



## John Hugh McKnight

August 26, 1939 - November 6, 2024

On November 6, 2024, John Hugh McKnight passed away in Los Angeles, California. John was born on August 26, 1939, to Florence Sievwright McKnight and Hugh Copeland McKnight in Manhattan, New York. His family lived in Astoria, Long Island, New York before moving to Orlando, Florida in 1953. John graduated from Edgewater High School where he created many beautiful childhood friendships that lasted a lifetime. He adored his friends especially the ones he called “his girls”. John went on to attend and graduate from The University of Florida where he was a proud member of the Phi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Upon graduating, he joined the United States Army. He served from 1962 – 1964 and became a military police officer. After his service, John moved to California and started his acting career. Early on, John was a regular on *The Young and the Restless*. He was also in various episodes of *Love Boat* (1977-78), *Dallas* (1978), *Charlie’s Angels* (1979), *Fantasy Island* (1982), *Hart to Hart* (1983-84), *Falcon Crest* (1983-86), *Dynasty* (1984-88) and *The Colbys* (1985-86). In the 90’s, he was an actor/stuntman appearing in *Star Trek*, original series and *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*. He specialized in driving stunts and later became a member of Bill Young’s Precision Driving Team. He was in *Speed* (1994) and *Gone in 60 seconds* (2000). During the filming of *Airplane II: The sequel* (1982), John was among the group of extras who were converted from SEG to SAG members. One of John’s best memories was working with Lucille Ball on *The Lucy Show*.

John is survived by his niece, Shannon McKnight Sobolewski and her husband, Kirk Sobolewski: three children, Trenton Forbes Sobolewski, Broden Bronson Sobolewski, and Baylor Leighton Sobolewski. Sister -in -law, Beverly Phegley McKnight; God Son: John Lee and his wife Barbara Lee; Brother -in -law: Jon Batman; Sister- in -law, Martha Bryant McKnight; Cousins, Jill Matthews Gallow and Gilbert Matthews.

John was predeceased by his parents, Florence and Hugh Copeland McKnight, his brother, David Forbes McKnight and his sister Linda McKnight Batman.

Personal thank you and shout out to his friends in California who were so helpful to John during this time: Bill Young, Tom Peters, Suzanne Lodge, Donald Pooling, Ronald Hecker, Sue Bulson, Ariel Toole, Madeline Sakmar, George Sonneborn, Sarah Iskandani and Rich Ryan. Thank you all very much!

# Cemetery Details

## Greenwood Cemetery

1603 Greenwood Street  
Orlando, FL 32801

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

NOV 20. 1:00 PM (ET)

Greenwood Cemetery  
1603 Greenwood Street  
Orlando, FL 32801

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ This is a year late. Last year we moved to Texas and thought I didn't get a Christmas card from John because of our move. We then moved back to AZ and I thought this year, I would make sure I could call him and chat. His mother lived in the house behind us. Many good conversations over the years when he would visit her. John and I talked about "old" Orlando when we grew up and I have many fond memories of him. He was a very caring man and I will miss our friendship.

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**Sandy Savarese** - December 09, 2025 at 01:15 PM

PE

“ Very few people have touched my life so sweetly. As a starry eyed teenage girl I was fortunate to know this fantastic young man. He was a kind and tireless assistant in the dance studio we attended . Always charming and helpful. I ran in to him once at Dubstead Country Club at a Boone High School reunion. John was there for another function, but we shared a brief conversation. He will always be remembered with affection. Permelia Pam Rothfuss Ehle. Orlando Fla.

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**Pam Permelia Rothfuss Ehle** - November 07, 2025 at 02:36 PM

RL

“ To the Sobolewski family:

*I was a fraternity brother of John's in Pi Kappa Alpha. We were friends then and remained in touch since. I've missed his phone calls and thought he was ill, but after 6 months of not hearing from him, I decided to check the obituaries and discovered the news of his death. He often spoke of his lovely family and how much you meant to him. While at Pikes in Gainesville, John was social chairman and created memorable parties. One of the best was the Hawaiian Party in 58-59 which was a resounding success and is still celebrated every year at the Pike House according to my grandson who is a member there now. I miss our talks and his cheerful repartee. You have my condolences.*

*Ralph Lambert*

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**Ralph Lambert** - June 09, 2025 at 01:52 PM

BH

“ *Johnnie was extended family to us. Joined us at holiday parties. Would show up at all hours of the day or night. Always with bottles of sparkling apple juice. Oy the stories of old hollyweird. Every woman was “darling”. Daily walks at Hollywood forever. Knew everyone he walked by twice.*

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**Barb Horowitz** - December 13, 2024 at 12:05 PM

SC

“ *My dear handsome funny friend, I will miss talking to you. We had some great times.and made some wonderful friends in the business. God bless rest in peace. I love you. Suz Covington*

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**suzanne Covington** - November 21, 2024 at 02:12 PM

CF

“ Chuck Sobolewski & Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Hugh McKnight.



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**Chuck Sobolewski & Family** - November 20, 2024 at 09:56 AM

R&

“ Rich &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Hugh McKnight.

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**Rich &.** - November 19, 2024 at 02:17 PM

WJ

“ With Love, Kris & J purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Hugh McKnight.



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**With Love, Kris & J** - November 18, 2024 at 11:45 PM