



John Francis Keanna

September 27, 2020

John Francis Keanna, a resident of River Edge, NJ for over 28 years entered into eternal rest on Sunday, September 27, 2020 at the age of 57.

Beloved husband of Lori (nee) Sciré for 33 years. Devoted father of Amanda Keanna and her husband Stephen, Christian Keanna, and Jake Keanna.

Loving son of Audrey and John Keanna, Sr. Dear brother of Craig Keanna and his wife Erin. John is also survived by his father-in-law Paul Sciré, Sr. and his brother-in-law Paul Sciré and his wife Liliana. Predeceased by his mother-in-law Catherine Sciré. He was the beloved uncle to Claire, Peter, Sarah, and Nina. His memory will be cherished by his many loving family members and friends.

Born on April 13, 1963, John was raised in East Rockaway, NY. John was a proud graduate of Chaminade High School and then completed his undergraduate studies at Pace University. John later earned his master's degree at Fairleigh Dickinson University. After graduating from Pace University, he began his career in finance, working first in accounting, and then in the entertainment and advertising industries in Manhattan for many years. He finished his career as a Chief Financial Officer in New Jersey. The highlight of his career came in recent years when John began serving as an adjunct professor of finance and accounting at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in the Bronx. John always had a passion for teaching and was overjoyed when this opportunity arose. Teaching was truly one of the greatest callings in his life. During this time, John also became an Associate of the

Sisters of Charity of New York. He was extremely passionate about helping others and was looking forward to completing a mission trip to Guatemala with the Sisters of Charity in the upcoming years.

John was a kind-hearted and generous man who made everyone who had the good fortune of knowing him feel cared for and put at ease. He was a longtime and active parishioner of St. Peter the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in River Edge and enjoyed being the director of the parish's youth basketball program for many years while being the basketball coach for all three of his children and their friends. John was an avid sports fan and enjoyed traveling the country going to various sporting events with his family and friends.

He was part of the Lot B New York Giants tailgate family, also known as the "Boneyard" crew due to the chicken bones left on the site from previous tailgates. He was always one of the first cars in line at MetLife stadium on the mornings of Giants home games ready to start the tailgate. He will be fondly remembered walking around the tailgates with a smile, telling everyone he came across to "Eat, eat" whatever he and his tailgate crew were cooking. John was also an avid New York Yankees fan and loved cheering on his favorite teams in the Bundesliga (Germany's premier soccer league) and in the World Cup. He also proudly ran three New York City marathons.

John put his heart and soul into the things that were important to him in life and so he gave everything he had to the people around him. He went out of his way at work and in his community to get to know people who otherwise might go unnoticed. No matter how old his children got, he always said, "Be nice to the new kids" at the beginning of each school year. He had a soft spot in his heart for children, the elderly, and dogs (whom he would always insist on playing with no matter what else was going on). John made sure everyone he interacted with knew that he cared about them. John's greatest joy in life was spending time with his wife and children. He will be so deeply missed by the many people whose lives he touched.

In light of the health concerns of today, the family will be holding services privately. A memorial service celebrating John's life will be held at a later date.

Since being an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of New York held such a special meaning for John, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to one of their many ministries such as St. Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers, NY (<http://www.saintjosephs.org/about-us/ways-to-give/donate>) and the Guatemala Mission (<https://scny.org/donate/>).

Tribute Wall



“ *John Francis Keanna*

October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *John Francis Keanna*

October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ *John Francis Keanna*

August 30, 2022 at 02:48 PM



“ *I worked with John so many years ago at Carat. What a great guy your dad and husband was. Always so kind and easy to work with . I remember him fondly. My deepest condolences*

stacy Misher - October 21, 2020 at 10:03 AM

SS

“ I remember John as someone keenly interested in history for the lessons that it could teach us about today. As he prepared to become an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of New York, he enjoyed learning about Elizabeth Seton and the beginnings of the Sisters' ministry to the people of New York. Actually, he already knew a lot about the story, and was quick to make connections. John's enthusiasm was contagious, as was his sensitivity to the needs of others and his generosity in finding ways to meet those needs. For example, his donations of food on several occasions helped Campus Ministry volunteers at the College of Mount Saint Vincent to supply sandwiches for persons who are homeless. John went home to God - too soon - with his hands full of good works. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.
- Sister Regina Bechtle, SC

Sister Regina Bechtle, SC - October 14, 2020 at 09:53 AM

RG

“ Remembering John and thinking of his wife Lori, and his children during this difficult time. John was an amazing person and his loss will be felt by many.



