



# John E. Matthews

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



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## **John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009

**J**ohn Edmund Matthews, 60, of Yorktown and Ashburn, VA died on Friday, August 14, 2009, at INOVA Loudoun Hospital Center in Lansdowne, VA following a courageous battle with lymphoma and heart disease.

Born on January 31, 1949 in Troy, New York, he was the son of the late Robert Matthews and Julia Stapleton Matthews Gunnen who passed away on June 19, 2009. John is survived by his loving wife Christine Golden Matthews, his brother, Robert T. Matthews of Poestenkill, NY, sister-in-law Karen Bradley (and David) of Scotia, NY and three nieces, Sarah Bradley of Brooklyn, NY, Emily Bradley of Boston, MA and Rachel Bradley, of Scotia, NY, and in-laws James and Joanne Golden of Mechanicville, NY.

John was a retired Land Planner specializing in real estate and community development. After earning a B.S. in Civil Engineering from New England College, a M.S. in Urban Environmental Studies from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a Masters in Public Affairs from Indiana University at Bloomington, John served in various public planning positions including Director of Planning and Community Development for York County, VA; Executive Director of the Southern Mid-coast Regional Planning Commission in Bath, ME; and Sr. Planner for Schenectady County, NY. John's career in real estate included serving as Vice President of Development and Construction Management for the FCR Group, as well as founding his own firms, the Environmental Assessment Group and John E. Matthews & Associates.

John was a member of the Hampton Roads Association for Commercial Real Estate, Board of Directors and Executive Committee 1991-2003, serving as President in 2001. John received a Gubernatorial appointment to the Board of Conservation and Development of Public Beaches of the Commonwealth of Virginia from 1996-2004, including Chairman for 2003-2004 and served on the Virginia Wetlands Board for the County of York from 1992-1996, serving as Chairman in 1996.



## Obituary

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009

John was a man of many passions. Model boat building, fishing off Cape Hatteras, sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, earning his Coast Guard Masters license for all maritime vessels, and serving his country as a volunteer in the USCG Auxiliary demonstrated his love of the water. John was former Vice Flotilla Commander of Flotilla 5-3 in Boston and earned numerous recognitions for his service. Playing St. Andrews and hitting a hole-in-one at the Belmont Country Club were proud golf achievements. As a member of the Eastern Professional Ski Instructors Association, John maintained his Professional Ski Instructor Certification well after he moved away from ski country. John was a member of both the Williamsburg and Belmont Country Clubs, as well as a former member of the Seaford and Hampton Yacht Clubs and the Lafayette Gun Club.

John was blessed with many friends from all over. Whether they were neighbors, or fishing and sailing buddies in the Yorktown area, friends and family in upstate New York, the Knights of Myrtle Beach, neighbors and friends from Monument Square in Charlestown, MA, the members of the United States Coast Guard Constitution Flotilla, 013-05-03 Auxiliary, or neighbors in Ashburn, Virginia, John will be remembered as a friend to all.

John was particularly devoted to his beloved wife Christine. Married 31 years on August 12, 2009, their mutual support and love was inspiring.

The family would like to especially recognize and thank Drs. Rajendra, Mendiguren, Chaudhary, and Dr. Traficante, the outstanding oncology, ICU, and telemetry staff of INOVA Loudoun Hospital Center and Dr. Paul O'Brien of Alexandria, VA for their care and support, over the past 2 years. Their efforts brought much comfort during very difficult times.

Calling hours will be from 2 – 4pm on Saturday, August 22, 2009, at the Amory Funeral Home, 410 Grafton Drive, Grafton, VA 23692-2172 with a memorial service immediately following, at 4pm at the funeral home.

A funeral mass is planned for Labor Day weekend on Saturday, September 5, at 9:00 am at Assumption/St. Paul Parish Community

52 William Street - Post Office Box 308 Mechanicville, New York 12118,  
with scattering of ashes at sea in early Fall.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to remember John in a special way, may make a donation to Loudoun Health Care Foundation, "In Memory of John Matthews", 44035 Riverside Parkway, Suite 420, Leesburg, VA 20176.



