



## John A. Schlenker

February 23, 1943 - February 6, 2026

John A. Schlenker, 82, of Wapakoneta passed away 12:02 a.m., February 6, 2026, at Kindred Hospital, Lima. He was born February 23, 1943, in Lima, the son of the late John H. and Evon (Knatz) Schlenker. On April 24, 1985, he married Jean M. Warford, and she survives.

Other survivors include,

4 children, Jon T. Schlenker, Wapakoneta,

Amy (Shawn) Thompson, Wapakoneta,

Robin (Brian) Clay, Van Wert, OH,

Tracy (Ben) Langenkamp, Dayton, OH;

2 adopted children, Libby Florian, Wapakoneta,

Tyler Giles, Wapakoneta;

grandchildren, Brooke (Chris) Folk, Brent (Cait) Nagel

Ryan (Christine) Nagel, Tianna Thompson,

Austin Clay, Kirsten Clay, Paisley Florian,

Iris Florian;

10 great grandchildren;

sister, Peggy (Jack) Prater, Wapakoneta,

brother, Philip (Diane) Schlenker, Wapakoneta;

numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his brother, Michael, and sister-in-law, Joyce Schlenker.

John grew up on his family's farm, Wapa Farms, learning to drive the tractor

and helping his father with farming and the dairy cows at an early age. He helped his dad set up a modern milking parlor to better serve their dairy business. John was a member of the class of 1961 of Wapakoneta High School. During high school, he loved playing football and was the star center for the team. John was a man of great ambition and community spirit. Through his hard work and efforts, John negotiated the purchase of the Parlette farm in Wapakoneta, which was developed into homes and commercial properties. He was the president and founder of the Schlenker Developments. In 1969, he formed a partnership with his brother, Philip. Through their efforts, they developed Grand View Estates Subdivisions, Grand View Plaza and various residential and commercial properties in and around the area. Later in life, John sold his interest in the Schlenker Developments. John was the owner of the R. J.'s Coffey Cup and the former Grandview Video in Wapakoneta. He was a dedicated board member for Auglaize Industries and the Homebuilders Assn. He was a devoted fan who lived for the thrill of the game. John's loyalty to the Cincinnati Reds and Bengals, the Ohio State Buckeyes, and Wapak Redskins was unwavering. He embraced life with an open heart and a hungry palate, always eager to travel to new places and savor local flavors. Some of his happiest days were spent on the waters of Indian Lake. He loved captaining his pontoon. Back on land, he was a fixture of the neighborhood on his golf cart. You could always find him, riding around, looking at the beautiful scenery and enjoying the breezes of life.

Funeral services will be 12 p.m., Saturday, February 14, 2026, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, St. Rt. 501, Wapakoneta, with Pastor Anthony Spearhart officiating. Burial is to follow in the Greenlawn Cemetery, Wapakoneta. The family will receive friends 10 A.M.- 12 P.M., Saturday, February 14, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be directed to Auglaize Industries, Breakfast Optimist Club, or the Auglaize County Library. Condolences may be expressed at [www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Greenlawn Cemetery

Presar Road  
Wapakoneta, OH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 14. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Hwy  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
(419) 738-7676  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

## Service

FEB 14. 12:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Hwy  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
(419) 738-7676  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

# Tribute Wall

KK

“ Sending our sympathy to you all on your loss. He will be missed. May God help you thru this time. Robert & Kathy Knoch

Kathy Knoch - February 11 at 04:12 PM

AJ

“ We knew him and Jean from Coffey cup be sure will be missed in thoughts and prayers for Jean and family from Amy Jones and Cody jones

Amy Jones - February 11 at 04:06 PM

DH

“ Deb Harshbarger lit a candle in memory of John A. Schlenker



Deb Harshbarger - February 10 at 11:24 PM

II

“ Iris, Paisley and Ian purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John A. Schlenker.



Iris, Paisley and Ian - February 10 at 09:28 PM

II

“ Iris, Paisley and Ian planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John A. Schlenker.

Iris, Paisley and Ian - February 10 at 09:28 PM

DM

“ John was with our group in Japan when his daughter Tracy and our son Zane were the representatives for the doll return  
Sure a fun guy. He ate everything they set before him with gusto and joy he had such an infectious laugh and twinkling eyes  
Our community will miss him  
Our deepest sympathy to all the family  
The McElroys. Gary and Debbie

Debbie McElroy - February 10 at 10:18 AM

FE

John will be missed by family, friends and Auglaize County Republicans. He was a very generous and kind person. I personally will miss our many talks both at the Coffey Cup and texts about politics. God bless his family and give them peace at this time of grief.

Francia Engle - February 10 at 11:45 AM