

## IN MEMORIAM

### JOHN PATRICK ALBANESE

### 1925-2019



MARION, Ark.—John Patrick Albanese, age 93, a long-time Casper resident, died on February 21, 2019 in Marion, Arkansas where he had moved to be near his daughter and son-in-law.

John was born in Newark, New Jersey on July 11, 1925 to John Salvatore and Helen (Black) Albanese. John left Newark in 1943 when he joined the U. S. Army to serve in WWII. He served in Europe and was awarded a purple heart and a bronze star for bravery. After the war, John attended the University of Wyoming where he earned his Bachelor and Master's degrees in Geology and met and married Evelyn Gerda Jacobsen.

They moved to Casper, Wyoming in 1962 and it was there that they settled with their two children. They were married for 68 years and traveled all over the world as John served on boards and committees and worked in his fields of petroleum geology and geo-archaeology. He continued his work well into his 80's, sharing his expertise and passion for archaeology and geology, acting as a mentor to many.

John loved his adopted state of Wyoming, and anyone who got to take a "short drive" or tour with him learned all about teepee rings, Wyoming history, mineral stratification, and a number of other things from someone who truly knew and understood the subject matter.

He was a fine cook, and much of the fresh produce he used came from the large vegetable garden he planted and tended annually. John had many other interests including reading, creating mosaic art, making wine, watching wildlife, and spending time with friends and family.

John was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn, in 2014, and his son, Richard John Albanese, in 2018.

He is survived by his daughter, Arlene Albanese Roberts (John), of West Memphis, AR; two granddaughters, Kara Reed (Aaron) of Leavenworth, KS and Lisa Albanese of Billings, MT; three great-grandchildren, Bryn and Grant Reed, and Arazia Ruffino; and his sister,

Helen Albanese Pallante of New Jersey.

Memorial donations may be made to the Friends of the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum, 3740 Jourgensen Avenue; Casper, WY 82604.

[https://trib.com/lifestyles/announcements/obituaries/john-patrick-albanese/article\\_46c141a4-185d-5e8d-81fa-46137d94dbea.html](https://trib.com/lifestyles/announcements/obituaries/john-patrick-albanese/article_46c141a4-185d-5e8d-81fa-46137d94dbea.html)

**A Few Words in Memory of: John P. (for Patrick) Albanese**, July 11, 1925 - February 21, 2019; presented by Kerry Lippincott.

John and I surveyed quite a few oil and gas well pads and pipeline corridors together, but not nearly as many as he surveyed by himself or with any of his other surveying partners. John and I shared a lot of "wind-shield time" on the highways, byways, and two tracks of Wyoming, but not nearly as many as he drove by himself. And I have had my arms nearly pulled out of their sockets while serving as John's rod man in the wind, but at the same time he was wrestling with plane table and alidade that must have been bouncing up and down like a Mexican Jumping Bean.

John was a Native of Newark, New Jersey who quickly adopted Wyoming as his home base. Both he and his father volunteered for the military after 1941; his father was a Sea Bee in the Pa-cific Theater and John was in the Infantry in Europe. John was wounded by artillery shrapnel, lost the sight in his right eye, convalesced in Abergavenny, Wales, and returned to the Front Line. He once mentioned that he and his unit had gone for over 50 days without any kind of relief as they advanced across eastern France and western Germany. John was a member of The Greatest Gen-eration.

John received a Bachelor's and Master's

Degree in Geology from the University of Wyoming under the G.I. Bill. His Master's Thesis was on the geology of his wife's family ranch along Horse Shoe Creek in the Laramie Range. He was, at heart, by education, training, and experience a petroleum geologist, or as he was known to have called it, "the grease business". John morphed into a geoarchaeologist after George Frison asked him to provide a geomorphological interpretation of the Ruby site in the Powder River Basin. John introduced George to the benefits, additions, and insights that deep stratigraphy could bring to an understanding of buried sites. After Ruby, John provided George with similar services at the Casper site, Colby Mammoth site, Agate Basin, Hanson Folsom, Horner, Carter-Kerr/McGee, and Mill Iron sites. He did the same for Miles Gilbert at Natural Trap Cave; for Dennis Stanford at the Dutton/Selby and Jones/Miller sites in Colorado; for Les Davis at the MacHaffie and Indian Creek sites in Montana; for Adrien Hannus at the Ray Long and Buster Hill sites and for Michael Fosha at the Licking Bison and Summit Springs sites in South Dakota; and for many, many other individuals at other sites in other places.

John wrote about paleotopography and authored comprehensive geoarchaeological overviews for the Northwestern Plains that were published in volumes from the Geological Society of America and the University of Oklahoma Press. And, in turn, John was "roasted" as a Special Recognition at the banquet of the fifth Island in the Plains Symposium in Custer, South Dakota and was the subject of a dedicated symposium entitled "Quaternary Geoarchaeology: Honoring the Work of John Albanese" at the Geological Society of America's Rocky Mountain Section's 2015 meeting here in Casper.

Finally, John was a member of the Wyoming Archaeological Society since at least 1964, served as the Casper Chapter president in 1967 and 1968, the State president in 1969 and 1970, and received an Honorary Lifetime membership for his services several years ago. John was presented with the W.A.S Golden Trowel Award "for outstanding achievements" in 1973. John was present at the founding of the Wyoming Archaeological Foundation and served as its president.

And so, In Memory, Thank You, John Albanese.