



John Hansen Highby

November 17, 1944 - January 2, 2026

John Hansen Highby, 81, of Baltimore, Maryland passed away on Friday, January 2, 2026.

John was born at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C. on November 17, 1944. He

grew up in Charles County, MD in a home his parents had built adjacent to his maternal

grandparents' home. The Highbys grew their own vegetables and kept animals and

chickens. Working on the farm was an integral part of John's childhood. John was close to

his grandparents and would stop at his grandfather's country store every day after school.

He and his family were parishioners at St. John's Episcopal Chapel in Pomonkey, MD.

John attended LaPlata High School where he was an athlete and a musician.

He played

piano, trumpet, and French horn. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry

from Johns Hopkins University, an associate's degree in electronic data processing from

Charles County Community College, and a master's degree in civil engineering from

Howard University. Soon after graduating from Johns Hopkins, John was married. He and his wife lived in Oxon Hill, Maryland. John taught math and chemistry at Prince Georges County Community College. He also worked at the Indian Head Naval Ordnance Station testing experimental rocket fuel.

In 1980, John and his wife and daughter moved to Baltimore, and he began working at the Hunt Valley, MD offices of PSC Engineering. He spent the remainder of his career working as an engineer with a focus on design and maintenance of wastewater treatment plants.

For the first ten years of residence in Baltimore, John spent most weekends working on the rehabilitation of his home in Guilford.

In addition to home improvement, John had many interests including gardening, cooking and baking, golf, photography, cycling, collecting coins and model cars, and performing with the Paint and Powder Club. John served as treasurer for the Baltimore City Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution and for the Robert Long House Museum in Fells Point.

John was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife, Merry

Gladding Highby, daughter Amanda Merryman Highby, son-in-law David Edward

Butkiewicz, grandchildren Nicholas Alexander Merryman and Jillian Elisabeth Louise

Butkiewicz, and brother Richard Ingemann Highby. He is pre-deceased by his

parents

William Erwin and Sara Louise (Jameson) Highby.

John and Merry met at a party given by mutual friends. They were married for 57 years.

Their shared interests included designing and maintaining their home and garden,

antiquing, going on historic house tours, researching their genealogy,

attending social

events, dancing, dining at their favorite restaurants, and hosting holidays at their home.

Cemetery Details

Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens

200 E. Padonia Road
Timonium, MD 21093
<http://www.dulaneyvalley.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Visitation

JAN 12. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

JAN **23**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Church of the Redeemer
5603 N Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21210