



John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV

May 19, 1963 - January 31, 2026

John J. Sperling IV ("Jackie"), 62, of Howell, New Jersey, passed away at home on Saturday, January 31, 2026. A lifelong funeral director, devoted husband and father, and a man known for his generosity and steady presence, Jackie leaves behind a legacy of compassion, humor, and service to others.

Born on May 19, 1963, at East Orange General Hospital in East Orange, New Jersey. Although, Morganville NJ was his home where most of his core memories would be growing up with many friends that turned into family. Jackie was the beloved son of Lorraine Sperling and John J. Sperling III and Kathleen Sperling. He grew up with a strong sense of family and remained deeply connected to those he loved throughout his life. He shared a close bond with his sibling, Bonnie Cummings.

Jackie dedicated his entire professional life to serving others as a funeral director, a calling he carried out with dignity, skill, and heart. He was widely respected in his field and known by many as one of the very best. Families consistently found comfort in his calm manner, gentle guidance, and sincere care during their most difficult moments. Taking care of people was not just his profession, it was who he was at his core.

He was a true outdoorsman who loved hunting, shooting, cooking, and

spending time outside and with his family. A genuine jack-of-all-trades, Jackie could fix, build, or figure out just about anything. He enjoyed working with his hands and helping others with whatever they needed. He especially loved to cook always making sure everyone's bellies were full. He was the kind of man who would give you the shirt off his back without hesitation. Jackie was never one to say no to anyone in need. He treated every person with respect and kindness, even when it wasn't returned. He carried himself with quiet grace. To those who knew him, he was truly an angel on earth.

Those who knew Jackie will remember his down-to-earth nature, easygoing personality, and great sense of humor. He had a welcoming presence and a gentle but strong energy that made people feel immediately at ease. Friends and family alike gravitated toward him. There are countless stories shared among those who loved him. Moments of laughter, loyalty, and kindness, each one a lasting treasure that will be carried forward.

Jackie is predeceased by his beloved mother Lorraine Sperling. He is survived by his loving wife, Yvonne Sperling; his children, Nicole Sperling and Jack Sperling; his father and step mother, John J. Sperling III and Kathleen Sperling; his sister, Bonnie Cummings; step sisters Annmarie McCarron and Cara Wattley; step brother Phil Gallina; many nieces & nephews along with many extended family members and close friends who will miss him deeply.

Family and friends are invited to gather and celebrate Jackie's life at Laurel Funeral Home in Hazlet on Monday, February 9, 2026 from 3pm - 7 pm. His life was defined by service, generosity, and enormous heart, and his memory will live on in the many people he cared for and the many lives he touched.

He was truly one of a kind. A great man, we can all learn something from, and he will be remembered always.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to The Wounded Warrior Project in Jackie's memory

https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=11585&ovr_acv_id=16821&campaignSource=ONLINE&source=BS26001AAABREAA&gclid=aw.ds&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=1755672625&gbraid=0AAAAADg1WjpJJ1myt2ErdtYJ3oNQaXwPM

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 9. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Laurel Funeral Home
201 Laurel Ave
Hazlet Township, NJ 07734
(732) 787-0258

Service

FEB 9. 6:30 PM (ET)

Laurel Funeral Home
201 Laurel Ave
Hazlet Township, NJ 07734
(732) 787-0258

Tribute Wall

AM

“ *Wow. I can't believe it. Jack has done every family members funeral. I've know him since I was a kid. I'm so sorry to hear this.*

amy - February 13 at 12:12 PM

LK

“ *so sorry to hear of jacks passing i have met jack a few times at his job as funeral director.. he helped me through a very tough time with the loss of my best friend Angelo .. shocked by Jacks passing so sorry for the familys loss he was a great man*

Laura Lopez Keansburg - February 12 at 10:40 AM

ME

“ *Jackie, growing up with people like you has been a blessing, in every way. Our neighborhood, the surrounding area was full of life, adventure, support and most important, memories made that we still laugh over so many years later. Although we move apart from one another, the bond we all had growing up is like Gorilla glue, can't beak it apart. You re-assured me of that when you handle our moms service. You made me laugh when the worst was happening. My brother wanted a picture when he noticed me, you, and Kathleen sitting on the love seat, he said he had pictures of the very same thing from years before in our basement, LOL, we laughed. You made me laugh about the neighbors from our old house; the "little people" you made a gesture when they came thru the door, Kathleen, you, me laughed so hard, it was so spontaneous. I know you are in heaven, and all is good. I pray your family can somehow keep going, through this terrible loss and find some peace. You will be SO missed, often referenced in conversation, and we will be forever grateful to have known you. You were a beautiful person.*

Mary Ellen - February 09 at 08:00 PM

MR

“ Maryellen R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.

Maryellen R. - February 09 at 08:44 AM

GT

“ Glen, Nancy, Katherine Brandon & Glen T purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.



Glen, Nancy, Katherine Brandon & Glen T - February 08 at 03:15 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.



February 07 at 10:09 PM

SH

“ Sharon Harris purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.



Sharon Harris - February 07 at 04:05 PM

MK

“ Jack and I are shattered by the tragic passing of Jack (Jackie). I met Jack many years ago at St Mary's. I was the singer. He was the funeral director. Jack always had a warm smile and king persona. When the time came, Jack handled the arrangements for my parents and Aunt. In our times of grief, Jack made you feel that everything was taken care of. Later on, my husband, Jack went on to work with Jackie at Laurel. He always came home and shared how great it was to work with Jack Sperling. We are still shocked with this news. We hold on to our wonderful memories of Jack. His kindness, friendship and generosity to so many people. We send our sincerest condolences to his family. We pray for the repose of his soul and for God's loving embrace now and forever.
—Monica & Jack Kurkemelis

Monica Kurkemelis - February 06 at 04:42 PM

RM

“ From all of us at Wawa 910 on Rt 33 - So very sorry to hear of his passing. Such a nice guy, would get mad when the store would give him his coffee 'on the house'. He is missed.

Rita Marsden - February 06 at 02:34 PM

EC

“ I had the pleasure of having Jack in several of my continuing education courses for funeral directors. I always enjoyed talking to him, and hearing his take on funeral service. He was a kind soul, and will be remembered.

Edith Churchman - February 06 at 10:00 AM

JG

“ ONE OF THE BEST IN HIS FEILD HE WILL BE MISSED BY ALL NEW HIM MY FAMILY HE TOOK GREAT PRIDE IS JOB TAKING CARE OF OUR LOVE ONE , RIP JOHN YOU WILL BE MISS

john s gebauer - February 05 at 06:09 PM

PV

The man who helped us in hard times when we lost many loved ones just like his dad and stepmom very classy never about business always about helping the family who lost a loved one he will be missed big time heart felt thoughts from Pete & Marlene

Peter Vallone - February 05 at 07:17 PM

FB

“ From Donna and Joe Bagnole purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.



From Donna and Joe Bagnole - February 05 at 04:00 PM

FB

“ From Donna and Joe Bagnole planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.

From Donna and Joe Bagnole - February 05 at 04:00 PM

BS

“ To Yvonne and family, we are heartbroken to hear of Jack's sudden passing. He was a consummate professional, but most of all he was a true friend to us all. May he rest in peace and his memory be a blessing.

Brian Hassler & Family & Staff - February 05 at 03:39 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.*



February 05 at 12:36 PM



“ *Love &Light Tom & Michelle Kemp/Zeleznik purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of John J. "Jackie" Sperling IV.*



Love &Light Tom & Michelle Kemp/Zeleznik - February 05 at 12:31 PM