



John Travis Krallman

January 9, 1982 - October 29, 2021

On Friday, October 29, 2021 the world found out it had lost a hero. John Travis Krallman, of Blacksburg, was found deceased in his condo in Silver Springs Maryland.

John, to the world, and Travis, to his family, was born on a snowy Saturday, January 9, 1982 in Pittsburgh, PA. He was predeceased by his grandparents, Alvah and Thelma Hylton of Blacksburg and John W. and Edith Krallman of Irwin, PA. He leaves behind his parents, John D. and Dianne Krallman of Blacksburg, brother Kevin Krallman and his wife Anna Kramer of Monroe OR; aunts and uncles: Ken and Denise Krallman of Hamilton, OH, Dean Krallman of Herminie, PA, Sid and Sherry Krallman of Norvelt, PA and Dan and Elaine Hylton of Ozark, AL.; cousins and second cousins: Samantha Krallman Johnson and her husband Will Johnson and their children Arielle, Gabrielle and Preston of Greensburg, PA, Sara Krallman Goldman and her husband Marc Goldman and their children Ana and Grace of Harrisburg, PA, Shana Krallman and her son Liam Gustafson of Benicia, CA, Kelli Krallman and her son James Michael Howard of West Chester, OH, Keith Krallman and wife Sara Bailey of Portland, OR, Paul Hylton and Jessica Hylton and their children Jade, Lilly, and Kaylee of Ozark, AL, David Hylton of Ozark, AL and Andrew Hylton and wife Kaitlyn Hylton of Richmond, VA.

Travis was a gifted and focused student. He graduated from Blacksburg High School in 2000, where he loved forensics. He was a National Merit scholar

and chose to attend Virginia Tech, double majoring in Chemical Engineering and Chemistry. Travis found out his first semester in the co-op program that he really didn't want to be a chemical engineer so refocused on his passion, the environment. He was active in student climate action organizations at Virginia Tech. After graduation, he worked as an environmental engineer for three years with UBS, learning about clean air and the Clean Air Act. Even before graduating from Virginia Tech, John Travis planned on going on to law school to become an environmental lawyer. After UBS, he attended Lewis and Clark School of Law in Portland OR where he was champion his second year and runner-up his third year in the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition. He interned for one year at EPA, Boston office. When that ended he returned to Portland as Counsel for Neighbors for Clean Air helping to lead the fight for clean air in Oregon. He loved his job and the people he worked with and would have stayed but his dream job called. He was hired as an attorney in the Air and Radiation Law Office, Office of General Counsel, EPA in Washington, where he worked until his death.

John was not only a gifted attorney, combining his technical background with an encyclopedic knowledge of the Clean Air act, but a great mentor, team player and friend to all that knew him. He was a beloved "uncle" to his second cousins, friend and mentor to his brother and a model son. He will be sorely missed.

Family visitation will be Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at McCoy Funeral Home from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. A Memorial Service will be held at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Blacksburg at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 4, at 1:00 P.M. For those that cannot attend in person, live-stream will be available from the church's website, <https://www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org/>.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial gifts be made to Neighbors for Clean Air in John Travis's name at <https://neighborsforcleanair.org/donate/> or

you can plant a tree in his honor. As one friend put it to us, Mother Earth has lost a great advocate.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 3. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 552-3211
mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

Service

NOV 4. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Michael Lutheran Church
2308 Merrimac Rd
BLACKSBURG, VA 24060

Tribute Wall



“ *Missing you today, brother. Life isn't the same without your laughs and going on our adventures. I'm glad we had the time we did, but wish we had more time together.*

Travis Gintz - October 29, 2025 at 12:48 PM



“ *The tree planting came to my mind today. I am so happy that there's a place I can come see you. I'll try to drop in for a quick nip.... like we would always do. Miss you buddy.*

Travis Gintz - December 06, 2024 at 10:35 PM



“ *Happy Birthday bud. Went by the school a few days before your birthday to see the tree. It looked great. It's a bit naked without the leaves, but it seems to be happy there. We both miss you and think about you often. Cheers to you buddy.*

Travis - January 16, 2024 at 11:53 PM



“ *Been thinking about you a bit lately and wanted to drop a line. Love you buddy.*

Travis Gintz - April 04, 2023 at 02:20 AM



“ *Thinkin of you this week buddy. Missing your laugh and conversations and spirited arguments.*

Travis Gintz - October 21, 2022 at 05:57 PM

MB

“ I had the privilege of getting to know John here in Portland through his best friend Travis. John never failed to put a smile on my face and I really enjoyed his company and the friendly debates we would have. Whether it was watching a Timbers game or going out for karaoke, I always had a great time with him. We will miss him dearly.

