



## John Charles Penberthy Jr

June 14, 1933 - January 10, 2015

John C. Penberthy Jr. South Orange/Maplewood educator enjoyed the outdoors. John C. Penberthy Jr., 81, of Glen Ridge, N.J., passed away on Saturday evening, Jan. 10, 2015, in Voorhees, N.J., in his sleep from complications of heart disease. The family will celebrate John's life at Van Tassel Funeral home, 337 Belleville Ave., Bloomfield, N.J. 07003 on Friday, Jan. 16, 2015, with a viewing and service from 5 to 8 p.m. John was the loving husband of Susan A. Penberthy for 44 years. He was an educator at South Orange Junior High School and Columbia High School in the South Orange/Maplewood, N.J., school district for 37 years. John was active in the teachers union while at Columbia, and was past president of PDK (teaching honors fraternity) as well as a founding member, along with Susan, of the Silver Cougars. John attended Montclair State on a track scholarship (B.A. and M.A.) and was a Korean War veteran. He enjoyed camping, canoeing, hiking and reading, and loved to spend time with friends and family. John is survived by his wife, Susan; son, John C. Penberthy III, Esq.; stepson, Christopher Lefebvre; sister, Gladys Frances; brother, William Penberthy, and their families.

# Cemetery Details

## Bloomfield Cemetery

383 Belleville Avenue  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 16. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Van Tassel Funeral Home  
337 Belleville Avenue  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
(973) 743-1234 or (973) 743-1761  
<https://www.vantasselfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN 16. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Van Tassel Funeral Home  
337 Belleville Avenue  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
(973) 743-1234 or (973) 743-1761  
<https://www.vantasselfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

AP

“ John, I never had the pleasure of meeting your dad, but the stories and the memories that you told me, Says miles as to what type of father he was to you and the person that he will be remembered for. Your speech at the service was really amazing as you went through childhood memories at 4 years old to date, It really took the edge off, what is typically a very sad event. I feel blessed to have been able to make it there and meet some of the family that I have heard about over the years and that Patty and I were able to pay our respects to you and your Family, God Bless !

anthony Palma - January 19, 2015 at 09:52 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Van Tassel Funeral Home - January 17, 2015 at 01:24 PM

DR

“ Dean & Cathy Rea purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Charles Penberthy Jr.



Dean & Cathy Rea - January 16, 2015 at 01:35 PM

SF

“ I am are very sorry to hear the loss of John's father. John, accept my condolences and I pray for you to find patience on dealing with such tragic event. May your father rest in peace.

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**Samir Fouzir** - January 16, 2015 at 08:37 AM

JC

john and family I only had the pleasure of meeting your pop a couple times ,he was always pleasant and an extremely nice man . It was nice to see how comfortable and loved you made him feel through his rehab.He definitely knew how much you loved him . Im sorry for your loss buddy . god bless him .. Joe C

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**JOSEPH CARABASI** - January 16, 2015 at 02:07 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Van Tassel Funeral Home** - January 13, 2015 at 09:04 PM



*The following tributes and/or comments come from sites on Facebook*

*Jack Baron*

*22 hrs*

*Noticed an obituary today in Star Ledger for John Penberthy, former teacher at SOJH.*

*Like ·*

*Sylvia P. Stoll- DiMenna likes this.*

*Brian Kritzstein Ahhhhh, yes, I had Mr. P for Social Studies at CHS....good guy....I also remember his ability to command the attention of the room by pounding on the desk and or shoving desks!*

*Mira Diamond Baidwan Aw Sad news. I had Mr. Pen earthy for Social Studies at CHS too. He was a great teacher, always smiling and greeting students. I had his wife Mrs. Penberthy for math too at CHS- she is the only person who could explain math to me. Wonderful teachers. Sorry to hear of his passing.*

*Thomas A. Chan I had Mr. Penberthy for World History at CHS in the 1990s. During the segment on the French Revolution, he showed us how the meeting hall for the National Assembly was locked down by soldiers with bayonets.*

*Lori Heinowitz Russo Mr. P was one of my favorite teachers at SOJH. RIP*

*Lynda Parisi Sorry to hear that... I remember him well. He must have lived to be quite old (given that I'm quite old myself).*