Richard Gustafson - October 12, 2020 at 09:53 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Francis Keanna.



October 09, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ *John was my boss when we worked together at Carat USA - he was a one of a kind guy. The best of the best. Reading the obituary confirms that how I felt about John is how everyone who knew him felt - an all around great guy. This is a big loss.*

Richard Gustafson - October 08, 2020 at 08:18 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Francis Keanna.*



October 08, 2020 at 01:23 PM

“ I first met John when I started dating Jim, “Uncle Jimmy”, in college at Pace. They were inseparable, I quickly realized. It was always Jimmy and 3 the Johns. Keanna, Gallego & DeLia. John welcomed me as part of the gang at Pace. This friendship proved vital when Jimmy’s father passed away our senior year. John was always there to help get through the rough times. I don’t know what we would have done without him. Then he was best man when we got married. The crazy college boys were growing up. John gave one of the most heartfelt speeches I ever heard from a best man. Jimmy and I cried! By this time, John met a girl named Lori. I thought to myself, he sounds serious about her. He was. We were all married, having kids and growing up together. We would get together for baptisms, birthdays, communions, and other occasions. John always had big hugs ready, wanting to know how you were doing. Our daughter, Lauren was always so happy to say Uncle John and Aunt Lori where her godparents. Lauren and Uncle John shared a love of dogs and craft beer! I still remember a visit to a brewery when Lauren brought her new puppy. We all had such a good time together! Our son, JR and his wife Meg got to enjoy a few Giants games with John. We are big Steelers fans but knowing that Meg was a Giants fan, John was so kind to invite them to games once they were married. John treated our kids as his own. I know my son cherishes those memories. Whenever we all got together, John was the first to give big, big hugs to everyone, asking how everyone was doing. When we visited New Jersey, John would want to know when we’re coming back. He wanted to know the next occasion. When we had a party in Beacon, John would be the last one to leave. Jimmy and John needed more time to just talk about life and reminisce. Lori and I knew that would happen. I’ll truly miss that part. Then there was the trip to LBI that John insisted on. I had to do the 18 mile run prior to the 2015 NYC marathon. He said it was the best training run ever. He was right. Of course he was right. He ran 3! But it was also a great weekend with the Keanna’s. After Lori and I went to bed, the boys stayed up reminiscing about the past and looking forward to more good times to come. There are many more stories. I can’t write about them all. John will be missed by all of us

more than words can say. He was one of a kind. John may not be here on earth with us anymore, but I know he will live in our hearts and our memories for as long as we are here on earth. Let us all honor John by showing kindness and compassion to everyone we meet. Love you forever John...

Lori, Amanda, Stephen, Christian, and Jake, you will continue to be in our prayers as you go through this very difficult time.

*We love you all,
Diane and Jimmy*

Diane White - October 07, 2020 at 09:16 PM

AM

“ *Anna Mosiej lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna*



Anna Mosiej - October 07, 2020 at 07:13 PM

BD

“ *Professor Keanna was always willing to stop what he's doing and help you. He loved to encourage his students and was filled with positivity. May he Rest In Peace.*

Betty Deonarine - October 07, 2020 at 12:57 PM

LR

“ *Lizzy Rieder lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna*



Lizzy Rieder - October 07, 2020 at 11:59 AM

CS

“ *To the Keanna Family,*

Sending my deepest sympathy and condolences on Johns passing. I had been praying for him since I found out that he was in the hospital. I knew John as I dealt with him on a regular basis through my company's business with Lorenzo Food Group over the last 6 years.

I read through Johns obituary and can say that it is very accurate; he always made me feel that he cared personally about me and my family (he always made donations to my daughters JDRF One Walk) and we always started our conversations talking about our families, enjoying stories and many laughs before getting down to business. I am deeply saddened knowing that I won't have the opportunity to do that again as I considered him not only a business colleague, but a friend. My heart goes out to your family and I hope that you may find comfort in knowing that he is now with our Lord and Savior.

Please accept my condolences personally and on behalf of Aramark.

Chris Schilling

Chris Schilling - October 07, 2020 at 11:39 AM

JR

“ Meeting John many years ago, I could never imagine how wonderful the relationship would be in my professional life. He was the "North Star" when it came to talking about business, football, family, friends and just overall conversation. I loved the constant banter between my Packers and his GIANTS.
He will always be in mine and my husband's heart forever. GO GIANTS !

Janelle & Michael

Janelle Razzino - October 07, 2020 at 08:23 AM



“ Professor Keanna, was very kind to me and always made sure I was doing well. May he Rest In Peace, I still can't believe it..

