



George J. McBriar

February 14, 1954 - July 23, 2024

George John McBriar, born on February 14, 1954, in Blawnox, Pennsylvania, to George Frederick McBriar and Helen Panza McBriar, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on July 23, 2024. Born on Valentine's Day, George embodied love and compassion for his family, friends, and the community he cherished.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh in 1976, George married the love of his life, Barbara Ann Taylor, on September 16, 1972. George was a devoted and loving husband who dedicated himself fully to his loved ones. He is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara Ann McBriar; their three daughters: Aleta (Brian) Balcer, Belinda (Mark) Evans, and Kira (Thom) Rosamilia; his grandchildren, James, Ashlyn, Dominic, and Alex; his mother-in-law Lillian Taylor; his sister, Helen (Honey) Coward; and his brother, Bill McBriar. Professionally, George served as the president of the renowned Clark Candy Company before launching his own warehousing and distribution business, which he successfully ran for the past 20 years. His dedication to his community was unwavering. Beginning his fire service career in Sharpsburg in 1975, George went on to serve 32 years as the fire chief in Blawnox, PA, forging lifelong friendships with John Simmons, Eddie Benaglio, John Lattimore and the late Wayne Fusaro.

In 2010, George founded the Allegheny County Swift Water Rescue Team, which provided rescue coverage for 745 square miles of waterways in the county and was regularly deployed for natural disasters, including Hurricanes

Irene and Sandy. On February 11, 2021, George was honored by the Blawnox Council for his dedication to fire rescue in the area.

George's presence was a cornerstone of his community. Known for his compassion, calm demeanor, and sense of humor, he could bring a smile to anyone's face. His joy and dedication touched many lives, and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, July 25, 2024 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday, July 26, 2024 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd; 930 Center Avenue Blawnox, PA, 15238. Funeral service will be on Saturday, July 27, 2024, 10 a.m. at the funeral home, family and friends are asked to please meet at the funeral home at 9 a.m.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **25**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home and Crematory Ltd.
930 Center Avenue
Blawnox, PA 15238

Visitation

JUL **26**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home and Crematory Ltd.
930 Center Avenue
Blawnox, PA 15238

Funeral Ceremony

JUL **27**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home and Crematory Ltd.
930 Center Avenue
Blawnox, PA 15238

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Robert L. McBrayer lit a candle in memory of George J. McBriar



Robert L. McBrayer - July 27, 2024 at 12:35 PM

JH

“ I will miss seeing you every day in the morning, hearing your laugh, and listening to your jokes. You were a kind, generous, and thoughtful person.

Jason Howells - July 27, 2024 at 08:33 AM

JP

“ Rest in peace uncle George.. I love you and will miss u very much..sending all my love to Aunt Barb,Aleta,Belinda,Kira and the rest of the family. 🙏



Jessica Pugliese - July 26, 2024 at 05:50 AM

SL

“ Sean, Missy, Jacob, & AJ Lattimore planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George J. McBriar.

Sean, Missy, Jacob, & AJ Lattimore - July 25, 2024 at 08:45 PM

SL

“ Sean, Missy, Jacob, & AJ Lattimore purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of George J. McBriar.



Sean, Missy, Jacob, & AJ Lattimore - July 25, 2024 at 08:45 PM

TF

“ The Cilenti Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of George J. McBriar.



The Cilenti Family - July 25, 2024 at 11:29 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of George J. McBriar.



July 25, 2024 at 08:05 AM

JF

“ Joan Bohnet and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George J. McBriar.

Joan Bohnet and family - July 24, 2024 at 11:36 PM

JF

“ *Joan Bohnet and family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of George J. McBriar.*



Joan Bohnet and family - July 24, 2024 at 11:36 PM

CF

“ *Cookie Vulgris & the Walker Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of George J. McBriar.*



Cookie Vulgris & the Walker Family - July 24, 2024 at 08:24 PM

RA

“ *Roger, Jacque, and Rudi Adamiak planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George J. McBriar.*

Roger, Jacque, and Rudi Adamiak - July 24, 2024 at 07:01 PM

RA

“ *Roger, Jacque, and Rudi Adamiak purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of George J. McBriar.*



Roger, Jacque, and Rudi Adamiak - July 24, 2024 at 07:01 PM

TF

“ *The Jackson Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of George J. McBriar.*



The Jackson Family - July 24, 2024 at 06:16 PM

FC

“ *Fox Chapel High School Cheerleading purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of George J. McBriar.*



Fox Chapel High School Cheerleading - July 24, 2024 at 06:10 PM

NJ

“ *Nicole, Thomas, Gina and Jenn purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of George J. McBriar.*



Nicole, Thomas, Gina and Jenn - July 24, 2024 at 05:02 PM

SD

“ *Shock Electric Rick Scott Dakota planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George J. McBriar.*

Shock Electric Rick Scott Dakota - July 24, 2024 at 04:27 PM

SD

“ Shock Electric Rick Scott Dakota purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of George J. McBriar.



Shock Electric Rick Scott Dakota - July 24, 2024 at 04:27 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of George J. McBriar.



July 24, 2024 at 04:24 PM

BI

“ Blawnox Industrial planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George J. McBriar.

Blawnox Industrial - July 24, 2024 at 04:24 PM