## Obituary

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Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.loudounfuneralchapel.com](http://www.loudounfuneralchapel.com)



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

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**Anonymous** posted:

Chris,I just learned of the death of your husband today and wanted to belatedly extend my deepest sympathies. During this time of grief, please know that you are in the thoughts and prayers of many with whom you've worked at EPA. May God be with you.Lynn Divine Conger, EPA##imported-begin##Lynn Conger##imported-end##

September 24 at 5:49 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, I'm so sorry to hear about your loss My condolences and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family...##imported-begin##Bernard Faller##imported-end##

August 31 at 6:04 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris,When I returned from vacation this morning (8/31/09), I was so sorry to get the word of John's passing. Please know that I will keep you in prayers. It was clear how much you meant to each other and how much you will miss him as a refuge in your very demanding life.Much love,Donna##imported-begin##Donna Cover##imported-end##

August 31 at 4:33 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Hi Chris,You have been in my thoughts all these days. I know how hard it is. I am really sorry about John and hope to be able to hug you soon in person.Mina.##imported-begin##Mina Samii##imported-end##

August 30 at 6:26 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, I can't imagine how difficult it must be to lose someone you have loved and lived with for so long. You have my deepest sympathies. We believe families can be together forever so however difficult this feels now it the end. May the Lord bless and comfort you.##imported-begin##Kevin Driscoll##imported-end##

August 28 at 2:15 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, you have been in my thoughts and my heart every day. I am sorry I could not tell you in person. All my love.##imported-begin##Linda Boynton##imported-end##

August 24 at 5:04 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Words cannot express how much sorrow I feel not only for you but the rest of John's family and friends. I only had a chance to know him a short while, and he was a compassionate, honorable and decent person who cared about the world around him, and especially adored you. He welcomed me into your home with no questions asked and made me feel like family. I know you will miss him, and just know that the rest of us are here to help and support you, provide a shoulder to cry on when needed, and help you weather this difficult storm. I will see you Saturday. Love, Irene.##imported-begin##Irene Manford##imported-end##

August 21 at 3:29 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Sincere comdolences Chris. Take comsolation that he suffers no more and will be with you in spirit forever.##imported-begin##Mike and Kathy Wixted##imported-end##

August 21 at 9:18 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, I am truly sorry to hear about your loss. My deepest and sincerest sympathies to you and your family. I hope all 31 years of your wonderful memories of John will give strength and comfort during this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with you . Sincerely, Muhannad##imported-begin##Muhannad Kanaan##imported-end##

August 20 at 9:37 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

May the memories of the wonderful life you and John shared sustain you through this great sadness. Elaine and Lance##imported-begin##Elaine Dauphin and Lance Swann##imported-end##

August 20 at 11:22 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, My thoughts and prayers are with you. He lived a remarkable life and those wonderful memories will sustain you and bring you peace. Deepest condolences, Noel##imported-begin##Noel Weller##imported-end##

August 20 at 8:57 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine - I am truly sorry to hear about your loss. Stay strong. My prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Brenda Gibson##imported-end##

August 20 at 6:58 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine - My deepest sympathies to you and your family. I hope John's memories and your family and friends give you strength in these difficult times.##imported-begin##Kiran Adapa##imported-end##

August 20 at 6:49 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chirs, My heart goes out to you. I am sorry for your loss. I know how difficult a long illness can be. I wish I had know because I have been through tough times. Keep in touch when you can. My thoughts are with you. Love, Diane MacDonald##imported-begin##Diane Guth MacDonald##imported-end##

August 20 at 12:58 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris - Our thoughts are with you and your family in this time of loss. Please let us know if we can do anything to help you. Jim and Carrie##imported-begin##Jim King##imported-end##

