



## John Polinski Jr.

August 10, 1917 - March 14, 2012

John Polinski Jr., (94) of 108 Garden St., a life-long resident of Sayre, PA, joined his wife, his brothers and sisters and the members of his Army platoon in eternal peace on March 14, 2012.

A true “East Side Ukie,” John was born at the family homestead on Tioga St. in Sayre, the son of John Polinski Sr. and Anna Sagan Polinski. He attended Sayre High School until the Great Depression forced him to leave to assist his family. He received his SHS Diploma in an Honorary Ceremony during the 2009 Graduation in the Lockhart Street Bowl, where he had skated on the pond as a child before the high school was even built. On June 14, 1941 he married Anna Kachmar at the Ascension of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church in Sayre.

In World War II, John was a soldier in the 350th Infantry Regiment of the famed 88th Infantry Division “Fighting Blue Devils.” Corporal Polinski served as a Squad Leader in North Africa and Italy and fought in the Liberation of Rome. He was severely wounded in combat when his unit was pounded by German artillery fire as the 88th ID was breaching the Nazi’s Gothic Line across northern Italy. Most of the members of his platoon lost their lives in the barrage, and although John lost a leg, he never let it prevent him from enjoying a rousing three- step polka at the dances held in the 1950s at the Higgins Avenue Ukrainian Hall.

Before the war, John was employed as a groundskeeper for the Robert Packer Hospital and by Dr. and Mrs. Donald Guthrie in Sayre. After returning from the service in 1946, John was employed by the Sayre Post Office until his retirement in 1976. John was preceded in death by Anna, his beloved wife of 54 years, on July 26, 1995. He and Anna were devoted members and officers in various clubs of the Ascension of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church in Sayre. John held life memberships in Skiff-Bower Veterans of Foreign Wars Post # 1536, Ball-Skerpon Catholic War Veterans Post # 773 and the Disabled American Veterans Association. For many years, John also served as a Sayre Fire Policeman and was a Civil Defense Auxiliary Policeman during the early years of the Cold War.

John enjoyed reading, gardening and helping others. John was frequently well ahead of his time, being an early proponent of organic gardening, vitamins and minerals, holistic and chiropractic medicine, magnetism and home energy efficiency. He was also a gifted and talented woodworker and carpenter, having completed extensive renovations to his home and others around his Garden Street neighborhood over the years. John will be remembered by his family and friends as a man of strong faith and deep devotion to his family, church, community and country. He'll also be remembered for the tremendous inner strength and determination that supported him throughout his long and constructive life.

Surviving are:

5 very blessed Sons and Daughters-in-law:

John and Sylvia Polinski of Denver, CO, Stephen and Sharon Polinski of Miami, FL, Peter and Diane Polinski of Candor, NY, Daniel and Judy Polinski of Sayre, Paul and Sue Polinski of Red Oak, TX

11 wonderful Grandchildren:

Alicia, Mary Bridget, Leah, Evan, Mark, Adam, Joseph, Stephen, Rachel, Sarah and Christina.

3 terrific Great Grandchildren: Sarah, Drake and Emily and several loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to his parents and wife, John was preceded in death by a wonderfully close-knit and caring family; Brothers, Michael (& Julia) and Steve (& Madeline) and Sisters, Mary Cross (and Kenneth) and Eva Macynski (& Frank).

The family will receive friends at the Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home, 314 Desmond St. Sayre, PA, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 18th A panakhyda service will be held at the funeral home at 4:45 p.m.

On Monday, March 19th, a Panakhyda service will be held at the funeral home at 9:30 a.m. followed by a 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy at the Ascension of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church in Sayre, with the Rev. Teodor B. Czabala Jr., celebrant. Interment will follow in the Ascension Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Athens Twp., PA, with the Valley Color Guard according full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be directed to the Ascension of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church or the Church's "Flood Relief Fund" at 108 N. Higgins Ave. Sayre, PA 18840, or to the charity of choice in John Polinski, Jr's memory.

# Cemetery Details

## Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery

345 Herrick Ave  
Sayre, PA 18840

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 18. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home  
314 Desmond Street  
Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 888-2113  
[info@bowenfuneralhomes.com](mailto:info@bowenfuneralhomes.com)

## Service

MAR 18. 4:45 PM (ET)

Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home  
314 Desmond Street  
Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 888-2113  
[info@bowenfuneralhomes.com](mailto:info@bowenfuneralhomes.com)

## Service

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**MAR 19. 9:30 AM (ET)**

Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home  
314 Desmond Street  
Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 888-2113  
[info@bowenfuneralhomes.com](mailto:info@bowenfuneralhomes.com)

## Service

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**MAR 19. 10:00 AM (ET)**

Ascension of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church  
110 North Higgins Ave  
Sayre, PA 18840

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Polinski Jr.*

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ *John Polinski Jr.*

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



“ *John Polinski Jr.*

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *John Polinski Jr.*

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ *John Polinski Jr.*

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM



“ *So sorry to hear we lost you dad. Thinking of all of you. Marcy Sprowls*

**Marcy Sprowls** - March 18, 2012 at 09:33 AM

JK

“ Sorry to read about the passing of you father. I always respected him as a stand up guy, as a vet to, I salute him. Jack Kenish

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**Jack Kenish** - March 17, 2012 at 12:54 PM

SS

“ Polinski Family, So sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his entire family. Keep his memories close to your heart. God bless you all.

*Reid, Shelli, Caci and Cody Silkman*

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**Shelli Silkman** - March 17, 2012 at 07:21 AM

EM

“ Mr. Polinski is a man that I always admired; he was a devoted husband and father to a wonderful family that I truly respect. I extend my heartfelt sorrow to his family and may you always know that your father, John, was truly a Big, Big man!

*Edward Monchak*

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**Edward Monchak** - March 16, 2012 at 07:44 PM

MS

“ We are so sorry to hear of the death of John. He was a wonderful man. You are all in our prayers at this time. Mary Sullivan and James Sullivan

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**Mary Sullivan** - March 16, 2012 at 06:56 PM

JA

“ Dan & Judy, Sorry to hear of the passing of your father. I know from our conversations he lived a good life. Have peace in knowing he is in Heaven with his heavenly Father. God Bless. Mark & Julie Allis

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**Juliette D. Allis** - March 16, 2012 at 11:15 AM

BL

“ I know, from Judy's conversations, what a fine man John was. My condolences to the entire family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time. May God bless you all.  
*Barb & Leonard Latchford and family*

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**Barbara Latchford** - March 16, 2012 at 08:10 AM