



Name: John Balfour Boland Jr.

Age: 71

Hometown: Bad Axe, MI.

Funeral Date: Not Available

Date of Birth: May 17, 1950

Date of Passing: January 15, 2022

Funeral Home: [**Kaufman Funeral Home**](#)

Funeral Information

At his request, there will be no services or visitation. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the church or charity of your choice. Condolences may be sent to John's family at www.kaufmanfuneralhome.com

Family of the Deceased

John is survived by his wife of 51 years, Patti (Near) Boland, Bad Axe; sons, John Balfour Boland III (girlfriend Santana Mosack and her children Kayden, Jake and Annabell), Bad Axe and Brian Boland, Florence, KY; granddaughter, Nicole Boland, New York; sister Beverley West, New Brunswick, Canada; special relatives, Iain & Shelly Gunn, Bay City, MI; Kim (Chris) Summersett, New York; many cousins, nieces, nephews, and dear friends; and his beloved collie, Abby. John was preceded in death by his parents, John Balfour and Irene Boland I.

Biography

John Balfour "Sonny" Boland, Jr., age 71 of Bad Axe, left on his never-ending hunt on January 15, 2022 from the comfort of his home, in the presence of his family. John was born on May 17, 1950 in Weston, Ontario, Canada, to John Balfour and Annie Irene (Williams) Boland I. He met Patti Near, the love of his life, at the age of 14 and began a two-year courtship in 1968. The young Canadian drove over the border every other weekend to see Patti, until he won her heart. They were married in Ubly, MI on October 17, 1970. An avid hunter, John enjoyed hunting coyote, fox, raccoon and bear with his hounds, often regaling family and friends with tales of exciting pursuits. One of his most thrilling adventures was tracking and sighting an elusive wolverine in 2004, warranting state-wide newspaper coverage. The state mascot had not been sighted in many years. John and Patti raised award-winning palomino quarter horses and Halflingers. They enjoyed competing with the Indian Trails Riding Club in area horse shows, rodeos, fairs, and eventing meets, gathering many ribbons, trophies, and awards. In 1980 he rode across the state of Michigan on horseback. Conversation with John was always flavored with his love for his homeland of Canada and the exploits of his favorite hockey teams and players. His reputation for hard work in factories and farm fields made him a much sought-after employee. He was well known for his sense of humor, and willingness to offer assistance to anyone in need; he was considered a trusted and reliable friend throughout the county.