August 19 at 4:37 PM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris and Family;You have been in our daily thoughts and prayers. John was a gentle man. He was polite, thoughtful, caring and generous in spirit. He was also just fun to be with. We will miss him dearly. He has moved on to a better place. We are here for you. You are a devoted wife who stood by his side in good times and bad and in sickness and heath. Please let us know if there is anything you need.Love, Tom and Sharon Reynolds###imported-begin##sharon and tom reynolds###imported-end##

August 19 at 2:54 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Chris,Our thoughts are with you and your family during this very sad time. We hope the good memories sustain you in the difficult days ahead and that you feel the warmth and love of your friends and family. Love, Bruce & Mollie###imported-begin##Bruce & Mollie Kohout###imported-end##

August 19 at 12:35 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris – Please accept my deepest sympathies. I wish you all the best – Cindy C.###imported-begin##Cindy Castellana###imported-end##

August 19 at 11:09 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, I was very sorry to hear of John's passing. He fought a long battle. I know that you did everything you could.You have many good times to remember.###imported-begin##Linda Massaro###imported-end##

August 19 at 8:36 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Love and God's blessings and sympathy to you Chris.....To you and John I owe great thanks for your friendship in Maine in a time of need.....This work turned into the joy of knowing you and John, the love of labor and fun of jobs well done, events enjoyed...John believed in our Improvement. All of us on this Earth. God bless John!!!##imported-begin##William Lawson Culver and Nancy (Mr and Mrs)##imported-end##

August 19 at 8:22 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris - Jim and I send our prayers to you. Please know that John is in the Lord's loving hands. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.Gina##imported-begin##Gina Hammond##imported-end##

August 19 at 6:11 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, We are so very sorry for your loss. John was an amazing man and terrific friend. He so enjoyed Boston. He will be sorely missed. The world is a much sadder place without him. Chip, Michal, and Monk.##imported-begin##Michal McAulay##imported-end##

August 19 at 5:27 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Marie Lavallee##imported-end##

August 19 at 4:08 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Enjoyed our sailing together on the bay.##imported-begin##Joe Sprouse##imported-end##

August 18 at 5:37 PM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, Thinking of you at this time of deep sadness. May all the love and support surrounding you help you pass through these early days of grief. Be gentle with yourself and remember John's soul and body are at peace after such a long and courageous struggle. With deep sympathies and hugs, Angela##imported-begin##Angela Strong##imported-end##

August 18 at 5:01 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Sincerely, Terry Miller##imported-begin##Terry Miller##imported-end##

August 18 at 4:50 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, I was deeply saddened by the news of John's passing. I know he is in a better place now and that his suffering is over. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you now or in the future. You have always been one of the people I most admire and respect. Pat##imported-begin##Pat Ways##imported-end##

August 18 at 3:24 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I know it feels as if we are so far away, but know that you are all in our thoughts and in our prayers. Chris- you and John truly battled together these last couple of years. Now let the support of family and good friends surround you and help you as you move through the days ahead. Sincerely, Ken and Peg##imported-begin##Peg and Ken Broadhurst##imported-end##

August 18 at 2:59 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris and family It was a short time that I knew John, but the time was a most happy experience. He was one of the most interesting guys I have ever met. It's hard to find the words that might bring comfort to you right now but we just hope you'll remember how much we care and that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love FXN##imported-begin##Frank and Cheryl Norton##imported-end##

August 18 at 1:14 PM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Chris, John was a wonderful person and will be greatly missed. Tom joined the Myrtle Beach golf group for a number of years and always enjoyed playing golf with John. You have our sympathy and our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. Tom & Nancy Svehla##imported-begin##Tom & Nancy Svehla##imported-end##

August 18 at 11:45 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, I am so sorry for your loss. John seemed like a wonderful person and 31 years of marriage he must of been the best. You are in my prayers and know that what every I can do -- please feel free to contact me. Just wanted you to know that we are here for you during this time and always, Jackie Everett##imported-begin##Jackie Everett##imported-end##