Farida Hakim - October 06, 2020 at 02:56 PM

RD

“ Rich And Donna lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna



Rich and Donna - October 05, 2020 at 05:41 PM

RL

“ My husband and I met John, when Lori & John started dating. We have been blessed to share our lives with one another ever since, "Uncle John & Aunt Lori". We continued our blessings as we witnessed each of our children's milestones. And together we were there to witness them receiving each of their sacraments. One memory I would like to share is when my youngest son, Joseph chose John as his confirmation sponsor. They had a very special bond. Uncle John was so excited when Joseph asked him. He truly made Joseph feel very special. They enjoyed the journey, each step together, as they prepared for the sacrament. During the confirmation retreat, Uncle John was so impressed he went to the Religious Director to thank her for running such a special retreat. I was impressed with John's enthusiasm, but that was "Uncle John" to each of us. John always gave more than one hundred percent. He was always excited to see us, and glad to share a story. His excitement, love for us and compassion was always evident. "Uncle John will be missed, our hearts are truly broken".

Rest well my friend, until we meet again. Rita

Rita M Lorenzo - October 05, 2020 at 05:09 PM

Eddie Greco

“ John was always very kind to me. He'd pick my brain as he watched through *The Office*, and even kept my Dwight mouse pad after I forgot it after my last day at Englewood (and I was really happy he was the one to keep it). I'd pick his brain about references I didn't get - *Magilla Gorilla* (it was a crossword answer that hadn't meant anything to me), *Scent of a Woman* - and we would laugh over our common-ground pop culture, like *Office Space*.



John even took me to guest lecture at his class exactly a year ago... He helped me tremendously when I needed it most. I actually made a small craft that he attached to his keys as a token thank-you. I feel awful about his passing... but I am at least glad for the time I got to spend with him.

Eddie Greco - October 05, 2020 at 02:33 PM

KM

“ Karen Myers lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna



Karen Myers - October 05, 2020 at 12:16 PM

AR

“ Aunt Ruthie lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna



Aunt Ruthie - October 05, 2020 at 12:02 PM

MP

“ *It is with great sadness with the passing of John. He will be terribly missed by all of us at Lorenzo's. My dearest condolences to Lori and her children. Forever in our hearts.*

*Sincerely
Marie Parziale*

Marie Parziale - October 05, 2020 at 11:44 AM

AH

“ *Ann & Mike Hroncich lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna*



Ann & Mike Hroncich - October 05, 2020 at 11:37 AM

MS

“ *My friend, Sr. Pat McGowan who died of COVID in April, was so happy to introduce John to me last year. Immediately I felt his genuineness. Since Sr. Pat and I had taught at the Mount for many years, all three of us had something in common. Sr. Pat thought the world of John and consistently spoke so admiringly of him. Rest in peace both of you and enjoy yourselves.*

Sister Margaret Egan, SC

Margaret Egan, SC - October 05, 2020 at 11:13 AM

TF

“ *The Conti Family lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna*



The Conti Family - October 05, 2020 at 10:02 AM

JC

“ *One thing our family always looked forward to was visiting the Keanna's. Not just because they were part of the family but because of the sense of welcome whenever being there. John had the gift of perception for what brought joy and serenity into a person's life. Conversations always centered around those areas. Rare is the sense of such sincere fellowship.*

One occasion is so memorable... when John invited Barbara and me to attend the ceremony at which he was installed as an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of New York. I was truly honored to be there and knew that he didn't invite me just because of his installation but mostly because he knew how much I would enjoy being there, how much I would appreciate being with like minded people.... in such an atmosphere of servanthood. That was what John was all about. He had the heart of a true servant...a gift from above... always burning brighter... always shining that light into someone's life, especially when needed and appreciated the most..... always being a blessing!

I do thank you John for your thoughtfulness that is always with me to entice me to do the same thing for others.

Forever thankful .. Uncle Jimmy

James Castronova - October 05, 2020 at 09:08 AM

AS

“ Our families have been close since our Moms grew up as best friends and i have the honor of having Aunt Audrey as my godmother. May God Bless you all and know John is at peace with God and God will take care of all of you as well. So many memories when we were all kids. Share all your memories with each other and laugh and cry with them.

Love all of you

Annmarie, Tommy and Thomas Smith

annmarie smith - October 05, 2020 at 08:31 AM

AS

“ ,



annmarie smith - October 05, 2020 at 08:27 AM

JG

“ What I will miss most about John is the way he greeted everyone. The warm smile and huge hugs made us all feel special. John's kindness and generosity will Be greatly missed.

