



## John Baptiste Andriulli

January 24, 1937 - May 10, 2026

John Baptiste Andriulli, age 89, of Kingston, Tennessee, passed away unexpectedly on May 10, 2026, in a single-vehicle automobile accident in Harriman. Born on January 24, 1937, in Paterson, New Jersey, John lived a life defined by curiosity, quiet brilliance, faith, devotion to family, and an unwavering passion for engineering and adventure.

John was the son of Patrina “Virginia” Caramanna Andriulli and Louis Victor Andriulli. He was preceded in death by his wife, Minna B. Andriulli; his sister, Antoinette “Toni” Walley; and his stepson, Sean King.

He is survived by his loving children: Louis Andriulli (Debra), Morgan Andriulli (Jamie Miernik), Jessica Keith (Brian), and Ida Von Spakovsky (Alex); and by his stepchildren: Joe King (Mary), Sharon Mikanowicz (Todd), and Bill King (Penny). John was a proud grandfather to 20 grandchildren and 34 (and counting) great-grandchildren, all of whom brought him immense joy and pride.

John attended East Side High School in Paterson before earning a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 1958. His extraordinary engineering career began at Boeing in Seattle, Washington, in 1960, where he worked on the ambitious Dyna-Soar program. When the project was canceled, John accepted a position on the newly awarded Saturn V booster program, a decision that would place him at the forefront of America’s space exploration efforts.

In 1962, John arrived in Huntsville, Alabama, where he began work in the

Huntsville Industrial Complex (aka, HIC Building) on the Saturn V second stage dynamic test article. It is fitting that a test run in the famous giant anechoic chamber at Wyle Labs, the loudest instrument ever created (168 dB), was guided by a quiet, unassuming engineer who had suffered partial hearing loss from a young age.

John's expanding expertise in dynamic testing and analysis led to his work on one of NASA's most iconic achievements: the Lunar Roving Vehicle.

Combining his interests in motorsports, mathematics, and engineering, John utilized equations he had first developed as a teenager to simulate race car suspension systems. Along with the computer code he created for the LRV Dynamic Analysis Team, John enabled the virtual simulation of the entire rover's structure as it moved over the lunar surface. Family and colleagues alike believe this pioneering work may represent one of the earliest examples of computer driving simulation technology.

Following the Apollo era, John continued his distinguished career at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where he devoted decades to nuclear fuel enrichment research. His expertise in high-speed centrifuge dynamics and the resulting 'spin-off' technology transfer made him an invaluable resource and mentor. Even after his official 'retirement' from Lockheed Martin, John continued serving as a contractor and subject matter expert until August 2024, concluding a remarkable career spanning more than sixty years. He often said, "If you find something you love, you never work a day in your life," and that he did.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, John was deeply devoted to his faith community at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Harriman, Tennessee. He also treasured his friendships within the Knoxville and East Tennessee paddling communities, where he was widely known as "Oldest Man on the River." Whether paddling a quiet stretch of water, mentoring younger engineers (up to age 60+), or sharing stories with friends and family, John brought humor, wisdom, and enthusiasm to every moment.

In retirement, John devoted special attention to his beloved 1962 Chevy C10

pickup truck, which he had purchased new to move from Seattle decades earlier. Above all, John cherished time with his ever-growing family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whose lives were enriched by his love, intellect, and playful spirit.

John Baptiste Andriulli leaves behind a legacy of innovation, kindness, mentorship, faith, and family devotion. His life touched countless people across generations, from the engineers he inspired to the family members and friends who loved him dearly. He will be profoundly missed and forever remembered.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM, Thursday, May 14, 2026 at the Kyker Funeral Home in Kingston with a Prayer Service concluding the receiving of friends. Requiem Mass 12:00 PM Noon, Friday, May 15, 2026 at the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church 535 Margrave Drive Harriman, TN 37748 with Father Michael Sweeney officiating. Entombment will follow in Roane Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Blessed Sacrament Church Building Fund. Kyker Funeral Home of Kingston is serving the Andriulli Family.