August 18 at 11:08 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

John was a wonderful guy and I always enjoyed his company so much. His – and your – genuine love of Boston and Charlestown lifted us all, and from the Beanpot to the Halloween Parade he dove into our slightly weird culture with great gusto and made it all so much more fun for us locals. I will truly miss my great friend.##imported-begin##Chip Anderson##imported-end##

August 18 at 10:35 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, My heart goes out to you and your family. John was such a neat guy and you two were a wonderful couple. I loved every minute I spent in your company. Thanks so much for all your love and appreciation to me as well. You are forever in my heart and prayers...Wanda Roberts##imported-begin##Wanda Roberts##imported-end##

August 18 at 9:58 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

I wish to express my sincerest sympathies to the Mathews family at John's passing. I am sure god will welcome him and his sweet golf swing on to all of the great golf courses in heaven##imported-begin##Ed Cocks##imported-end##

August 18 at 9:49 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

In John's relatively short time as a Coast Guard Auxiliarist, he consistently demonstrated love of country, of our service, and of the ocean environment. In carrying out both his leadership and operational duties, including as an officer with the National Staff, John was not only a model of first-rate seamanship, but also the personification of how to combine honor, respect and devotion to duty with friendship and good humor. Everyone always smiled when John came on deck.##imported-begin##Harlan Doliner, DVCDR 5, 1NR USCGAUX##imported-end##

August 18 at 9:05 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

My dear friend Chris. Words are not enough. John was a great man, and you are a role model wife. I have enjoyed the little time I spent with John over the phone, and I'll never forget his words to me. We will miss you John. My thoughts are with you and your family. Please accept my deepest sympathy. Hala##imported-begin##Hala Strohmer##imported-end##

August 18 at 8:28 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris,I am so sorry to hear of your loss.Deepest sympathy,Frank##imported-begin##Frank Kidd##imported-end##

August 18 at 6:43 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear ChrisI wanted to express my deepest sympathy. Even though I did not know John I can tell he was a wonderful man who was loved by so many. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Judy Dutton##imported-end##

August 18 at 5:55 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, It was with great sorrow to learn of John's passing. We are in TN during the whole month of August, but wish we could be there for the funeral. Our prayers and best wishes are with you.Love,Madell & Sue##imported-begin##Madell Reynolds##imported-end##

August 18 at 5:38 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

In my short time knowing John it was easy to see that he conquered many mountains and crossed many seas. His genuine spirit and kindness were traits that I admired most.##imported-begin##Greg Wells##imported-end##

August 18 at 5:37 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris - You have my sincere sympathy in this difficult time. Your husband sounds like a wonderful person and I know you will cherish your memories together. Our hearts are with you. Dick##imported-begin##Dick Thacker##imported-end##

August 18 at 4:48 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Love, Loyalty, and Friendship, Always!! You are in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Cathy, Matt & Sean Chauvin##imported-end##

August 18 at 4:44 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris,He will be missed greatly. Please know you have our love.##imported-begin##Hank Johnson & Jane Southworth##imported-end##

August 18 at 4:21 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

I got to know John many years ago when he worked for York Co. Later, he and I spent a lot of time doing volunteer work for Williamsburg Country Club. I liked and admired John a great deal. He was very knowledgeable in his field (planning, land use) and offered valuable assistance to WCC on many occasions. He was also warm, friendly and had a great sense of humor. I will miss him.##imported-begin##Ed Chambers##imported-end##

August 18 at 4:15 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

John has been a great friend since I have known him in the last short four years. His love of the ocean and boats of all types (and knowledge of them) was astounding. He has been and will be greatly missed. Fair Winds and Following Seas my friend.##imported-begin##Ben Webster USCG##imported-end##

August 18 at 4:06 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, Words seem inadequate to express the sadness so many of us feel about John's passing. We are here to support you and we send you thoughts of peace and courage. Someone once told me....When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. Always in our prayers - Love, Ali##imported-begin##Ali (Staffield) Luciano##imported-end##

