



## John Koons Lloyd

April 6, 1946 - February 13, 2024

On February 13, 2024, John K. Lloyd, 77, boarded a non-stop flight to heaven dancing his way through the gates and giving high fives to all the angels who are there to greet him. It will not take John long to know everyone's name, a trait that has followed him throughout his lifetime. John left his mortal self peacefully called home by those loved ones who have gone before and surrounded by his loving family here on Earth.

John was born in Philadelphia, PA on April 6, 1946 to the late James H. Lloyd II and Margaret (Koons) Lloyd. As a child, John and his brother Jim lived a nomadic lifestyle as Army "brats" following his Army father and homemaker mother to numerous bases around the country and world. Moving every two to three years, whenever their father received an order to be stationed somewhere else, John learned to adapt to change and develop his "can do" attitude that would serve him throughout his life.

After serving as a World War II veteran tank commander, John's father moved the family to Fort Wadsworth on Staten Island in charge of all the Nike missile sites along the east coast. As a teenager John was given the option to join his brother Jim at the Peddie School in Hightstown, NJ. Excelling as a student, leader, and star lacrosse player, John met the challenges of life away from his parents but none more than the loss of his father at the age of 17. After graduating from Peddie as President of his senior class and having been

accepted to Princeton University in 1964, John worked his way through with the loving support of his mother, a medical secretary, as a member of the Navy ROTC program and waiting tables at the eating clubs. He led Princeton's varsity lacrosse team as captain and was a part of the 1967 NCAA lacrosse championship team.

Upon graduation, John was called to serve his country at the height of the Vietnam War as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marines from 1968 to 1971. Serving his country was one of his proudest accomplishments. He could often be heard shouting OORAH! in a crowd or proudly displaying the American and Marine Corps flags on his property flagpole.

After having been told by his father-in-law (who happened to be a celebrated physician) that his drive, passion for excellence, and intelligence could help the field of medicine, John took advantage of the GI Bill to further his studies. He attended Temple University for an MBA with a specialty in health care management. Starting as an administrative resident at Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia, John rose quickly through the ranks with a keen business sense, high energy, and affable style that would serve him well throughout his career.

In 1982, when he was named president of Jersey Shore Medical Center, the hospital was at a crossroads. In collaboration with physicians, trustees, employees, and community leaders, John quickly set the hospital on a track to success. Today, Jersey Shore University Medical Center is one of the leading independent academic medical centers in the nation. In January 1997, John led the merger of Jersey Shore with Ocean Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center to create Meridian Health. Eventually, Southern Ocean Medical Center, Bayshore Medical Center, Raritan Bay Medical Center and Old Bridge Medical Centers became part of Meridian as well. John was also instrumental in developing Meridian's continuum of care, providing greater access to care for the communities we serve. HMH's ambulatory network is in

a large part what it is today because of John's vision and leadership.

John was president and CEO of Meridian Health, and later the co-CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health. Under his leadership, Meridian was consistently rated among the top performing health systems in New Jersey for clinical quality, was recognized by FORTUNE Magazine as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" in America six times, and was the recipient of numerous state and national recognitions for patient care and nursing excellence, including the distinction of being the first health system in the country to receive Magnet designation for nursing excellence by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

John, a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, is a past recipient of the Medical Executive Award from the Academy of Medicine of NJ and the Distinguished Business Leader Award from Monmouth University. John was recognized by the NJHA as its Healthcare Professional of the Year. He has been ranked among the most powerful health care leaders by NJBIZ and has been listed as one of the "Nonprofit Hospital and Health System CEOs to Know" by Becker's. John was a recipient of the Icon Award by NJBIZ and the Maurice Pollack Award for Community Service from Monmouth University. He was also honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the American College of Healthcare Executives of New Jersey. His philanthropy extended beyond the walls of healthcare including numerous charities within the community that he and his wife, Maureen, called home. All this well-deserved recognition doesn't begin to demonstrate how wonderful of a man John was. He was well-known throughout HMH as being someone who truly cared for every team member. He brought his authentic self to work every day, and dedicated his life to serving his team, patients, and other lives that could be improved by his strong commitment to community.

Utilizing his talents was also important to John. He enjoyed being on various boards and sharing his expertise in healthcare. John was a member of the board of directors at the former Commerce Bank; OceanFirst Financial Corp. and OceanFirst Bank; the Peddie School Board of Directors; the Advisory Board Member for Villanova's School of Nursing; and the Georgian Court Board of Directors, to name a few.

As a fierce competitor in the realm of healthcare and an avid athlete, John enjoyed his "down" time playing tennis, platform tennis, skiing, golfing, and on occasion racing his dog Luci in the pool! He developed a passion for offshore fishing as the captain of his boat, the "Great Escape." Always looking to hook the "big tuna" 100 miles out at sea...which he succeeded in doing many times. John's biggest joy was being with his family at the Jersey Shore body surfing in the waves and often teaching the youngsters how to master the technique. Traveling also became a highlight in his life, traveling to beautiful places in Europe, enjoying skiing out west, or in the sun and warm breezes of Mexico.

