



## John Edward Siedlarz

August 29, 1942 - April 21, 2009

John Edward Siedlarz, 66, of Easton, MD passed away on Tuesday April 21, 2009 at the University of Maryland Medical Center surrounded by his loving family.

John was born August 29, 1942 in the small coal-mining town of Shenandoah, Pennsylvania. His father, John Siedlarz was a coal-miner and his mother Mary (Uhas) Siedlarz was a seamstress. As a young man he attended St Charles Borromeo seminary in Philadelphia, instilling in him a life-long love and respect for his Catholic faith. Returning to Shenandoah, he graduated from Shenandoah Catholic High School as the student body president.

After High School he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and was later commissioned as an officer through the Airman's Education and Commissioning Program where he also earned a B.A. in Public Administration from the University of Arizona. While an officer, he served a tour of duty in Vietnam and received a Bronze Star Medal for his actions during the Tet offensive of 1968. John served in various assignments specializing in nuclear and weapons system security until his eventual retirement in 1980.

After retirement from the Air Force, he settled his family in Indian Mills, NJ where he founded and managed a number of companies in the security systems and engineering industry performing studies in nuclear and

infrastructure security and completing threat assessments for the Architect of the Capitol, where he helped design a new security program for the U.S. Capitol Complex. Together with the scientific inventors, he helped develop and innovate the world's first Iris recognition system. Co-founding a company dedicated to this technology, he won numerous small business and entrepreneurial awards. Later, after the events of 9/11 he moved his family to Easton, MD and co-founded a non-profit organization in Washington DC and Morgantown, WV, funded by Congress, called the National Biometric Security Project chartered to conduct impartial biometric security studies for the government and private industry. During his many years in the security industry he helped establish and/or serve as spokesman for trade organizations such as the International Biometric Industry Association, the National Defense Industrial Association and the American Society of Industrial Security. He also used his talents for various charitable interests, most notably serving as President and trustee of the Board of Trustees for the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America.

Outside of business, John enriched his life and those around him with many interests. He was an avid reader of military history, loved wooden boats pouring his passion into a 41' Mathews. He had an equal passion for restoring classic British sports cars particularly the E-type Jaguar and spent many hours modeling the old coal-mining trains he watched as a boy. Beside his family, his greatest passion was his dream home he called "Eventide," which he built with his wife on the Miles River in Easton, MD.

John is survived by his beloved wife Paula R. Siedlarz; three children and four grandchildren, John A. Siedlarz with wife Criste and granddaughter Catherine of Germantown, MD; Karen M. Siedlarz with husband Eric Cochran and grandson Evan of Middletown, MD; and Joseph F. Siedlarz with wife Leanne and grandsons Joseph Jr. and Benjamin of Alexandria, VA; two step-children Ryan James Protos and Alexandra Nicole Protos all of Easton, MD; John's

older brother Leonard J. Siedlarz of Egg Harbor Township, NJ; numerous God-children, nephews, nieces and brothers and sisters in-law and mother in-law Lorna Helfrick of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Friends may call at the Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home P.A., Easton, Monday, April 27, 2009 from 7-9pm. A Funeral liturgy will be celebrated at 10:00AM on Tuesday April 28, 2009, at St. Michael's Mission Church, in St. Michael's, MD.

Burial will be in the Oxford cemetery, Oxford Maryland.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Huntington's Disease Society of America at <https://www.hdsa.org/donations.html>.

# Previous Events

## Service

APR **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Michaels Mission Church  
109 Lincoln Avenue  
St. Michaels, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Edward Siedlarz*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *John Edward Siedlarz*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *John Edward Siedlarz*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *John and family: I'm sadden about your passing and also sadden I will not be able to make it either to your wake ☐ and funeral you and your family are in my prayers as they always will be thanks John for being part of my life the guidance and talk(S) you have given will and always be cherished Buckley bless John see you in heaven*

*Pat Buckley##imported-begin##pat Buckley##imported-end##*

May 06, 2009 at 02:25 PM



“ *A great friend who opened up his business to a group of unknowns in Australia and welcomed us into his family. A fellow "blue suiter" and on which he was happy to build his trust. Sorry to hear the news - I am a praying man and am praying for you all at this time##imported-begin##Bruce Lyman##imported-end##*

April 27, 2009 at 05:54 PM



“ John,  
Was a wonderful man!! He will be sadly missed by many!! I'll always remember his kind eyes and wonderful smile!! My deepest sympathy to his family!!  
Sincerely,  
Dina Lucci,  
former employee at NBSP.##imported-begin##Dina Lucci##imported-end##

---

April 27, 2009 at 12:03 PM



“ My deepest sympathy and condolences to John's family in this time of sorrow.

*As a former employee of a many years ago I remember John as an intelligent, friendly and professional who always had a smile and a pleasant word for everyone.*

*He helped make a difference and that is what all of us would like to do.##imported-begin##Charles A. Hammaker, Jr.##imported-end##*

---

April 25, 2009 at 08:00 PM



“ Dear family & friends -  
I'm so sad to hear of John's passing, but so extremely glad to have known him. He touched many lives in a gracious way, including my own. I will remember him for his honesty and level-headed advice. And as a pioneer willing to take on new challenges. He will surely be missed by many, including those of us in the biometric community.  
God's peace and strength to you.  
Cathy Tilton##imported-begin##Cathy Tilton##imported-end##

---

April 24, 2009 at 05:07 PM