



John Harvey Makoff

December 27, 1955 - November 14, 2019

On November 14, 2019, John Harvey Makoff passed away suddenly at home. John was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on December 27, 1955 to Richard and Colleen Makoff. With his brothers David and Rocky, John grew up in Salt Lake and graduated from East High School. His parents later divorced and his father remarried. Through that marriage, John gained a step-mother, Sydney Makoff, and an adopted brother, Sydney's son John.

As a member of the family that founded the Makoff department store, John learned the family business and developed an entrepreneurial spirit that would serve him through his life. Building on that experience he attended Westminster College. After college John moved to New York where he worked for several years in the fashion industry for a leading designer. John loved everything about New York, the arts, architecture, the constant energy, and most importantly, the food. He was known to have cheesecake and pastrami delivered to Utah from the famous Carnegie Deli.

Eventually, John returned to Utah and met the woman who would steal his heart. They met in 1985 and married in October 1986, enjoying 33 wonderful years of marriage. His marriage also came with instant fatherhood to Tonya's two children, Angela and David, a role he happily undertook, gladly accepted, and never shied from. In 1990, John's family grew when they were blessed with the birth of a handsome baby boy, Samuel. No father doted on his son more than John did on Sam.

John loved to travel. Some of his most treasured memories were traveling with his sweetheart, Tonya, when they visited New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, and Hawaii. A favorite pastime was baseball, whether watching Sam play from little league to high school or traveling to watch games at several major league stadiums.

He also loved music and passed many hours every week playing guitar in a band. Later on, after being blessed with grandchildren, he loved to spend time in his little music room teaching little children who could barely walk to make music (noise) with his many instruments.

Ten years ago, John was diagnosed with congestive heart failure, one of several major medical issues John faced over the years. Each issue came with its own difficulties, pains, and trials, but John met each with strong, stoic patience and resilience, fight back and giving himself and his family, many years doctors said he wouldn't live to see.

John was preceded in death by his father, mother, and brother David. He is survived by his loving wife, Tonya, his step-daughter Angela (Doug), step-son David (Kim), his son Sam (fiancé Chantal), step-mother Sydney, brothers Rocky and John, and seven grandchildren. His love, laugh, and smile will be missed.

A celebration of John's life will be held on December 27, 2019 from 11-2 pm. If you wish to attend, please contact Tonya at 801-633-7331 for location information.

Tribute Wall



“ Always thinking of you ❤️



Samuel Makoff - April 17, 2021 at 02:02 AM



“ https://youtu.be/SF3lktTk_pQ

Samuel Makoff - November 14, 2020 at 02:49 PM



“ Baby Willows first moments. ❤️❤️❤️



Samuel Makoff - November 14, 2020 at 02:19 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Samuel Makoff - November 13, 2020 at 11:02 PM



Samuel Makoff

“ I love you dad, its beyond unbelievable that an entire has past without you here. So many things I wish you were here to see. I love you always and il never forget you, I'll be putting up pictures of your granddaughter as the years pass. I will never f



Samuel Makoff - November 13, 2020 at 10:47 PM



Samuel Makoff

*I will never forget your truly caring and selfless nature.** You were and are the best father I could have ever had/have. Il always remember that you did you best in every way you could being my dad. You instilled yourself in me you showed me that mistakes dont define who we are. Every time I made decisions throughout my life I thought "what would you think about my choice?", would you be proud or disappointed? Nothing in life is perfect and one persons ethical outlook may always be different than someone else. No one knows how to be the perfect parent, I made choices that hurt you while you were alive and il always regret them, but I know that I was blessed to have a father who cared enough to teach me. A father that I respected enough to think about the talks we had before making choices, even if I still ended up going down the wrong path. I'm so lucky to have had a father that loved me unconditionally with good or bad choices. I wish you were here to see progress made from this year you've been gone. Not just from myself but from your grand children, Ethan is just growing smarter and more funny as to be expected. Ruby is just an amazingly talented and smart young lady. Ryan is excelling as well with the obstacles of our new lives weve been forced to adapt to in this pandemic. Dave and kimmy are super mom and dad, working from home taking care and helping to home school the kids, and even still finding time to lay concrete and build fire pits :). Courtney just got baptized and is just as smart and silly as her mother. Garret is his usual sweet hearted self with an imagination that I'm sure we all envy. Patrick has been excelling in many different sports, learning to skateboard, and of course keeping up with schooling I'm sure though it isnt easy during these times. Logan is Brighton high school class president this year for his senior year, the future holds a amazing things for all of your grandchildren. Angela got a step up into administration with her school district we all couldn't be more happy for her never ending drive to continue to succeed. Doug has continued to be an amazing support to Angela and the kids, and I can't forget to mention Doug's bbq smoking skills are beyond expert level. We miss you so much dad, I wish I could have shown you the man I was capable of being before you passed away last year. I wish I knew what really happened to you, why you went so suddenly. I love you dad from the first breath you gave me to the last breath you took.*

Samuel Makoff - November 14, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ I love you dad, your 8th grand baby is one month old today.. She only missed meeting you by seven months and three weeks.

It is unreal how much time has passed without you here. I'm often lost without your guidance. But you taught me what I need to know, I will always love you and be grateful.

We all miss you so much nothing is the same without you here, but I can only continue on with the mind set that you are finally resting peacefully.

Thank you for helping my baby girl arrive safely 🙏



Samuel Makoff - September 05, 2020 at 11:35 PM



“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Samuel Makoff - September 05, 2020 at 11:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Samuel Makoff - September 05, 2020 at 11:22 PM