John's favorite phrase was "Let's do it!" He can truly say that he did.

John was preceded in death by his parents James Hendry Lloyd II and Margaret Koons Lloyd; and his brother James H. Lloyd III. He is survived by his beloved wife of 30 years Maureen Lloyd; his children Larson Whelan (Chris), Trevor Lloyd (Jennifer), and Dylan Lloyd (Colleen); his grandchildren Logan, Harley, and Emma Grace; his sister-in-law Blakeslee Lloyd; his beloved pups Luci, Desi, and Ethel; his grandpups Maeve, Sky, Jingles, and Charlie; and many treasured nieces, nephews, cousins, and in-laws who have been an integral part of his life.

John's memorial visitation and memorial mass will be private. A Celebration of

John's Life and Legacy will take place at a date to be later determined.

In appreciation for the incredible nursing care John received in the last 3 weeks of his life...in lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the John K. Lloyd Nursing Scholarship at HMH Riverview Medical Center at [GiveHMH.org/Riverview](https://GiveHMH.org/Riverview) or sent to HMH Riverview Medical Center, The John K. Lloyd Nursing Scholarship, 1 Riverview Plaza, Red Bank, NJ 07701.

Because of John's love of helping others in need, donations in his name can also be made to a charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ I first met John during my employment orientation at Jersey Shore Medical Center. He came up and introduced himself to me. When John found out that I was a retired U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman that had spent the majority of my Navy career with the U.S. Marines - there was an instant connection. During my almost 28 year second career at Jersey Shore, no matter how long it had been since we had seen each other, John always called me by name and when time permitted, we would chat for a few minutes. John's genuine concern and affable manner for his employees was a characteristic that made it an honor and privilege to work for and to know him. Those traits are unique and innate and became part of John's legacy and are very rarely found in management. "Semper Fi" and "Oorah" John.

Dennis S.

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Dennis S. - February 19, 2024 at 11:53 AM

MA

“ Mr Lloyd always made time for anyone. 💔



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maraj - February 18, 2024 at 05:41 AM

MS

“ I worked for John for 7 years. He was the most capable healthcare executive I knew during my 45 years career. He was equally skilled as a visionary and as an operator, a rare combination. His legacy speaks for itself.

*My sympathies to Maureen, his children, and his grandchildren.  
There are not many great ones. He was a great one!*

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**Michael Schwartz** - February 17, 2024 at 06:24 PM

GE

“ John was a role model for so many of us. I was fortunate to have know John my entire time in healthcare and ran into him and Maureen in Italy just this past June. He was a special person and will be dearly missed. Condolences to Maureen and the kids; RIP John, thank you for your service. -Guy Evans

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**Guy evans** - February 17, 2024 at 02:24 PM

JP

“ I had the privilege of knowing John throughout my career. He was a consummate professional. Overall, New Jersey's health care system is better due to his wisdom and foresight. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.  
Judy Persichilli

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**Judith Persichilli** - February 17, 2024 at 10:40 AM

TZ

“ So sorry to hear of John's passing. I knew John for more than 30 years. Always greeted people with a smile. Sending light and love to Maureen and their son.

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**Tim Zeiss** - February 16, 2024 at 05:45 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of John Koons Lloyd.*



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February 16, 2024 at 12:40 PM



“ *Atlantic Health System planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Koons Lloyd.*

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**Atlantic Health System** - February 16, 2024 at 12:40 PM



“ *I will never forget this man and I know God will never either*



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**Jeffrey** - February 16, 2024 at 10:08 AM



*Thirty eight years in the medical field and John Lloyd was one of the very few people who have made a profound impression on me. Always friendly and he never made you feel like you were beneath him. So very down to earth. I really felt like he was someone who would not just say he cares about his employees by words but by his actions and the way he conducted himself. A true gentleman and a friend.*

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**Jeffrey** - February 16, 2024 at 10:50 AM

PC

“ We are all deeply saddened by the loss of a magnificent person. Quick with a smile, he was brilliant yet humble. When John was complimented he would always say it was a team effort. The team has lost it's greatest member. He will always be our heart, our thoughts, and our prayers. Paul Condello

Paul Condello - February 16, 2024 at 09:51 AM

DJ

“ Dept. of Dentistry Continuing Ed. JSUMC purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of John Koons Lloyd.



Dept. of Dentistry Continuing Ed. JSUMC - February 16, 2024 at 09:13 AM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of John Koons Lloyd



Bongarzone Funeral Home - February 14, 2024 at 07:14 PM

PN

I met John in high school over 60 years ago and remained in touch with him over the years. To say it all in one sentence, John was the consummate good person that we should all strive to emulate and should all hope our sons and daughters to become. Godspeed, John - use your talents in Heaven to help us become a better world community. My sincerest sympathies to John's family. P.N.

Pat Nucciarone - February 19, 2024 at 12:43 PM



*Our thoughts and prayers go to the Love of his life....Maureen and their son. God Bless. It was an honor and privilege to have known such a charismatic person. He always greeted us with that beautiful smile. He will be truly missed.*

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**Carol Lynn & Don Chetkin** - February 19, 2024 at 02:51 PM