



# John D. Bruninga

JUL 27, 1956 - APR 6, 2023



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 8



## **John D. Bruninga**

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**J**ohn Dallam Bruninga died April 6 in Tavares, Fla., after a brief illness. He was 66.

The long-time resident of Nashville, TN., moved to central Florida in 2014 with his wife, Josefina Olivia, shortly after his retirement from Steinhouse Supply where he worked for many years. John was a graduate of Hillsboro High School (Go Burros!) and became a part of Nashville's rock music scene in the late 1970s, playing guitar for the band Silver Tongue. John grew up inspired and enthralled by the great rock and roll of the 1960s and 70s, but the Beatles---especially John Lennon---were his favorite artists. He still has an extensive record collection that he has kept in pristine shape.

A committed advocate for wildlife and the environment, John, who was born in Miami, spent much of his retirement enjoying the birds and natural beauty of his home state of Florida. He obtained a certificate in Florida's master naturalist program and was certified to do water quality testing. He planted a beautiful yard with wonderful flowers and other vegetation native to Florida and helped educate his neighbors on the importance of conserving water and creating habitat for native birds and other animals. He was also a member of the Lake County Conservation Council and volunteered for the local food pantry. Although John valued his time at home with Olivia or out in nature, he was a veritable people person who could charm anyone with his smile, his humor, his rich voice and his ability to connect.

In addition to his wife of nearly 25 years, John is survived by his son John Jr. (Melissa) and grandson, Jay; stepdaughter Marcela Fournier (Jose) and step-grandson Jordan Fournier. He also leaves behind his sister Susie and her son Dominique Mitchell, cousin Kathy Galvin (Jim), nieces Jamie Galvin, Jenna Galvin Nelson and Cassidy Bruninga, as well as other family members, including Katrina Haley and Carol Beswick. His parents, Beverly and Hank, and brother Steve preceded him in death.



## Obituary

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John's ashes will be placed near the gravesite of his maternal grandparents, Alice and Charlie Ward, in the city of Lake Wales, Fla., cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to one of his favorite charities, such as the National Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy or the National Audubon Society or an organization of your choosing.



# Tribute Wall

**John D. Bruninga**  
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OL

**Olivia** lit a candle in honor of John.  
Olivia lit a candle in memory of John Bruninga

July 27 at 8:40 AM



OB

**Olivia Bruninga** shared a photo to the **I Love you!** album.

May 22 at 4:18 PM



**OL** **Olivia** July 27 at 8:43 AM  
I miss you dearly !

OL

**Olivia** lit a candle in honor of John.  
Olivia lit a candle in memory of John Bruninga

May 11 at 4:04 PM



BE

**Beverlie** posted:  
John was a fantastic family friend more than 50 years! Losing precious John was almost like losing my own sweet brother again! In fact John was a 2nd brother to me. 🌸

April 27 at 1:12 PM

MF

**Marcela Fournier** shared a photo to the **I Love you!** album.

April 18 at 2:33 PM





# Tribute Wall

**John D. Bruninga**  
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**Olivia Bruninga** shared a photo to the **I Love you!** album.



April 16 at 5:30 PM



**Jordan Fournier** lit a candle in honor of John.

Jordan Fournier lit a candle in memory of John Bruninga



April 16 at 5:28 PM



**Yolonda Gaskin** lit a candle in honor of John.

Sending my deepest condolences to Mrs. Olivia B and the rest of the family on the passing of Mr. John B. Such a beautiful tribute to his life, May all the special memories of such a kind man bring you comfort.



April 12 at 2:51 PM



**Karen Firestone** posted:

How SPECIAL it is for us to remember John, his kindness and his genuine interest in others! Our times together were relatively short but one could immediately sense his compassion & love for Josefina & the beauty in life. In the middle of his own struggles, John was asking about us. Several times he would send a verse or a prayer of encouragement. Tho miles separated us, his spirit was close. His love for Josefina was beautiful, an example for us all! ❤️ He will be extremely missed but we are thankful to know he is at Peace. HEAVEN IS SWEETER ALL THE TIME 🌹 Tom & Karen Firestone

April 12 at 12:53 PM



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**Melissa Joyce, Sarah, & Tyler.** posted:

My best memory is the First time meeting you in person, although we've spoken by phone, & have seen photos, I remember telling you as soon as you walked in the Hospital room to see your son John Jr. I told you how I could have picked you out of a crowd, twins I tell you, made me smile & you smiled too! 🥰 I also remember how much you loved wild life, & we're so excited to make a donation in your sons name to a wildlife conservation of his choice one year, & I remember how calm your voice always sounded in person & by phone when you & John Jr. Spoke. I Wish me, & my children Sarah & Tyler got to know you more, but grateful for the time we had, & blessed & proud to be part of the Bruninga family. Rest Easy. 🙏

April 11 at 7:19 PM



**Jim Steinhouse** posted:

John B, as we called him, was a great guy. He worked with us for 19 years, retiring to move to Florida. He was always very pleasant, even tempered, dependable, a great company man. I am sorry to hear of his passing, sending best wishes to Olivia and the rest of the family. Jim Steinhouse.

April 11 at 3:54 PM



**Olivia Bruninga** shared a photo to the **I Love you!** album.

May 22 at 4:18 PM



Miss you!



Marcela Fournier shared a photo to the **I Love you!** album.

April 18 at 2:33 PM



Trees for a Change



**Olivia Bruninga** shared a photo to the **I Love you!** album.

April 16 at 5:30 PM



**I Love You!**



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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