Matt Breen - December 06, 2021 at 02:04 AM

LF

“ Sending my deepest sympathy and condolences to John's friends and family.

Leah Feldon, Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Lewis and Clark Law School alum

Leah Feldon - December 03, 2021 at 03:34 PM

TH

“ John is part of the reason I got into doing clean air work. He taught my Clean Air Act seminar class, and always made the lessons engaging and as close to real life scenarios as possible. He promised me I didn't need to be an engineer to specialize in the Clean Air Act and despite my insecurities he was right. Now that I'm working with a bunch of engineers, I think of him often. I had hoped to reconnect with him this year and now I never can. He was also my predecessor at Neighbors for Clean Air—shoes I could never fill, but he set the groundwork for some advocacy I continued to build on for my four years there. He will be missed for his advocacy and humor and kindness. His memory is a blessing for me, and I'm sure for his friends and family as well.

Tori Heroux - December 01, 2021 at 06:32 PM

BD

“ I worked closely with John in the EPA Office of General Counsel as one of his practice group leaders in the Air and Radiation Law Office, covering the New Source Review program under the Clean Air Act. John was a tremendous asset to our practice and a joy to work with on a personal level. We were excited to be able to hire John because of his combination of experience with CAA permitting and engineering skills. He quickly exceeded our expectations, not only with his knowledge of the subject matter, but with his passion and aptitude for this area of our practice. John was part of a rare breed of people who truly understand and love working on NSR permitting, a complex and arcane area of the law. He also had a gift for providing unbiased and objective legal analysis in a legal specialty where opposing views or often strongly held and vigorously advocated. John quickly became a valued and trusted legal advisor to EPA leaders, regardless of their political party. He was a pleasure to work with because of his ever-cheerful demeanor and generous spirit. John rarely turned down a request for help and covered a large portfolio of important work for our office. Losing John has created a tremendous hole in our CAA permitting practice in OGC, but an even bigger one in our hearts. He will be deeply missed and my sincere condolences to his family and all who were blessed to know him.

Brian Doster - November 19, 2021 at 04:46 PM

AC

“ I am one of the lucky ones who worked with John at EPA’s OGC ARLO, starting there within months of each other. John embodied all the things I love the most about our office— dedication to finding and solving each legal puzzle, discussing (and debating!) the intricacies of the CAA, and taking time to find joy in sharing things like good conversation or a hot lunch with colleagues. I will greatly miss him knocking on my office door, pulling me grumpily away from a half written email...my memories of him will always be a reminder to be present in life in the most important ways. In him I found another who could not tire of talking about Portland, but most importantly a person how made me (and so many others) feel like a valued friend and colleague. Thank you, John.

Andrea Carrillo - November 05, 2021 at 03:51 PM


Lindsay
Godfrey

“ John was such a wonderful and witty person. I was so fortunate to meet him as a part of a package deal when I met my husband. We were blessed to have him officiate our wedding. I'm also blessed to have known him for 10 years through many downtown Portland adventures. I will miss his infectious laugh and steady presence in our lives.

Lindsay Godfrey - November 04, 2021 at 10:39 PM

CJ

“ I was honored to have had John as a student and, twice, as a member of one of our national environmental law moot court teams. John was simply a pleasure to work with in every context. He was extremely bright, incredibly eager to accept input and improve both his knowledge and his skills, and a fantastic teammate to all with whom he worked. He tackled legal problems with just the right amounts of enthusiasm, diligence, and both confidence and modesty. His teammates loved him, as did I and all of the other faculty with whom he worked.

It was a pleasure to stay in touch with John, and to track his career. He dearly loved being at EPA, and getting to delve as deeply as that opportunity allowed into the intricacies of the Clean Air Act.

To me, John was a perfect example of why I love teaching at Lewis & Clark. I will miss him deeply.

Craig Johnston - November 04, 2021 at 12:55 PM

KA

“ I am honored and lucky to have known John - he warmly welcomed me to OGC at EPA, as a Lewis & Clark alum - and instantly I had a friend. His list of talents are long and I am certain his contributions to the planet, and this country as a public servant, will live on through his family, friends and colleagues - who he clearly inspired daily. Sending strength to John's family and loved ones during this incredibly difficult time - may his memory be a blessing.

