



## John Gomery Kirby

December 11, 1939 - January 12, 2024

John Gomery Kirby of Chester, MD passed away January 12, 2024, at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, MD. He was born December 11, 1939, in Washington, D.C., of parents Clifford and Marie Kirby (Lickers).

John graduated from Bladensburg High School, was in the USAF and attended Prince Georges Community College and the University of Maryland. He began flying in 1966 and held aviation-related positions for 40+ years. He managed Queen Anne's County Bay Bridge Airport, Stevensville, MD from 1995-2007. He held community outreach efforts there, e.g., Wings and Wheels for Sight that raised funds for vision research and assistance. He was a corporate pilot for Clarks Landing. He co-owned Aerosource Inc. and flew Washington Metro area media rush-hour traffic surveys and other aerial surveys for Federal agencies. He taught flight and managed local airports in Prince Georges and Anne Arundel counties. Some of his many trainees went on to fly for the military, airlines and corporations or as astronauts.

John was highly active and a leader in national and state-level aviation associations, the Kent Island Lions Club, and Kent Island United Methodist Church. From his mid-teens he served volunteer fire companies in Seat Pleasant, Crofton, Kent Island, and United Communities, with leadership roles in these too.

John is survived by Evelyn Kirby, wife of 57 years; daughter Ann Kirby of Winter Park, FL; daughter Laura Kirby Ferraro (husband Dennis), granddaughter Kirby Elizabeth Ferraro of Oviedo, FL; brothers William Kirby (wife Zena) of Hughesville, MD and Patrick Kirby (wife Eileen) of Conway, SC; brother-in-law Gordon Piscacek of Chester, MD. He was predeceased by twin Clifford Kirby, brother Thomas Kirby, sister Hilda Kirby Silversmith, parents Clifford and Marie Kirby Lickers and stepfather Elmer Lickers.

Visitation will be Saturday January 20, 2024, at 11 a.m. with a celebration of life service at noon at Christ Church Parish, 830 Romancoke Road, Stevensville, MD 21666. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org) (to sponsor a child) or to Christ Church Parish. For on-line condolences go to [www.fhnfuneralhome.com](http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Christ Episcopal Church (Kent Island)  
830 Romancoke Road  
Stevensville, MD

## Celebration of Life

JAN 20. 12:00 PM (ET)

Christ Episcopal Church (Kent Island)  
830 Romancoke Road  
Stevensville, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Gomery Kirby*



**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - January 16, 2024 at 04:06 PM

PL

*John donated his time and his talents to many of the charities in and around Kent Island. He gave many plane rides to people winning auctions at Chesapeake Cats and Dogs. He was always smiling and upbeat. Thanks again John. What a caring Christian!*

**Peter Lee** - January 19, 2024 at 09:22 AM

AB

“ *Sending our deepest condolences to Mrs. Kirby and family. Mr. Kirby always had a smile and a wave every time he was outside. He was so kind to our grandchildren. Such a nice man and great neighbor. Praying for care and comfort.*  
*Jeff and Ann Bishop*

**Ann Bishop** - January 20, 2024 at 12:50 AM

JL

“ John Kirby was a member of the Kent Island Lions Club for over 25 years. He served as club president and for many years a club secretary. He was Chairman for Wings and Wheels for Sight held at the Bay Bridge Airport for several years. One of his favorite service projects was screening the vision of pre-school children. He was a valued Lion serving his fellow man and will be sorely missed.

John Lawrence - January 19, 2024 at 04:18 PM

KR

“ Ms. Kirby,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. We are sorry to hear of Mr. Kirby's passing. May God comfort your heart in a time of need. Thinking of you, Kim Pierson Ruth & family

Kim RUTH - January 19, 2024 at 03:53 PM

KK

“ Kimmel K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Gomery Kirby.

Kimmel K. - January 19, 2024 at 08:43 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Gomery Kirby.



January 19, 2024 at 08:43 AM

CK

“ Cheryl Khanamuenwai lit a candle in memory of John Gomery Kirby



Cheryl Khanamuenwai - January 18, 2024 at 11:37 PM

GP

“ Gene And Lynda Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of John Gomery Kirby



Gene and Lynda Palmatary - January 18, 2024 at 10:00 PM

GP

*To the family: I worked with Mr. John very close when I worked in the County Commissioners's Office and he was Manager at the Bay Bridge Airport. He was a great man and was so very helpful to me. He will surely be missed by many and his love for this County was to the highest. My prayers and blessings are with the family at this time. Mr. John you were a great gentleman and I was so honored to have known you. RIP. Lynda Palmatary, Centreville.*

Gene and Lynda Palmatary - January 18, 2024 at 10:05 PM

Jackie Benton

“ Jackie Benton lit a candle in memory of John Gomery Kirby



Jackie Benton - January 18, 2024 at 02:12 PM

TS

“ Tracy Schulz lit a candle in memory of John Gomery Kirby



Tracy Schulz - January 17, 2024 at 05:58 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John Gomery Kirby.



January 17, 2024 at 11:45 AM

MZ

“ Mike Zimmer lit a candle in memory of John Gomery Kirby



Mike Zimmer - January 17, 2024 at 07:58 AM

MZ

You will be missed John Kirby.

Mike Zimmer - January 17, 2024 at 07:59 AM

PR

“ Will miss my “buddy” tremendously. Many, many memories made and life lessons learned when working for him at Bay Bridge Airport. He was certainly one of a kind and the aviation community has lost an icon. Sending my love to Evelyn, Ann and Laura. He is now soaring with the eagles.

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**Pat Ray** - January 16, 2024 at 12:04 PM