# Cemetery Details

## Roane Memorial Gardens

1400 N Gateway Ave  
Rockwood, TN 37854

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes  
OUR KINGSTON CHAPEL  
PO Box 69, 350 W Race St  
Kingston, TN 37763  
(865) 376-6531  
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Requiem Mass

MAY 15. 12:00 PM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
535 Margrave Drive  
Harriman, TN 37748

## Entombment

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MAY 15 (ET)

Roane Memorial Gardens  
1400 N Gateway Ave  
Rockwood, TN 37854

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kyker Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Baptiste Andriulli*



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**Kyker Funeral Home** - May 14 at 10:23 AM

TG

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Teresa Gryder** - May 15 at 02:43 PM

JP

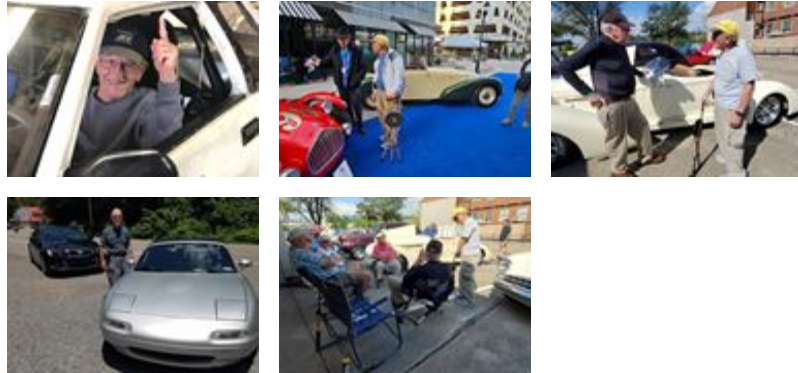
“ *Oh, John. This is too soon. I can't believe I won't be having those long conversations about family, our plans, issues of the day and cars, always talked a bit about cars. You were the oldest of all the cousins and, we looked up to you not only for your accomplishments but for your goodness and kind heart. You are a man in full: father, grandfather, great grandfather, husband, cousin, friend, mentor, and engineer scientist. I will miss you. Rest in peace, dear John. ❤️🌹❤️🌹*

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**Judith Panicucci** - May 14 at 03:31 PM



“ 191 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Kyker Funeral Home** - May 14 at 10:08 AM



“ *Cheryl and David Gilman purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of John Baptiste Andriulli.*



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**Cheryl and David Gilman** - May 14 at 09:06 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John Baptiste Andriulli.*



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May 13 at 05:52 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Baptiste Andriulli.*



May 13 at 07:23 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Baptiste Andriulli.

May 13 at 07:23 AM



“ *To the friends and family reading this, google ‘John Andriulli Story Corp’ and hear John and Morgan discuss John’s life, career and insatiable curiosity. I promise it will worth your time.*

**Scott Bannister** - May 12 at 09:57 PM

MK

*Thank you for sharing!! I just listened and thoroughly enjoyed hearing John talk about his life and career! Priceless!*

**Mary King** - May 14 at 10:01 AM



“ *Jean, Knox, Susan, Scott purchased the Ringed by Love for the family of John Baptiste Andriulli.*



**Jean, Knox, Susan, Scott** - May 12 at 09:44 PM

JS

“ Jean, Knox, Susan, Scott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Baptiste Andriulli.

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**Jean, Knox, Susan, Scott** - May 12 at 09:44 PM

MD

“ I was just starting to know John. We shared our love for cars. He brought his blue truck to church just 2 weeks ago. I had the pleasure of having dinners with him and other friends from Blessed Sacrament Church after mass. Only this past Sunday, I sat next to him at the Mother's Day brunch. I'll miss out talks John and I'll miss you more!!

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**Michael D'Atri** - May 12 at 07:05 PM

MB

“ John was such a nice man and a fantastic neighbor for many years. After my mother passed away, John made himself available to help me with projects around the house, always offering knowledge when necessary. Many times he pulled my trash cans in while I was out of town or would charge a car battery. I just thought the world of John and appreciated him so much. He always came with a smile and positivity.

I will miss him very much. Two weeks ago, he stood by my car and we talked about all sorts of things for at least an hour. He loved the Lord and I know John is at peace with Jesus and his loving wife.

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**Missy Brown** - May 12 at 05:40 PM

FC

“ From Grayson Carter & Son Contracting purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of John Baptiste Andriulli.



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**From Grayson Carter & Son Contracting** - May 12 at 04:27 PM

FC

“ From Grayson Carter & Son Contracting planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Baptiste Andriulli.

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**From Grayson Carter & Son Contracting** - May 12 at 04:27 PM

TA

“ John is probably the smartest person I have ever known. His contributions to the technical work in Oak Ridge are in play today. His dedication to serving his church are also in evidence today. His unique wit and his perspective on life will remain as lasting memories also. John was my dear friend.

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**Tony Angelelli** - May 12 at 04:18 PM