



## John Edward Saunders

September 2, 1921 - October 20, 2022

JOHN EDWARD SAUNDERS was born on September 2, 1921 in Media, PA to Marian Townsend and John Saunders Sr. He departed this life on October 20, 2022 at his home in the Charlestown Senior Living Community in Catonsville, MD.

John was educated in the Media public school system. After graduating high school, he worked for a year at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. before being drafted into the Army in 1942. He ended his military service honorably in 1945 as a Lieutenant in the Army Transportation Corps.

Following his service, John attended Morgan State College in Baltimore, graduating in 1950 with a degree in history. While at Morgan, he met and married the enduring love of his life, his wife of 74 years, the mother of four of his sons, Jeanne Oldham.

John was employed by the Baltimore Department of Public Welfare as a social worker and later, a juvenile court probation officer. He subsequently went to the Washington, DC Department of Public Welfare as a case worker, collections officer, and ultimately, Director of the department's Food Stamp Program. At the end of his career, he worked for the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Social Security Administration before taking early retirement in 1979.

After “retirement”, John worked tirelessly in voluntary community service for more than twenty-five years with, among other organizations and entities:

- Ashburton Area Association - Board of Directors,
- Coldspring-Wabash Community Corporation - President,
- Community Services Task Force - Chairperson,
- Greater Northwest Community Coalition - Executive Committee,
- Forest Park Senior Center – Founding Board Member and 1st Director
- Lower Park Heights Multipurpose Center Advisory Committee
- Metro-West Optimist Club - Executive Committee member and Chairman of the Community Services Committee.

John Saunders lived a life of noble service – service to his family and friends - and service to his community. He was relentlessly dedicated to improving social and economic conditions in the Baltimore neighborhoods in which he lived. He selflessly spent countless hours in this work, motivated only by the desire to help his neighbors and improve the quality of life in his community.

John was an ardent and devoted family man. Known as Sandee to relatives, there was nothing he enjoyed more than reveling in the accomplishments and supporting the life journeys of his children, their children, and his entire extended family. He was a gracious, smiling, and encouraging presence at every family reunion, cook-out, fish fry, graduation, performance, christening, and wedding and over many, many years.

A drummer in his youth, John enjoyed music, theater, travel, and the company of good friends. He was a charter member and past president of the Khayyamites Social Club. Active in that organization for a half-century, he loved to live the organization’s motto, “Eat, drink, and be merry”, with his life-long associates. And after retiring, he relished traveling around the country and beyond with his beloved wife “Skip” and their friends in Club Getaway.

John Saunders was preceded in death by sons Michael and Gregory. He leaves to cherish his memory his precious wife Jeanne, sons John, Keith, and Anthony, numerous succeeding generations of family, and a multitude of friends and acquaintances whose lives are the better for having known JOHN EDWARD SAUNDERS.

# Previous Events

## Wake

OCT 28. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

## Funeral Service

OCT 28. 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

# Tribute Wall



“ To view the service of Mr. Saunders, please click the link that says View Webcast.



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**March Funeral Homes** - October 24, 2022 at 11:27 AM

JG

“ We are truly saddened by the passing of Sandee. He will be missed but the joy he brought to all will never be forgotten. May you find comfort in God's love and the support of other family and friends.  
The Gordons of Herndon

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**Jeffrey Gordon** - October 29, 2022 at 08:09 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

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