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"John Belushi - His Final Hours" reveals his last day and the heartbreak he left behind

July 25, 6:35 PM • Documentary Examiner • Bob Etier



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John Belushi as Bluto Blutarisky in "Animal House" National Lampoon's Animal House

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John Belushi was a genius of physical comedy. He was a master character actor who could assume any nationality or personality type. As [John "Bluto" Blutarisky in Animal House](#), he set high standards for low comedy; as "[Joliet" Jake Blues](#), a founding *Blues Brother*, he introduced catchphrases and concepts that would live on for generations. Unfortunately, John Belushi died 28 years ago.

Like [Anna Nicole Smith](#), another subject of Final 24, the series for which John Belushi's *His Final Hours* was originally produced, Belushi had enormous appetites that eventually lead to his demise. Dan Aykroyd, John Belushi's best friend and fellow Blue Brother, describes Belushi as "sensitive" and "vulnerable" and admits Belushi had "insatiable appetites for everything... from motorcycle speed to three pieces of cherry pie."

John Belushi died from bingeing on cocaine and heroin; his final twenty-four hours were fueled by his desire for drugs. Years before

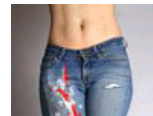
he died, he knew he had a problem with cocaine; he hired bodyguard Smokey Wendell to help him stay off drugs, and he managed to get clean. It didn't last.

As *John Belushi - His Final Hours* unfolds, it presents a picture of how destructive a drug addict can be to the people around him or her. Belushi's wife, Judy Belushi Pisano, describes the experience, and addiction specialist Dr. Drew Pinsky explains how one goes from an abuser to an addict, and the

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