



## John J. "Sonny" Miller

September 8, 1935 - October 7, 2007

La Vegas, NV – John J. “Sonny” Miller died Sunday October 7, 2007 in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was 72 years old. He was born September 8, 1935 in Kingston, NY the son of John and Alberta Curtis Miller. He was a retired Electrician and member if IBEW Local #363. He also served in the US Navy from 1955 until 1959. He is survived by three sisters, Mary Cafaldo of Saugerties, Collen Miller of Maggie Valley, NC, and Paulette “Penny” Fisher of Saugerties; and by several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents he was pre-deceased by a brother, Marvin J. Miller in 1977. Funeral services will be held 7:00 PM Thursday, October 11, 2007 at Buono Funeral Service, Inc., Main Street Chapel, Saugerties, NY. Deacon Henry Smith of St. Mary of the Snow will officiate. Cremation will follow at the convenience of the family and a graveside service will be held 11:00 AM Monday at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kingston. Friends may call Thursday 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM at Buono Funeral Service, Inc.

# Tribute Wall



“ *John J. "Sonny" Miller*

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October 20, 2022 at 08:34 PM



“ *I met Sonny about 1968. We dated for about a year and then went different ways. I will always remember the good times we had, his gentle sweet ways, and his friendship. Several times he helped me out of a jam, including changing my tire when it was flat at 2:30 a.m. I also fondly remember his father and his sisters who accepted me so readily. I hadn't seen Sonny in over 35 years and was on vacation in Salt Lake city when my brother told me of his passing. Sonny will always have a special place in my heart. I hope he had a happy and fulfilling life.*

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**Elsie** - October 23, 2007 at 06:03 PM

“ 2920 Lancaster Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32935  
October 22, 2007

*Greetings to John's family and friends,*

*Fourteen years ago I retired from my career at IBM in Kingston, NY, and, with my dog Rip, sailed off to Florida. After living on my sailboat for three years I settled in Melbourne, FL. Occasionally I visit the Kingston Freeman's website to see what is new in my hometown, often checking death notices along the way. Last week I was surprised and saddened to see a notice that my old friend Johnny Miller had passed away on October 7.*

*I first met John at the By-Pass Tavern on East Chester Street in 1961. I was a sixteen-year-old kid slinging pizzas for Zippy Guido, and John used to stop in occasionally after work and on weekends. During slow periods in the kitchen I would come out to the bar and socialize with the patrons. Names I remember were Jimmy Hunter, Bonesy Schoonmaker, and Al Nerone. I also remember playing the bowling machine with John, beating him handily and winning a few dollars from him, gaining his respect and cementing our friendship.*

*I graduated high school in 1963, went off to college for one year, spent 1965-1969 in the Navy, all the while stopping into the tavern at times for a cool one and to visit with old friends, John included. In 1968, while I was in the Navy and my submarine was at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, John sent me a ticket to a day of stock car racing at Langhorne, PA. When I found my seat, there next to me sat John and another friend, Earl, whose last name escapes me after all these years. After I got out of the navy I went back to my old love of hiking in the Catskills. John hiked up Slide Mountain with me back in November of 1969, and the following spring we used to fish the Catskill streams for trout. Here is a photo of John on the top of Slide Mountain in November, 1969. (Note: the funeral service's website would not accept the photo. If you'd like to see it, please send me an email with John's name in the subject line.)*

*For a while John dated my twin sister, Elsie, and I looked upon John as a big brother. He was a generous and fun-loving man, and we had much fun together, driving around in his big blue Pontiac. As the years rolled along I followed my urges and spent much of my free time chasing women, and John's electrician's work took him to work sites farther and farther away, leaving fewer and fewer opportunities for John and me to see each other. In 1980 (I think) I had gotten a promotion at IBM and John had just called me to say he was back in town after, if I remember correctly, a job at a nuclear power plant in Idaho. I invited him to a small promotion party I threw, where we chatted about old times and where he told me he was taking flying lessons. After the party we shook hands, promised to stay in touch, and never saw each other again.*

*I'm very sad to hear of John's passing. Elsie tells me he was ten years our senior, and since we're 62, that would make John 72. I can't imagine John at 72. I'll always remember him as a handsome, forty-ish man with thick blond hair, a crooked smile, and a ready laugh. I wish I could see him again, as I'm sure do his other friends and his family. I extend my sincere condolences to his family and to all others who will miss this gentle man.*

*With sincere sadness,  
Rob Scharpf Scharpfr@aol.com*

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**Rob Scharpf** - October 22, 2007 at 01:19 PM

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“ *My father, Ed Ryan, who passed in June 2001, was good friends with John from the IBEW days. I always enjoyed when John came to visit the house....the atmosphere was immediately lighter and the conversation lively. A few times I was asked to leave the room for "adult talk". I am sorry for your loss.*

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**Tom Ryan** - October 11, 2007 at 06:41 PM