

## *John J. Arata*



Arata, John J. age 84 of Kirkwood, Missouri passed away at the Mary, Queen, and Mother Center, 7900 Watson Road, St. Louis, on Saturday, June 21, 2008.

John was born on August 23, 1923 to David and Anna (nee Kears) Arata in Atlantic City, New Jersey, where he grew up and graduated from high school in 1943.

During the World War II period, John served in the U.S. Navy from July 1943 to April 1946. Following his military service, John attended Washington University in St. Louis and graduated in 1953 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. John

worked the U.S. Aeronautical Chart & Information Center (Defense Mapping Agency) in St. Louis several years before he relocated to Wisconsin to pursue an advanced degree in communications.

There, he attended Stout State University graduating in 1968 with a Master of Science Degree in Audio- Visual Communications.

Following his marriage to Esther L. (nee Spring) Arata on July, 13, 1968 in the City of St. Louis, he and Esther made their home in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where both taught at the University of Wisconsin.

Several years later they returned to St. Louis where John accepted a position with the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (the Arch) as their Curator of Exhibits, and Esther researched and authored a book regarding France's King Louis XIV.

John and Esther both retired in the late 1980's and made their home in Kirkwood, Missouri. Esther passed away on June 10, 2000.

Services: Funeral mass will be Tuesday, June 24, 10 a.m. at Ste Genevieve du Bois Catholic Church in Warson Woods. Visitation will be from 9:00 a.m. until time of mass at church. Interment Resurrection. Cemetery. Arrangements by BOPP Chapel.

- See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/stltoday/obituary.aspx?n=john-j-arata&pid=112064315&fhid=6378#sthash.zPTj6Olk.dpuf>

