



## John W. Gohmann

June 6, 1947 - December 13, 2020

John W. Gohmann, 73, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020 at his home. He was born June 7, 1947 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and had been a Libertyville resident since 1988. He was a graduate of Coe College in Cedar Rapids and received his MBA from Governor's State in Illinois. A railroad enthusiast, John was first employed by the EJ&E Railroad and later was a transportation consultant for the National Mediation Board. He also did consulting with railroads nationally with his company, Gohmann Associates. John was President and Chairman of the Minnesota Commercial Railroad based in St. Paul, Minnesota since 1987. He loved all railroads, especially his special short line, like few others. Throughout his life, he demonstrated and valued the highest of work ethics. He was a man of his word, and always coming up with new ideas in his business.

Surviving are his wife of 38 years, Rebecca "Becky" Gohmann; his daughter Anne (Angel) Villarreal and grandchildren, Nolan and Grace, also of Libertyville. John loved life and cared deeply about his family, who loved him dearly. He had a great sense of humor and will be remembered by all who met him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Madelyn Gohmann.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, Dec. 18, 2020 at the

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Avenue, Libertyville with Pastor Brian Paulson, officiating. Interment will follow at Lakeside Cemetery in Libertyville. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Northwestern Memorial Foundation, PO Box 734985, Chicago, Illinois 60673-4985. Please make checks payable to "Northwestern Memorial Foundation" and include "John Gohmann" in the memo line. Donations can also be made online at [foundation.nm.org](http://foundation.nm.org) or over the phone at (312) 926-2033. Your gift will support the NM Lake Forest Hospital Cancer Center. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Tribute Wall

RT

“ I remember John from long ago when he was part of group of us youngsters who grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. John was between my older brother, Robert Gall, and me in age. The group consisted of neighborhood kids who played "on the block" together. John was one of the kindest people I ever met. My condolences to John's family. The world was a better place for John having been in it. Sincerely, Rita (Gall) Titlow, Naperville, IL.

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**Rita Titlow** - December 18, 2020 at 12:45 PM

CB

“ I knew John for forty years or so through our respective railroad careers and shared love of railroading. We never did work together or live near each other but stayed in touch mostly through phone calls and email. My favorite memory isn't railroad related but is when my two granddaughters became suspicious that the Santa who called every December to check on their behavior was actually me. I mentioned it to John and we arranged for him to call them when I was there.... I wish I'd recorded the call but do have photos of the girls on the phone. John was a good friend, advisor and role model in many ways. R.I.P.

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**Chris Burger** - December 17, 2020 at 10:46 PM

DA

“ Hi, I am going to start with John did not really know me. At one of the darkest times of my life he came to my rescue and basically gave me a golden ticket which allowed me to retire early. John gave me this gift without any reservations.

*My family will pray for John and his family.*

*My condolences.*

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**Dave** - December 16, 2020 at 06:56 PM