



John Irven Schoolen

August 26, 1945 - August 26, 2010

John Irven Schoolen, 65, died of a heart attack August 26, 2010 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa. He was born August 12, 1945 in Des Moines, Iowa to Merle Andrew and Okla Cole Schoolen. He was raised by Irven and Geraldine (Gerry) Mefford in Albia, Iowa.

He attended Maxon Country School until it closed, then went to junior high and high school in Albia, graduating in 1963. He attended Westmar College in LeMars, Iowa on a football scholarship and graduated with a teaching degree in 1967.

After college he spent two years in the Army and tested weapons in Vietnam. He was owner-operator of his own construction business. He worked for Chicago Rivet in Albia. In 1984 he started teaching machinist trades at Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa, Iowa. He retired in 2007 from Indian Hills Community College as the Coordinator of Customized Learning.

He married Glenda Hughes on August 12, 1972. They had two daughters, Laura VanDerLinden (Mike) of State Center, Iowa, and Lisa Hayward (James) of Albia, Iowa; four grandchildren, Brittany, Rachel, and Seth VanDerLinden, and Claire Hayward.

John was an active member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia, having served on the finance and trustee committees, had been chairman of the Administrative Council of Trinity, and was a Tri-Joy Sunday School class teacher. He had been a chairperson on the Monroe County Extension Council, and loved helping with the fishing club. He had been on the Low Income

Housing Board, been a member of the Lions Club, and was currently on the Board of Directors for Chariton Valley REC. He had coached Pigtail and Ponytail softball for both of his daughters. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and enjoyed the winters in Alabama.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Merle Schoolen and Okla Giesbrecht, uncle and aunt Irven and Gerry Mefford.

John is survived by his wife Glenda, daughters Laura and Lisa, four grandchildren, brother David (Dot) Schoolen of Chowchilla, CA, sisters Marian Crall (Bernard) of Urbandale, IA, and Gerry Kay (Danny) Wasko of Des Moines, IA, and half-brother Robert (Dorene) Schoolen of Coppock, IA, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the Trinity United Methodist Church or the Family Life Center.

Tribute Wall



“ *John Irven Schoolen*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *John Irven Schoolen*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I received a notice of John's death from a former Westmar teacher. I am also a graduate of Westmar College and was one year ahead of John but our paths crossed many times on campus. I have many fond memories of him from the many classes we shared together. I inquired about John a few years ago from a former pastor of ours that you may know. His name is Rev. Marvin Lindley, another Albia graduate. Westmar was a very close knit campus and so many of the students became good friends. We tend to keep track of each other even without contacting everyone. I know John's name was brought up last year at a Westmar Reunion of the Classes of the 60's. Even though years have passed since the Westmar Classes of the early 60's when we get together lots of students are discussed with so many good memories. I know God must have blessed John with a wonderful family and that he will be missed but with God's love and Johns memories you will all get through this difficult time.*

MaeBelle Maass Powell

Ida Grove, Iowa

Westmar Class of 1966

MaeBelle Powell - September 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

L(

“ Glenda, So very sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathy to you and your family. May the many memories and your faith comfort you and give you strength during this difficult time. Linda

Linda (Osswald)Sizemore - September 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Glenda, Our hearts are heavy for you and your family as you go through these rough days. Please find strength in knowing that you are being thought of, prayed for, and much love and friendship sent your way. I know John has been pretty sick, and isn't it wonderful knowing that he is walking with our Lord, just waiting for us to join him. I had your family put on our prayer list at church, and we will continue to keep you near our hearts.
Love & Sympathy,
Tom & Sherry Wallace

Tom & Sherry Wallace - August 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Glenda... Thinking of you and your family during this difficult time. When you've spent a life time with the one whom you loved and cherished, it must seem as though life itself has ended. We thank God for your 38 year marriage, the message of your commitment to one another and the gift that you both have been to your kids and grandkids. We are praying for your family and long for the day when there will be no more death, no more tears. Rick and Sylvia

Rick & Sylva Wharton - August 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ Glenda, Lisa, Laura, and families, I am sorry for your loss. John was a great man and good friend. When I started teaching at IHCC with John in 1987, he was always willing to help me with CNC or AutoCAD classes. I always respected and appreciated John for his willingness to help a new teacher. John had a positive impact on the lives of a lot of Machine Technology students over the years. May you find comfort in your memories of John.

Greg Kepner - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ We were sorry to learn of John's passing. He was a good friend growing up; both at ACHS & as roommates at Westmar.

Carl & Karen Johnston - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Glenda, Laura, Lisa and families, please know my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. I have such fond memories of "Uncle Johnny". He always had such a way to make us all laugh. Rest assured his welcome party of Schoolens awaits him above. Love to you all, Jennifer (Bettis) Reich

Jennifer (Bettis) Reich - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Glenda and family...My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time of great loss and sorrow in your lives. John was such a nice man, and he will be missed by many. May God Bless you all.

Karen Dicks - August 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ To Lisa, James and your extended family: Our deepest sympathy at the loss of your father/husband. Sharing in the sadness of losing a beloved father having walked that road, Lisa. I find peace and even happiness in the memories made and the knowledge that Dad knew Christ and I pray for you the same peace and wonderful memories. God continue to bless you and your family and your mother...in the days to come. Betty and Pat.

Betty and Pat Cowan - August 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ As the former Director of Veterans Affairs at Indian Hills, I am deeply saddened at his passing.

While at Indian Hills, I remember John as a person with a great sense of humor who also cared deeply for America's veterans. He always went the extra mile to ensure that they received the caring treatment that they deserved. I hope you will be somewhat comforted in the wonderful work that John did at Indian Hills, the many lives that he changed for the better and the high admiration in which he was held by faculty, staff and his students.

Bill Hansen - August 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ I worked at the T & I Bldg when John started at IHCC,so worked with him in some form his entire time at IHCC. I can always hear him laughing at some mischievous thing he either said or did! He was a great guy and I am so sadden for your loss. I was having great-great nieces at the same time he was having his first grand babies and he was one proud Grandpa, often coming over to show me new pictures. May all your memories sustain you through this sadness.

Deb Overby

Deb Overby - August 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Glenda, Laura, Lisa and families,
I am saddened to hear of John's passing. I extend my deepest sympathy to you all and pray for you to find comfort in knowing John is resting peacefully. May you find peace in the memories you hold dearly.

Julie Collier

julie collier - August 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ Glenda, Lisa and Laura, I was so saddened to hear of the passing of John. He was such a wonderful man. He will be missed but comfort comes knowing he is in the arms of his saviour. May God hold you in his comforting hands as you say good bye to him. I have so many happy memories of him. Love and prayers to all of you.

Roxanne Goudy - August 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ I am so sorry for your loss, I know he will be missed terribly. I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. Uncle John was quite obviously a wonderful man. May God comfort you in this time of sorrow but we try to remember that we can look forward to the day when Jesus will wipe away all our tears and we shall see our loved ones again.

Darcie (Schoolen) Elliott - August 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM