



John M. Auzin

October 10, 1933 - August 9, 2019

John M. Auzin died on August 9, 2019 from complications of Parkinson's disease. He was 85. Born in Warwick, RI to John and Kathleen Auzin, he also spent his youth in Whitman MA, where he graduated from high school. He served in the U.S. Navy, stationed at the Naval Air Station at Patuxent River, Maryland. He received a B.S. degree in Radio and Television Broadcasting from San Diego State College. A talented musician, he had a long career in the San Diego area as a leader of numerous groups. John Auzin's Village Five was a fixture at the Mexican Village in Coronado in the 1960's. His People Movers band was a fixture at the Cargo Bar at the San Diego Hilton. John retired from the music scene in the 1980's but continued to play the keyboard at events in the area. He lived in Valley Center for many years before moving to Cypress Court in Escondido. He was grateful for the care that he received at Cypress Court for years, and at Silverado during his final days. He appreciated the many individual caregivers who cared for him daily.

His partner of 49 years, Jim Pattison, predeceased him in 2006. His sister, Christine Bain, predeceased him in 2017. He is survived by three nieces. Also surviving him are the many musicians who played with him over a period of decades, many of whom held a tribute to him at the Hilton in 2016.

John will be remembered for his professionalism, his unique wit and sense of humor, his generosity, his charity, and his enduring friendships. A formal service is not being planned, as John's life will be celebrated with acts of charity and with a gathering of musicians.

Comments



“ R.I.P. John Auzin . He was a huge part of my family’s business, Mexican Village Restaurants Bar, and our friendships. A truly gifted and wonderful man.



Elizabeth Forsyth-Lovell - August 21 at 01:26 AM



“ My sincere condolences to the family of Jon Auzin. Although I reside in Michigan I kept in contact with John through letters and phone calls after my brother’s death and when John was at Cypress. I have so many fond memories of my visits with my brother Jim and John. He was a special person and will be missed by so many. I take comfort in knowing he is playing with the Angel’s. They will make beautiful music together..Carol Traffanstedt

Carol traffanstedt - August 19 at 10:04 AM



“ I first met John at the Mexican Village while stationed at North Island NAS. He played at a piano bar during the week. I loved how he played piano. I asked if I could sit in with him. After a couple of nights he asked me to be part of the weekend band, The Village Five. I loved that band and I grew as a musician. Shortly after getting out of the Navy in 1970 John asked me to come back to Sandiego and replace his current horn player. My New wife Carol and I jumped at the chance. We worked at Tom Hams Lighthouse backing guest artists as well as our own fare. I went back in the Navy in 1972 but never lost track of John. In January of 1979 John asked if I could take leave for a month and help him audition sax players. It turned out we needed a bass player as well. In walks (with his Mom) a 16 year old Jason Scheff. Our collective jaws dropped. Truly a great find, not only for People Movers but for Jason as well. Later while still in the Navy John and I did an album of some of our favorite standards. My Heartfelt thanks to John and all the great Sandiego musicians that nurtured my music career.

Jim Hayward - August 14 at 12:19 PM



“ John has been a mentor and friend of mine for more than four decades. I'll never forget the day he hired me to join The People Movers, I was so nervous after my audition but remember like it was yesterday when John rang me to say “I'd love to have you in the band.” A turning point in my musical journey and an opportunity to play and sing five nights weekly at the prestigious Cargo Bar in Mission Bay ... it was like winning the lottery of gigs! A most generous employer and one of the kindest human beings anyone could ever know with a musical vision that kept so many of us local musicians working for so many years. John came to my home in LA 25 years ago and not only helped me with last minute preparations but filmed and edited a beautiful wedding video as a gift to me and my wife Anita. We've shared so many fond memories over the years and I am forever grateful to have known such a wonderful and kind soul. John made a peaceful transition from this life last week and leaves behind a legacy of musicians who benefited greatly from His unique mentoring. Rest peacefully Boss and know that the band plays on in your honor. God speed, love & respect dear friend. Nathan (People Movers class of '78-'79).



Nathan East - August 14 at 03:15 AM



“ John was like a father to me. I started working for him in the People Movers in the 80's and gravitated to his deep caring nature. Even though he retired not long after I joined the group, I kept in close contact with him and Jim. I'm grateful that I have been able to be a part of his life for these final years. I will miss him desperately but I am glad that he is not suffering any longer. John will always be with me.



Nicole Ducatzenzeiler - August 13 at 10:11 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



