



## John Szozda

February 9, 1920 - August 13, 2010

John Szozda, age 90, of Toledo, passed away Friday August 13, 2010 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Toledo Center. He was born on February 9, 1920 in Toledo, Ohio to Stanislaw (Stanley) and Anna (Dzendrowska) Szozda. A World War II Army Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, John was assigned to the First Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, 4th Armored Division. In 1943, the First Battalion was relieved from the 4th Armored and renamed the 771st Tank Battalion. The 771st was an independent tank battalion, a revolutionary concept at the time. It was attached to infantry units when they called for support. The 771st provided such support in France and Belgium. While moving up to the front line at Bastogne, during the Battle of the Bulge, John's Sherman tank was destroyed by a land mine. He emerged with a concussion and was ordered to a field hospital and finally to a hospital in Paris. He spent the rest of the war with the 3114th Ordnance unit stationed in Warmeriville, a small village near Reims. There he met the love of his life, Suzanne Perotin. Four years later, in 1949, he kept his promise to return to France to marry her. The two made their home in Toledo. John was a set-up and repair man at Champion Spark Plug where he worked for 30 years. He also built his own house, repaired the family vehicles, appliances, televisions and radios. Although he left grade school during The Great Depression, he believed in self-education and read manuals and books in order to fix anything mechanical. In retirement, he enjoyed golfing and fishing at the family's cabin in Northern Michigan. He also enjoyed helping his children with family projects. He was a member of Christ the King Catholic Church. He is survived by Suzanne, children John (Becky) Szozda; Jeri (Rick) deGroff; Kathie (Jim) Koenigseker; Frank (Darla) Szozda; Tim (Lila) Szozda; Chris (Rich) Amstel, all of whom are living in the Toledo area, and Lisa (Tony) Santos of Denver, Colorado. He is also survived by 21 grand-children, three great-grandchildren, a brother (Peter), and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Michael, Bronislaw (Bert), Casimir and Frank, and sisters Amelia (Portala), Anna (Maciejewski), Bertha (Koperski) and Tessie (Razny). Visitation will be from 2:00 to 8:00pm Monday in the Ansberg-West Funeral Home 3000 Sylvania Avenue where a scripture reading and eulogy will be held at 7:30pm. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 12:00pm Tuesday at Christ the King Church (prayers will be recited at the funeral home at 11:30am). Interment in Calvary

Cemetery. The family thanks the caregivers at From the Heart and staff at Hospice of Northwest Ohio for their care and help. Memorial donations can be made to Hospice of Northwest Ohio, The Cherry Street Mission or the Salvation Army. Online condolences may be left at <http://www.ansberg-west.com>

# Comments

---



“ To Chris: My condolences on the death of your father. My father died 17 years ago, so I know what you are going through. I hope you will carry many wonderful memories of your father with you throughout your life. From Marla (Wysocki) Wietrzykowski - Christ the King Class of 1973!

**Marla (Wysocki) Wietrzykowski** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ Toute ma famille se joint &#195; moi pour vous faire part de notre tristesse. Nous pensons bien &#195; vous, m&#195;&#170;me si nous sommes loin. Nous vous embrassons tous. Bertrand et sa famille

**Bertrand SERVAIS** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ John & Becky, Sorry I could not be there. My sincere sympathies to you and your family. Even though I did not know the elder John personally, he was a WWII vet just like my Dad, Robert Lee, who passed away last August 15, just 2 calendar days after John's passing. If you see Doug or Carol, tell them I said hi. I'm married and living in Sylvania now and my email is listed if you want to contact me. I know it's been quite some years, but I still have fond memories of you all. Who can forget the good times at the apartment on Torrey Hill? Once again, my sincere condolences on John's passing. Brian Lee

**Brian Lee - brnrlee@aol.com brnrlee@aol.com** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ Frank & Darla, It has been years since we last saw each other. When I read your dad's obituary I felt really bad for you. We have been there losing a parent. My deepest, deepest sympathy to you. Your name came up alot last week as Bob died very unexpectedly. Take care, we wish you the best. Tina Rowe

**Mrs. Robert Rowe - rowefour@verizon.net rowefour@verizon.net** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to John's family. I have very fond and vivid memories of walking home from school (Christ the King) with Jeri and coming to your home. We must have only been in the 1st or 2nd grade. I know that John & Kathie were the only other ones in school at that time. Your home was still in the process of being built, and there always a lot of activity. I remember Mrs. Szozda very well, and she always gave us pickles (yes! pickles) as an after-school snack. They were the crunchiest and best dill pickles I'd ever had. I loved them! Isn't it funny what you remember? Mr. Szozda was always working on the house. I thought he was very brave and talented to be building a home himself, and it seemed very large. Obviously your family made a very fond impact on me as I have remembered it all these years. Thank you. My deepest condolences to all of you.

**Kathy Warrington** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ Aunt Suzanne and family...Thinking of you at this time and pray peace be amongst you all.

**Carol Ruiz (Szozda)** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ John and Becky, I'm so sorry to heard of your loss. My thought's and prayers are with you and your family. I pray that the Lord give you abundant grace through this lonely time. Tim Cassidy 9N/9NCC

**Tim Cassidy - cmsss@yahoo.com cmsss@yahoo.com** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

---



“ To Szozda Family, We wish we knew just what to say to make things better. Sometimes words just aren't enough. May you be comforted by the many warn thoughts of those who care. Our deepest symphony for your loss.

**Sandi and Jim - sandijago@aol.com sandijago@aol.com** - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM