926 - April 14, 2013

John Thomas O'Brien, son of George L. O'Brien and Sara (Britt) O'Brien was born July 1, 1926 at Grafton, Bennett Township, Nebraska. He passed away on Sunday, April 14, 2013 at Heritage Crossing in Geneva at the age of 86 years, 9 months, 13 days. He was one of eight children in the family.

John attended Rural School District 61 (the O'Brien School) which his Grandfather, John O'Brien, Sr., had attended with his children. His grandfather had come to America from Ireland. John graduated from Geneva High School in the class of 1943. His father passed away when he was 11 years of age. John farmed for five years after graduation and then started working at the Geneva State Bank in July 1948. He advanced from bookkeeper to Vice President and Director.

He married Margaret Mary Weis, daughter of John R. and Margaret Weis, of Geneva on June 7, 1950. To this union 10 children were born: Margaret, John J., Mary Kathryn, Patrick J., Sharon, Joseph, Jane, Suzanne, Michele, and Anne. He was most proud that the children were all college graduates.

John was Past President of the Cornhusker Chapter Bank Administration Institute, Past Secretary of the Geneva City Planning Commission, Past Secretary and Treasurer of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce and the Geneva Alumni Association, Past President of the Geneva Rotary Club and Paul Harris Fellow, he served as Cubmaster for Cub Scout Pack 175, he was a member of the Crosier Apostolate, he was a trustee of St. Joseph Catholic Church and on the St. Joseph Cemetery Association for a number of years,

and he was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus Council 7684, serving as the Financial Secretary for over 15 years, and was considered an Honorary Life Member. John was honored by the Nebraska Bankers Association on May 1, 1998 for 50 years of service to Commercial Banking. John was preceded in death by his parents; sisters Theresa O'Brien, Helen Jennett, Mary McCarthy, Kathleen Bender; and by brothers Lawrence O'Brien and Michael O'Brien.

John is survived by his wife, Mary of Geneva; children Margaret & husband David Fuchser of O'Neill, NE, John J. & wife Linda O'Brien of Sacramento, CA, Mary Kathryn & husband Thomas Gregg of Ralston, NE, Patrick J. & wife Cheryl O'Brien of Carroll, IA, Sharon & husband Max Miller of Geneva, NE, Joseph B. & wife Ann O'Brien of Malvern, PA, Jane O'Brien of Storm Lake, IA, Suzanne Zeutzius of Lincoln, NE, Michele & husband Matthew Gotschall of Columbus, NE, and Anne & husband Glen Slater of Clay Center, NE; sister Frances Fessler of Sutton, NE; Grandchildren Brian Fuchser, Elizabeth Fuchser and Kathryn & Kyle Meyer, Christina and Robert Gregg, Adam & wife Jaime O'Brien and Quinn & wife Miranda O'Brien, Margie, Mark, and Matthew Miller, Carissa and Sean O'Brien, Benjamin Heath, Tanner and Emma Zeutzius, Madalyn, Macy, Molly, Monica, and Mallory Gotschall, Sara, Amanda and Nicholas Slater; great grandchildren Connor & Noah O'Brien.

A Funeral Mass for John was held on Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Geneva, Nebraska. Father Tom Walsh officiated the service. A Rosary was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church led by Father Tom Walsh.

Carol Grote accompanied Margaret Fuchser in the singing of "Ave Maria," and she accompanied Pat O'Brien in the singing of "The Lord's Prayer." Carol also accompanied the congregation in the singing of "O What Could My Jesus Do More," "How Great Thou Art," "Prayer Of St. Francis," and "Jesus Christ Has Risen Today."

Pallbearers for the service included Brian Fuchser, Robert Gregg, Adam O'Brien, Quinn O'Brien, Mark Miller, Matthew Miller, Sean O'Brien, Ben Heath,

Tanner Zeutzius, and Nicholas Slater. Interment for John was held in the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Geneva. Memorials are directed to the family to be designated at a later date. Farmer & Son Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

JN

“ My first job out of college in 1977 was at the Geneva State Bank, and John and I bonded there immediately. He was a great mentor, both work and living. We worked hard, played hard, and cried together from time to time. His smile was infectious, and I will miss him. My thoughts and prayers for his family.

John A. Novotny - April 16, 2013 at 05:34 PM

JL

“ To the John O'brien Family, Our deepest sympathy to you, and our prayers are with you and your family in this time of loss. John was a role model for us all and especially those in the St. Joseph parish. We have very fond memories of John and I always enjoyed sharing a laugh with him about banking and life in general. A true person of integrity and faith, and he will be missed. Again, our prayers are with you and your families.  
Jerry & Teresa Lentfer and Family.

Jerry & Teresa Lentfer - April 16, 2013 at 02:12 PM

SH

“ Joe, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I am sorry for your loss.

Sherri Hickman - April 16, 2013 at 11:53 AM

CT

“ Mary and I extend our deepest sympathies in the loss of your Dad. It is truly hard to see a parent pass away, but there is consolation in knowing that he is in a better place . He will always be there as your guardian angel. Peace be with you and your family. Chuck and Mary

Chuck and Mary Thatcher - April 16, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DB

“ *It's like we've lost the Sanctuary Lamp without John at St. Joseph's. But the vigil candles will be a constant reminder of his faithfulness to his parish as well as his family. A good and faithful servant has earned his rest in heaven.  
May your faith sustain you in your loss.  
With prayers, Deb Bixby*

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**Deb Bixby** - April 15, 2013 at 05:47 PM

BF

“ *Thinking you all, I have so many wonderful memories of Uncle John. He truly was a great man and will be missed so much.  
Love, Bruce, Bridget & Carly Franson*

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**Bridget Franson** - April 15, 2013 at 05:43 PM

DP

“ *Thinking of you and our deepest sympathy goes out to your family at this time of sorrow.*

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**Dane and Susan Paulsen** - April 15, 2013 at 04:00 PM

PW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out too Mr. Obrien's family. We were very sad over the news of our dear neighbor passing away.He was so kind and loving to our family. Rest in peace sweet neighbor, you will be missed. Eric & Pamela Williams Curtis, Shane, Brady & Zack Quick*

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**Pamela Wiliams** - April 15, 2013 at 02:38 PM

RB

“ *We greatly admired and respected Uncle John. A man of true integrity. He will be missed.*

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**Roger, Mary and Bridget** - April 15, 2013 at 02:32 PM

SM

“ *Sending our thoughts prayers and hugs. Uncle John will was a good person and will be greatly missed.  
Love Marty, Sara and family*

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**Sara Miller** - April 15, 2013 at 01:22 PM

TA

“ *My dearest sympathy to Uncle John and his family. John enjoyed his life and his family so much. May he rest in peace and eternity with the Lord.*

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**Teresa O'Brien Anderson** - April 15, 2013 at 09:44 AM

TW

“ *We are thinking of you at this time. We loved Uncle John so very much.*

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**Tim and Kathleen (McCarthy) Wilbeck** - April 14, 2013 at 07:35 PM