-Karin Koslow

Karin - November 04, 2021 at 12:28 PM

JW

“ I was so sorry to hear of John's passing. I work in EPA's San Francisco office and was privileged to work with John on many occasions on Clean Air Act permitting matters, and was fortunate enough to get to work and hang out with him in person when we teamed up for an oral argument before the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board. John always impressed me and my Regional colleagues with his legal and technical expertise as well as his kindness, generosity and sense of humor. We will miss him very much. My deepest condolences to John's family.

Julie Walters

Julie Walters - November 04, 2021 at 12:04 PM

FM

“ This is so difficult to grasp. As an EPA colleague, I relied on John through several projects, brainstorming related to the CAA and support in coordination efforts. John was always a phone call away and even in disagreements was agreeable to work with. My deepest sympathy and shared grief.

Flaire Mills

Flaire Mills - November 04, 2021 at 10:32 AM

ZP

“ I am so sorry to hear about John’s passing. He was kind, thoughtful, and brilliant — with a pointed sense of humor to boot. My first memory of John was in law school, where he was the whip-smart 3L giving us first-year students in NEDC a crash course in Oregon air pollution law. He was extraordinarily kind —taking the time years later to give me tips on applying to work at EPA, in light of his own experience working for EPA’s New England office. And I was thrilled years after that, when we got be colleagues in EPA’s Office of General Counsel, where his passion for the environment and public health shone brightly.

I will miss John greatly. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.

Zach Pilchen - November 04, 2021 at 12:18 AM

LB

“ I will always remember John as a generous, fun, kind, and warm person. He was cheery and positive and always made you feel welcome. He had such a wonderful spirit. He will be deeply missed. Sending his family love and peace.

Liz Berg - November 03, 2021 at 10:06 PM



“ <https://www.mccoynfuneralhome.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>; target="_blank">Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of John Travis Krallman.

November 03, 2021 at 10:00 PM

ED

“ I had the great good fortune of being on John’s moot court team our last year of law school. He was intimidatingly smart, generous with his time, and extremely dedicated to getting things right. Beyond being an amazing teammate, he was a great friend. He will be sorely missed.



Ellie Dawson - November 03, 2021 at 09:52 PM

LG

“ I was so terribly sorry to hear about John's passing. His office was next to mine at EPA, and we shared many a silly moment and fun exchange over the 4+ years that we were neighbors, before the pandemic sent us all home. He was - as others are well aware - wicked smart, kind, funny, and goofy - always up for chit chat or catching up on current events, tipping me off (or vice-versa) when baked goods would appear at the end of the hallway, counseling his clients in boisterous conversations that carried through the adjoining wall, and trading entertaining stories that occasionally continued on our shared metro commute. He was a lively presence and gifted attorney - although our work areas did not overlap, I know he was held in extremely high regard and had an encyclopedic knowledge of clean air issues. Returning to the office will be immeasurably harder without him. Wishing you patience, strength, and healing during this incredibly difficult time.

Lisa Goldman - November 03, 2021 at 08:15 PM

MP

“ John and Dianne and family,

My heart breaks for your great loss of Travis. I still picture him from days at St. Michael's. Sending prayers for strength and peace during these most difficult days and days to come. May your memories bring you comfort. With love, Missy (Brown) Piszczor

Missy (Brown) Piszczor - November 03, 2021 at 11:48 AM

JA

“ John's friends in EPA OGC ARLO purchased the *Treasured Lilies Spray* for the family of John Travis Krallman.



John's friends in EPA OGC ARLO - November 03, 2021 at 11:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of John Travis Krallman.



November 03, 2021 at 11:29 AM

FF

“ From John's EPA OGC family purchased the *A New Sunrise Spray* for the family of John Travis Krallman.



From John's EPA OGC family - November 03, 2021 at 08:08 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Travis Krallman.*



November 02, 2021 at 03:06 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy for the loss, pain, and sadness that your family, friends, and all who knew John are feeling. I had the honor and blessing to work with John at EPA on various issues. John had the rare combination of countless gifts that he generously shared with us – a brilliant legal mind, a deep passion for EPA’s work, an upbeat attitude, kindness to help his colleagues at any time, and a wonderful sense of humor. He brought joy and laughter to our office and unparalleled excellence to the Agency. The difference John made to better the environment and our lives is phenomenal. I will always remember and miss him dearly. I pray that the love that surrounds you may be a source of comfort and peace during this difficult time. Karen Palmer*

Karen Palmer - November 02, 2021 at 02:56 PM



“ *I had the great pleasure of getting to know John when we served as summer law clerks for Earthrise Law Center (formerly PEAC, at the time). John was one of the smartest men I've ever met. And he was a man of tremendous character. He was funny, kind, and extremely generous with his time and service. I regret that we had fallen out of touch in recent years. I'll never forget what a joy it has been to know him as a friend and colleague. I'm deeply sorry for the family and for his other friends who are feeling the depth of this loss. Sending heartfelt condolences.*