August 18 at 3:00 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Christine,I am so very sorry for your loss. I know that these last few years have been very difficult and my thoughts are with you as you move forward. --Tom##imported-begin##Tom Anderson##imported-end##

August 17 at 7:40 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Chris & family,Although it is difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow. My sincere sympathy,Carol Raphael##imported-begin##Carol Raphael##imported-end##

August 17 at 7:13 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Chris and all those who love John,My sincerest sympathy to each of you. John was so full of life and love. He was gracious. He was of good humor. He uplifted those around him. Chris talked so lovingly of John.I feverently hope that all the kindness and goodness that Chris and John have shown to so many comes back to each of you at this difficult time.With sincere sympathy,Ann-Marie Johnson##imported-begin##Ann-Marie Johnson##imported-end##

August 17 at 6:07 PM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

My deepest sympathies to you and the whole family.##imported-begin##Charles Freeman##imported-end##

August 17 at 2:47 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine - In time of you loss, mine and susan's condolences go out to you .##imported-begin##Chares Goorevich##imported-end##

August 17 at 1:52 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dearest Christine, There are no words to adequately address a broken heart but I want you to know that I am thinking of you and praying for you and John. After reading John's obituary, I can truly say, "I wish I had known him". What a terrific guy who lived such a full life. And how fortunate he was to have married such a wonderful woman who took such loving care of him. Hopefully, the memories and love you shared will sustain you through this very difficult time. If there is anything I can do for you, you have only to ask. Much love, Ann.##imported-begin##Ann Friel##imported-end##

August 17 at 12:49 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine - My deepest sympathies to you and your family. Reading John's obituary, it's obvious he lived a full and rewarding life and was blessed to have many, many friends and loves ones. We should all be so fortunate. We are all thinking of you during this horrible time. Lisa Poulter##imported-begin##Lisa Poulter##imported-end##

August 17 at 12:24 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, I can only imagine. Ginger and I have been married 38 years. You're in my prayers. Godspeed to you.##imported-begin##Andy Anderson##imported-end##

August 17 at 11:40 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris, We are deeply saddened at the news of your husband's passing. You are in our thoughts and we pray that God grants you peace and understanding in this very difficult circumstance. Sincerely, Bo and Steph Shumate

August 17 at 11:29 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you - I am so sad for you and will be there when you need me

August 17 at 11:21 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

My deepest sympathies, Christine. Please do let me know if I can do anything for you at work or otherwise. Warm regards...

August 17 at 11:02 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Christine, Our deepest sympathies to you and your family. All our thoughts and prayers are with you. May God Bless you and John, Gary and Karen

August 17 at 10:47 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Chris, My Wife and I want to offer our deepest condolences to you and your family. May your beliefs in a greater God and his Master Plan sustain and strengthen you in these very trying times, knowing full well that you will be together again. Our thoughts and prayers are with you this day and always. Sincerely, Dan Crusan and Linda Donato

August 17 at 10:30 AM



## Tribute Wall

**John E. Matthews**

JAN 31, 1949 - AUG 14, 2009



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Chris, May you find comfort in knowing that my thoughts and prayers and with you and your loved ones during this difficult time. With hopes that all of your wonderful memories of John will lighten your heart in the days to come. My deepest sympathy, Susanna

August 17 at 10:25 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Christine, Very sorry for your big loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Amira

August 17 at 10:13 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Chris - We are thinking of you in this difficult time. Words cannot even begin to express our sorrow over your loss. May your memories give you strength. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Very Respectfully, Jay and Tanya

August 17 at 10:08 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Christine, I wish I could find the words to comfort you during such a sad time. I know how much John meant to you and how he struggled over these last 2 years. John was touched by so much love and support and I know your love lifted his spirits and willed him to recover. I sincerely hope the memories, laughter and joy you shared with John will bring comfort to your broken heart as times passes. I am thinking of you and your family. Patti Skiles

August 17 at 9:58 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

My deepest sympathy for your loss, I will keep you and John in my prayers.

August 17 at 9:56 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring John E. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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