



John LeRoy Murphy, Sr.

May 2, 1936 - April 9, 2021

John Leroy Murphy Sr. went home to be with the Lord on April 9, 2021.

We remember him as a wonderful father, pawpaw, and friend; he was a hardworking man of integrity who so often put the needs of others before himself. John was born in Greensboro, North Carolina on May 2, 1936. He graduated from Grimsley High School where he was a member of the state championship football team. Married to the love of his life, Linda Kay for 42 years, they liked to tell the story of eloping to South Carolina and marrying over the state line. John made a career working at Dover Elevator Company, retiring as a supervisor over the Raleigh district. Racing was more than a hobby for “Big John.” In his early years, he and his best friend Clyde built cars and raced at Bowman Gray Stadium and other tracks. He was fondly known as “Big Bad John” or the “Living Legend” by race fans, which always drew a chuckle out of John. He enjoyed ocean fishing with his son, talking NFL football with his grandson and daughter-in-law, and spending time with his cousin Kathy and her dog Lucky. His legacy of friendship and dedication to family will forever be a part of our lives. John is survived by his son, John L. Murphy Jr. and his wife Renie of Manassas, Virginia, and his grandson Dr. Joshua David Murphy of Manassas, Virginia.

Per John Sr.’s request, a small graveside service will be officiated by Pastor Mike Barrett of Pleasant Garden Baptist Church. The internment will be held at Lakeview Memorial Park in Greensboro, North Carolina.

For those who wish to honor Big John’s memory, he requested donations to be made to the Wounded Warrior charity in support of the brave men and women who dedicated their lives in service to our country.

Cemetery

Events

Lakeview Memorial Park

3600 N. OHenry Blvd.

Greensboro, NC, 27405

APR

15

Graveside Service

11:00AM

Lakeview Memorial Park

3600 N. OHenry Blvd., Greensboro, NC, US, 27405

Comments



“ First was introduced to Mr. Murphy back in 1981 and was very amazed at his strong evenness as a man who knew the Lord. His son became a great friend to me from time spent at WCU. May God rest his soul and may God continue to bless you and your family John Murphy. Your brother in Christ D. Silver.

Fred Daryl Silver - February 07 at 11:17 AM



“ Sweet and funny memories of Johnny will forever be etched in my heart. He was the most humble, selfless man I've ever known. He always put the needs of others before his own. We will miss him so much.

Denise Henderson - April 14, 2021 at 09:17 PM



“ Johnny was my dads best friend and a wonderful friend he was. He was one of the sweetest men you'll ever meet he and dad were a pair. My family will miss him so much he was a special special man. Prayers to you and your family Little Johnny.

Fields Renee - April 13, 2021 at 08:47 PM



“ RIP Cuz. Love ya and will miss ya. You are a super special person and I am honored to be a part of your family

Susan Phillips Matley - April 14, 2021 at 08:50 PM



“ Sue, I couldn't agree with you more! For over 62 1/2 years; Johnny was somebody that I am proud to call kin!

Kathy Lewis - April 17, 2021 at 10:03 PM



“ We met John, Linda and Johnny in the 60's when we moved to Raleigh. A quiet man with so much heart and so many talents. He never met a stranger and never refused to help anyone. Heck he even danced on the table on a tour boat out of Hawaii with a hula skirt on. The Karpers, Murphys and Sheens were the wandering buddies. Once a trip to Hawaii encouraged them to take a job there for over a year. A trip to Mexico introduced Linda to muumuus and she bought them for every one. John even carried a huge model boat back. He was the only Captain of a ship who did not swim, eat seafood, etc. He always said two crabs will fill you up. Yet, he would take the boys and bring back garbage cans full of blue tips and feed the neighborhood. They were a team for sure. We will miss the Legend, but he will once again be with the love of his life. You made the World a much better place by being in it Captain....as well as your lovely Linda did. The Sheen Family

Doris & Charles Sheen - April 27, 2021 at 12:24 PM



“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Kathy Lewis - April 13, 2021 at 02:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - April 13, 2021 at 09:57 AM



“ To Johnny's Immediate Family:
I am extremely saddened by Johnny's passing! Devastating doesn't even begin to cover it! I know this wasn't "unexpected", but it was still a shock, just the same! He will be missed immensely!

And To You Johnny:

May you rest in eternal Heavenly peace! You have certainly earned it, and then some!

~ KATHY



Kathy Lewis - April 11, 2021 at 12:51 PM