Ashley DeBoard - November 02, 2021 at 02:35 PM

YF

“ *Your Hubbell Christiansburg Family purchased the A Full Life for the family of John Travis Krallman.*



Your Hubbell Christiansburg Family - November 02, 2021 at 11:08 AM

AG

“ *I am so sad to hear of John's passing. I had the pleasure of serving as EPA's General Counsel when John started at EPA, and he was such an amazing friend and colleague. He had a delightful combination of compassion (for the planet and for others), incredible legal smarts, and was one of those rare people who seemed so comfortable in his own shoes and made others feel the same when around him. I have many fond memories of John at EPA, and know that his public service has made this world a far better place. His memory will last, as will his many contributions to people and the planet. Peace. Avi Garbow*

Avi Garbow - November 02, 2021 at 10:14 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Travis Krallman.*



November 02, 2021 at 08:32 AM

TY

“ Dear John and Dianne,

I am terribly sorry for your loss. I had the pleasure of having John work for me as a research assistant at Lewis & Clark Law School. These were unusual assignments in that they called for him to engage in roleplaying for the class students to practice their interviewing skills. He was superb! One year, I asked him to play a civil engineer, and another year, a financial analyst. He carried off these different roles so believably!

The most unusual assignment, though, was where I had him sit in on one of my first-year classes, in the back. Ten minutes into the class, he stood up, yelled "I can't take it anymore!," ran to the front of the class, took my textbook, and ran out. Then I had the students write down everything they could remember about him, as a demonstration of how fallible eyewitness testimony can be. (Some of the students did pretty well, but it turned out that they already had met John, even though he was an upper division student -- that's a testament to his stature among his peers.)

I wish that I'd had John in one of my classes so that I could have had more interaction with him, but I cherish the RA work he did for me.

Tung Yin - November 02, 2021 at 02:16 AM

TR

This is such a great story. I can imagine him saying "I can't take it anymore" and running out. It would have been so natural for him. He always brought smiles.

Travis - November 02, 2021 at 02:19 PM

VT

“ John and Dianne, I write this with a sad heart. I'm so sorry for the loss of Travis. It sounds like he was a wonderful man who was a real asset to the world. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Vicki Trump - November 01, 2021 at 11:55 PM

PF

“ I am so sorry for this terrible loss. I worked with John at EPA, not closely but we talked often in the hallways and pantry, and also on the red line train commuting to or from work. He was a great guy, always smiling, funny and more. I am sadly stunned to hear this very sad news. Pete Ford

Pete Ford - November 01, 2021 at 11:52 PM

NL

“ Ned F Letto lit a candle in memory of John Travis Krallman



Ned F Letto - November 01, 2021 at 11:30 PM

NL

Dianne, there are no words that I could share that will reduce the pain you must feel. Please accept my sympathy and prays for John and the entire family.

Ned F Letto - November 01, 2021 at 11:32 PM

AC

“ Years ago, when we was working with NCA, John took the time to meet me (a local mom distraught about the toxic fumes prevalent in my neighborhood) one night for coffee and a walk. I learned so much in those couple hours. I had some many questions and he had so many answers. It was a crash course in air pollution: how our society works to address it—and to conceal it. He was so brilliant and generous with his knowledge. It was one of those transformational encounters and I often think of him with gratitude.

Alicia Cohen - November 01, 2021 at 08:45 PM

WL

“ Dianne John all the family I was so sorry to hear of Travis passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time



Wanda franklin Lawson - November 01, 2021 at 08:25 PM

AB

“ I worked closely with John on the case that permanently shuttered PGE’s Boardman coal-fired power plant at the environmental litigation clinic Earthrise, at Lewis & Clark Law in Portland, and later as he worked at Neighbors for Clean Air. As a student, John was without fault. As a brother-in-arms, a confidant, a strategist, a friend, he was the best. I’ll remember and miss him forever. My heart breaks for his family and dear ones. You are in my thoughts and I wish you strength in this impossible time.

Aubrey Baldwin - November 01, 2021 at 07:47 PM

MP

“ Besides being one of the smartest and funniest people I have ever had the honor to work with, John was also one of the kindest people I knew. We were probably an unlikely team, as ignorant and unexperienced as I was of the environmental advocacy I had fallen into and in which he was so brilliantly educated. But he never seemed to tire of explaining things to me, and he never seemed to wane in his optimism that I would eventually figure it out. And we always, always had a lot of fun in that process. Even after he left, he would send notes of congratulations and support, showing that he still deeply cared about the work back here in his adopted state.