*Lisa Lohse I have fond memories of him. May he rest in peace. Prayers to his family at this time.*

*Yesterday at 9:12am*

*Erica Cohn Sorry to hear about this. He was a great teacher.*

*Yesterday at 9:22am ·*

*Lisa Shapiro Zipp Mr Pemberthy was an excellent teacher.*

*So sorry to hear of his passing.*

*23 hrs*

*Debbie Dyer RIP,Mr. Penberthy.*

*23 hrs*

*Peter Golden Loved him. Very strict, very cool, and he made history come alive*

*23 hrs · Like · 4*

*Nan Owen Sorry to read this. My condolences to his family and friends. I remember him well.*

*23 hrs*

*Judith Brody Tucker so sorry for your loss....*

*23 hrs*

*Beth Riemer-Schachtel RIP*

*23 hrs · Like · 1*

*Michael Jon Kroll He was a scary dude, but one of the best teachers i ever had.*

*22 hrs · Like · 1*

*Joe Rosen What a great man and fantastic teacher. I was fortunate enough to have both Mr. and Mrs. Penberthy in SOJH. I will forever remember the Trivia Bowl! May he rest in peace and my heartfelt condolences to his wife and family.*

*22 hrs · Like · 1*

*Diane Weekley*

21 hrs ·

*Larry Chiger Yes, a WONDERFUL teacher. I was just talking with another SOJH alum about him a week ago. I hope that all the lovely messages people will post about him bring some solace and peace to his family.*

21 hrs

*Brian Kerrigan Great guy and great teacher!*

21 hrs · Like · 3

*Kathy Papera Barbara G we have great memories of Mr. Penberthy..he could be intimidating, but in reality he was a big teddy bear. Rest well Mr. Penberthy, thanks for making S.S. interesting!! Prayers to his family..*

20 hrs · Like · 2

*Jessica Martin Salow RIP, Mr. Penberthy*

20 hrs

*Barbara G Kathy Most definitely! RIP Mr. Penberthy. Good times, good guy.*

20 hrs · Like · 2

*Mark Lampariello My love of history started with you, be at peace*

19 hrs ·

*Angela Barilla Clemson RIP Mr. Penberthy. I have fond memories of him at SOJH.*

18 hrs ·

*Lynn-Ann Gries One of my favorite teachers at SOJH. I hope he's gamboling on the green sward of heaven...*

18 hrs · Like

*Roberta Ferrara One of the very best teachers. Always such a gentleman..RIP*

15 hrs ·

*Marie Hayden Awwww...Mr Penberthy. The visual of him dropping to the floor and doin iron crosses in his classroom is burned in my memory FOREVER!!! He was a super cool cat! R.I.P. Mrs P was just as sweet --our prayers go out to her!*

*14 hrs · Like · 1*

*Steve Ambrose RIP Mr Penberthy. Lots of great memories*

*14 hrs ·*

*Sue Maebert Young RIP... Intense guy but fun....He taught me to count from one to ten in Chinese....*

*11 hrs ·*

*Eric Margules Aw, Mr Penberthy! Fond memories of you, good man.*

*Rest in peace*

*12 hrs ·*

*Rob Kaplan Mr. Penberthy was my favorite. Mr. Podesta arranged for me to have him all three years of SOJH.*

*I wonder: does anyone here have an address for Mrs. Penberthy? (who I had for math and adored). I'd like to send a letter.*

*9 hrs · Edited · Like · 1*

*Rob Kaplan "A fool is known by many names. But even a dolt, if he holdeth his tong*

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**Anne Fischman** - January 15, 2015 at 08:47 AM



*I don't know where to begin. John & I have been hiking the Appalachian Trail since the early 80's. So many things happened to us over the years on the trail. We hiked in all seasons.*

*He loved history and read so much. All four of my kids knew him and hiked and camped with him. He had a memory for detail that blew me away. It wouldn't be hard to write a book about John. He did so much for me. He always made me laugh. I will miss him as one of my most wonderful friends.*

*Tom Troyano*

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**Tom Troyano** - January 15, 2015 at 03:09 PM