Jim Glenn - October 05, 2020 at 08:08 AM

AR

“ Angie Rispoli lit a candle in memory of John Francis Keanna



Angie Rispoli - October 04, 2020 at 07:31 PM

IP

“ *Dear Lori and Children,
We send Love and Sympathy to you at this sad time. May our
prayers comfort you.
Love,
Aunt Ida & Uncle Nick*

Ida & Nick Pepe - October 04, 2020 at 05:17 PM

TR

“ *John grew up next door to my family. I actually
babysat for him and Craig a couple of times.
All the qualities described in his obituary started
as a child. Mr. And Mrs. Keanna as sad as you
are you must be so proud of the man you
raised.
He made a difference. And although I have not seen him in years, I
now miss him terribly.
God bless you.*



Theresa Rieder - October 04, 2020 at 10:20 AM

JC

One thing our family always looked forward to was visiting the Keanna's. Not just because they were part of the family but because of the sense of welcome whenever being there. John had the gift of perception for what brought joy and serenity into a persons life. Conversations always centered around those areas. Rare is the sense of such sincere fellowship.

One occasion is so memorable... when John invited Barbara and me to attend the ceremony at which he was installed as an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of New York. I was truly honored to be there and knew that he didn't invite me just because of his installation but mostly because he knew how much I would enjoy being there, how much I would appreciate being with like minded people...in such an atmosphere of servanthood. That was what John was all about. He had the heart of a true servant.... a gift from above... always burning brighter..... always shining that light into someone's life, especially when needed and appreciated the most... always being a blessing! I do thank you John for your thoughtfulness that is always with me to entice me to do the same thing for others.

Forever thankful Uncle Jimmy

James Castronova - October 05, 2020 at 08:49 AM

SS

I had the privilege of meeting John in an interview before presenting his application to become an Associate to our Council. He was energetic for our shared mission and in love with the Sisters of Charity, St Elizabeth Ann Seton and the College of Mt St Vincent. What more could we ask? In John, we got A LOT MORE! His passion, wit and generous love were unstoppable. Our Sr Patricia McGowan served as his mentor during his formation. She suffered illness in the similar way as John and has passed. May they unite together in heaven as good friends and esteemed colleagues from the Mount. Condolences to the Keanna family. You are in my prayers and those of the Congregation at this time. Sr Claire Regan

Sr Claire Regan, SC - October 05, 2020 at 11:07 AM

JP

Dear Keanna Family,

We are so sorry to hear of John's passing. Our Jake enjoyed when he would come to LA and visit with the boys. He always spoke so highly of him about how nice, friendly, and funny he was. We were fortunate to have met John at the graduation last year. Everything Jake said about him was true, he was nice, friendly and FUNNY! I hope the wonderful memories you all have comfort you during this horrific time. "Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us in our hearts and memories." Thinking of you all.

Love, Jamie, Jon & Jake Perlstein

Jamie Perlstein - October 06, 2020 at 05:26 AM

RR

I was lucky to have grown up next-door to John, and I am proud to call him my friend. Lorraine and I were heartbroken to hear of his passing. He was a true gentleman, and will never be forgotten. Our most sincere condolences to the Keanna Family.

Robert Rieder

Robert Rieder - October 06, 2020 at 11:05 AM

FM

I know John for many years and he was always the kindest most authentic person I ever met. He was always great to work with at Omnicom and his contribution and dedication at the Mount was unsurpassed. He was a great professor who truly cared about the well being of his students. He will be sorely missed and I offer my sincere condolences to his wonderful family.

Frank Manzi - October 07, 2020 at 08:14 AM

CG

My heart is broken I just found out that John passed away. I used to work for John's Boss at Carat Charlie Rutman. I have fond memories of him when he used to come by to my cubicle and chat. I use to go to his office and talk and forgetting what time is was and realizing Charlie was looking for me and he knew exactly where I was. I am offering my sincere condolences to his family. REST IN PEACE!

Connie Gaspé - October 21, 2020 at 09:21 AM

SR

Very sad to hear of John's passing. We survived 9/11 together. It is hard to imagine that he is gone so soon and that this is the way he would leave us. I'm truly heartbroken. My most sincere condolences to Lori and the kids as well as the rest of his family. May he rest in peace.

Sam Recenello - November 03, 2020 at 11:52 AM

BF

I just found out today that we lost John. I am truly staggered and very sad. I worked with John at Carat, and learned a great deal from him. John was a very nice person, passionate, and a great family man. My most sincere condolences to the Keanna family. This is a big loss - am so sad

Bill Frash - November 04, 2020 at 08:00 PM