Oregon lost a real environmental hero this last week, who almost more than anyone had revealed to me deep flaws beneath our state's reputation as an environmental leader. But he was also someone who deeply cared for and loved this place and like so many of us, just wanted to make it better. John Krallman did make it better. My heart goes out to his family and friends who are suffering the tragedy of this loss.

Kind regards,
Mary Peveto, Executive Director, Neighbors Clean Air

Mary Peveto - November 01, 2021 at 07:14 PM

LS

“ *Dianne and Family*

So sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you. God is with you.

Ruby and Larry Sheppard

Larry Sheppard - November 01, 2021 at 07:01 PM

SA

“ I had the privilege of working with John at EPA since he first arrived. He was an amazing attorney, a defender of the Clean Air Act's integrity, and a wonderful person. His passing so young is the greatest loss to his family and a great loss for the environment. We worked together on a project just a few weeks ago; a project that due in great part to his brilliant legal acumen and persuasive advocacy resulted in an action that will help protect a valuable program. Whenever that program is used, I will remember John fondly. My heart is with his family and dear friends.

Sabrina Argentieri

Sabrina - November 01, 2021 at 03:38 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of John Travis Krallman.



November 01, 2021 at 10:38 AM

BG

“ I had the true privilege to work with John closely at work here at EPA. John is a light in this world, and he generously shared his experience and knowledge with all of us without ego. John was a brilliant practitioner of environmental law but most important was he was a great person to work closely with as part of a team on projects. His humor and presence is going to be hugely missed here. I keep all of his family and friends in my prayers. Thank you John for your friendship and all that you shared with me through the years. God bless.

Ben Garwood - November 01, 2021 at 10:29 AM

TD

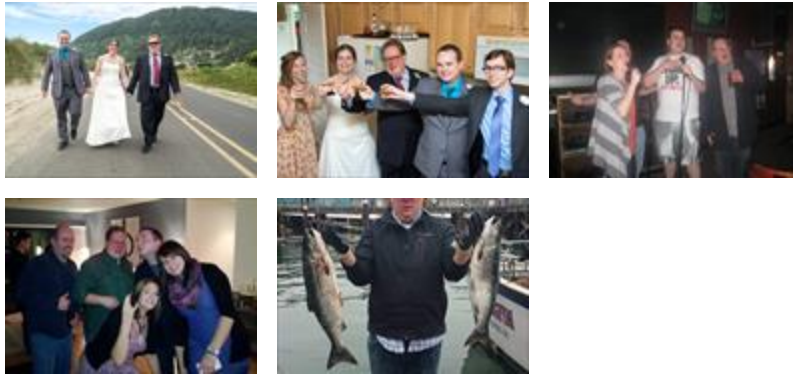
“ I worked with John at EPA in Washington. He will be terribly missed. As two chemical engineers that became lawyers that implemented the CAA, we had our own nerdy kind of humor and understanding. I am so sorry for this incredible loss to his family and friends.

Terri Dykes

Terri Dykes - November 01, 2021 at 10:05 AM

TR

“ 13 files added to the album Travis and John in Portland



Travis - October 31, 2021 at 11:28 PM

TR

“ I'm still in disbelief. We were just hanging out a couple months ago when I visited Washington DC to see my brother, my parents and of course you, my best friend. I've known you for about 12 years. We both lived in Portland, but we met in Blacksburg, Virginia while we were visiting parents for Christmas. Lex and I met you outside the Rivermill and we've been friends ever since. You've only lived around the PNW for about half that, but we spent a lot of time together over the years on many an adventure. I think you knew me better than almost anyone I know, and you've told me you've felt the same about me. You officiated our wedding. You spent many weekends with us out on the town, going to Timbers games, winning OMSI Trivia, watching movies. We kept in touch the best we could when you left, but I missed you a lot since you left a few years ago to go work for the EPA, your dream job. I was so proud of you and how much you've accomplished and how hard you've fought for the environment.

We lifted each other up when we needed it. We've cried together and cheered together. You were ALWAYS the best friend to me and my wife.

I'll see you in a few days in Virginia John Krallman, one last time. I don't know what it's gonna be like without you. I imagined we'd grow old together.

RIP John Krallman. I love you buddy.

Travis - October 31, 2021 at 11:18 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John Travis Krallman.



October 31, 2021 at 07:13 PM