



## John Collins

June 29, 1959 - January 15, 2026

John Collins, 66, of Elizaville, passed away Thursday January 15, 2026. Born June 29, 1959 in Hudson, NY, he is the son of Hugo Dierkes and Dorothy Collins.

John loved everything automotive. Whether it be buying, selling, fixing or collecting, John was the definition of "car enthusiast"! He was the proprietor of Parkway Auto Exchange in Taghkanic, and was always willing to help anyone at anytime. His selflessness and generosity could not be measured. John was a caring, fun loving guy, loved by all and will truly be missed.

John will be forever remembered by his wife Melanie (Curtis) Collins, daughter Brittany Collins, and grandchildren Keegan and Mylie Haemmerle. Brothers Ronnie Dierkes, Warren Dierkes and Donald VanAlstyne along with nieces and nephews also survive. Visitation at the Bates & Anderson-Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home will be Friday January 23, 2026 from 5:00-7:00pm.

# Previous Events

## Visitation Hours

JAN **23**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler  
110 Green Street  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-3371  
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ I am just learning of John's passing. What a great guy! He will be missed. I wholesales John hundreds of cars over the decades of friendship. Even after moving to North Carolina in 2021 we kept in touch regularly. John, I will miss our conversations!

Greg Smith  
R.L. Smith Sales Inc  
Rensselaer

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**G Scott Smith** - January 22 at 02:37 PM

SB

“ Mr. Collin's sold me my first car back in June of 2024, he was a very kind man and gifted me a dream car of me. Rest east Mr. Collin's



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**Scott Buchinger** - January 21 at 09:12 PM

DP

“ I am in shock to hear about John's passing. So sorry for your loss Melaine and your family. RIP my friend John

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**Dom Pisanelli** - January 20 at 01:00 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of John Collins.



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January 19 at 10:24 PM

MH

“ Mr John thanks for everything you teach me about cars and how to fill out the paperwork when I had my dealership. Maybe one day we'll meet again. Rest in peace my friend..

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**Marco Hernandez** - January 18 at 10:59 PM

NG

“ We are so shocked and sad on Johns passing. He knew cars backward & forwards and helped us out so many times. He was the nicest man and a world of knowledge has gone with him. He knew all the tricks to the trade including how to get rid of MICE in your vehicle which we had a laugh over. So very sorry Melanie and all the family for your loss and for the loss to all of us. RIP John it is well deserved.  
Nancy & Art



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**Nancy Griffith** - January 18 at 03:23 PM

RC

“ I traveled with him several times to auctions in Connecticut so I could drive vehicles back. He knew cars like the back of his hand. He will be missed.

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**Ray Colgrove** - January 18 at 09:36 AM

RC

“ So sorry for your loss Mel. He was a good man.

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**Ray Colgrove** - January 18 at 09:32 AM

RC

“ We went to car auctions in Connecticut several times. He brought me along so I could drive a vehicle back. He knew all the back roads and sometimes it was difficult to keep up. He helped me with an ODB scan the day before he died. I will miss him.

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**Ray Colgrove** - January 18 at 08:59 AM