

John Adolph Smith Jr., age 48, of Erie, passed away on Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at UPMC Hamot following a brief illness. He was born in Erie, Pa., on September 17, 1970, son of John and Loretta Smith of Erie.

He was a lifelong Erie resident, a graduate of Tech Memorial High School and Penn State. John was the manager of his family's business, **Wesleyville Beer** Distributor, for over 20 years. He loved sports and was an avid Cleveland Browns, Cleveland Indians, Penn State and Buffalo Sabres fan. He loved bowling on the **Wesleyville Beer** team every Friday night at Greengarden Lanes with his friends and family. He was happiest when spending time with his huge, wonderful, loving family and his seven pets that he loved very much. John was always quick to instigate a laugh and he had a great sense of humor. He loved fantasy football, movies, and music. He was in the bands Stomp, and Trauma, both of which were a big part of the Erie music scene "back in the day." He was a devoted husband to his wife Larissa and he kept her smiling for nearly 27 years. He was always there to lend a hand when someone needed it. He loved being with friends and family. Everyone looked forward to his smile and contagious laugh. John will be greatly missed by all.

John was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Joseph and Regina Golab, his paternal grandparents, Elmer and Freda Smith, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

John is survived by his wife Larissa "Missy," his brother Jim Smith and his wife Becky of Erie, his sister Kelly VanScyoc and her fiancé Dan Kuzma of Erie, many nieces and nephews, and lifelong friends David Norfolk and Rich Warnaka. He is further survived by his sisters-in-law, their husbands and children, and his beloved pets Stella, Roo, Dexter, Stuie, Cletus, Tobias, and Pico, all who loved him dearly.

Friends may call on Sunday at the Francis V. Kloecker Funeral Home, Inc., 2502 Sassafras St., Erie, PA 16502, from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m., and are invited to attend the funeral service there on Monday at 9 a.m. Burial will be private. Send condolences to [www.kloeckerfuneralhome.com](http://www.kloeckerfuneralhome.com).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations for the family to help defray costs of John's valiant battle against cancer. A benefit is being held Saturday, January 26th 2019 from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at St. Boniface School gym. Donations can also be made through a GoFundMe account that has been set up at the following link: <https://www.gofundme.com/john-adolph-flips-off-cancer>.

Sign the Guestbook at [www.GoErie.com/obits](http://www.GoErie.com/obits).