



Raymond John

November 3, 1933 - December 24, 2012

Raymond N. John, age 79, of Spirit Lake, passed away Monday, December 24, 2012, at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake. He was born on November 3, 1933, in Marshalltown, Iowa, to William and Charity (Wyatt) John.

Raymond graduated from Marshalltown High School in 1951, and the University of Northern Iowa in 1959. He served his country in the United States Army for two years, serving in the Korean War.

Raymond taught Industrial Arts for 43 years in Bayard, Havelock, Scheffield and Spirit Lake. He also taught Drivers Education for 19 years. Raymond loved spending time with his wife and family and enjoyed working on and collecting guns.

Raymond is survived by his wife, Mary Lou John of Spirit Lake; two daughters, Debbie Papenfuhs, and her husband, Ronnie of Fair Play, Missouri, and Lisa Hennen, and her husband, Brian of Bellbrook, Ohio; a brother, William Johns, and his wife, Vivian of Cody, Wyoming; five grandchildren, Amanda, Jeremy, Tanya, Monica and Cassi; and one great-granddaughter, Lexi. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00A.M. Thursday, December 27, 2012, at the United Methodist Church in Spirit Lake. A memorial visitation will be held Wednesday, from 4:00P.M. until 6:00P.M. at the Schuchert Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in Raymond's name. The Schuchert Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

DW

“ *Mary Lou and family, I am sorry to hear about Ray. He will live on through all of us in Spirit Lake as Ray has touched so many people. My prayers are with you. Just me-Dara, Key Largo, FL.*

Dara Worrick - January 29, 2013 at 07:38 AM

SR

“ *Mary Lou, so sorry to hear of your husband's death. Terry Blank told us yesterday. Enjoyed seeing the video pictures. Thinking of you and your family.*

Sharon (O'Keefe) Roskamp - January 15, 2013 at 09:08 AM

BR

“ *We are so very sorry for your loss. Ray was such a kind sweet man. We will never forget how excited he was to get fresh tomatoes from us.*

Bob and Rita Reimers - December 28, 2012 at 09:25 AM

RG

“ *MaryLou; please accept our most heartfelt condolences upon Ray's passing. We always enjoyed talking to him and you. May God give you comfort at this difficult time aand know that our prayers are with you and your family.*

Roger & Jan Gilbert - December 27, 2012 at 08:30 PM

JN

“*Mary Lou and family. I am so sorry for the passing of Ray. He was such a kind, patient man and educator (with us as students, he had to have a lot of patience!). As the years have gone by, I realize just how much of what Ray taught has helped me later in life both at work and at home. Most of my working adult life has been associated with manufacturing and the skills I learned in industrial arts has always been a benefit. My sympathies are with you.*

Jeff Newell - December 27, 2012 at 11:58 AM

DO

“*My deepest condolences to the family for your loss, may your hearts find peace and comfort in knowing that Jehovah God is near to those that are broken at heart and those crushed in spirit he saves - Psalms 34:18; Psalms 83:18. One day soon, all suffering and death will be no more Revelations 21:3, 4; John 3:16.*

Doris - December 27, 2012 at 10:08 AM

EG

“*What a wonder slide show in tribute to a great man! I feel honored and blessed to have know Ray and his family. He was a mentor to me especially in the area of firearms but he taught me so much more... He taught me values of life and being a kind and gentle person. He will be forever missed! My sympathies. He is gone but will never be forgotten.*

Ed & Joyce Griifin - December 27, 2012 at 08:33 AM

RR

“*We are so sorry to hear about Ray - our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Ray is a very special person and will be greatly missed!*

Rod and Sandy Radosevich - December 27, 2012 at 07:46 AM

BF

“ Dear Mary Lou, Debbie, Lisa, and your families. Please know the Lundberg family is sending a massive amount of hugs your way. My trips over the years back to Spirit Lake were never complete without a stop at your home. Ray was so much more than a teacher to me. From the very early days at the gunshows, to trips to Herter's with my dad, Kenny (driving with his knees) Bill and Ray to lots of fun hours in shop class. Ray was a fantastic soul on this earth and will sure be missed. We all were so lucky to have had him touch our lives. God bless all of you.

Brad Lundberg & Family - December 27, 2012 at 05:38 AM

MG

“ Mary Lou, So sorry to hear of Ray's passing. Thoughts and prayers to you and your family. I always enjoyed visiting with him and the whole gang when you would come to Lake Park for Friday night steak night.

Missy Gemblor - December 26, 2012 at 10:27 PM

SS

“ Mary Lou, and Family. So sorry to hear of Ray's passing. He was a good friend and neighbor. I always enjoyed his company and we had many ,many good conversations. May God be with you and comfort you.

*Steve Stanford
Uncertain, Texas*

Steve Stanford - December 26, 2012 at 07:58 PM

MM

“ Mary Lou and family, My sincere sympathy... Ray was truly a pillar for the Spirit Lake School System. His devotion and dedication was evident throughout his career. Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Marcia (Duhn) Morrison - December 26, 2012 at 06:54 PM

RS

“ I am So Sorry to hear of Mr John's passing He will be Missed! What a Sweet Soul he was! I had him as an instructor in Driver's Ed a "Few" years ago! Lol! (I won't say how many! LOL!) My boys have probably had him in shop too! Jamie, Josh and Justin and I'm sure they also remember him! At least Jamie! I will also pass this onto my younger brother, Al Shaffer I Know he remembers him too! this will really shake him! Again Please accept Our Family's Condolences and May God grant you his Peace and Comfort during this very difficult time! In Love and Memory, Ruth Shaffer-Albrant

Ruth Shaffer-Albrant - December 26, 2012 at 04:46 PM

TW

“ Mary Lou and family was so sorry to hear of Rays passing,Always enjoyed you both when I had The Outrigger!God bless you in your days ahead.

Tim Smith,Key West,Florida - December 26, 2012 at 04:27 PM

BG

“ Mary Lou, Lisa, Debby my deepest sympathy to you all for your loss of Ray. I will always remember the Guns Shows, his laugh, his smile, and his joy of life. He will be greatly missed.

Bob Gilbert - December 26, 2012 at 04:25 PM

JF

“ Dear Mary Lou, Debbie, Lisa, and your families,

You have our deepest sympathy. Ray was a very kind man. He always had a warm smile and a positive outlook on life. Your family has been so close to us through the years. I have many good memories: as a student in shop class, drivers education student, snowmobiling, gun shows, Friday night fish nights, just to name a few.

God's blessings to you during this difficult time.

Jeff Ashland Family

Jeff & Penny Ashland Family - December 26, 2012 at 03:54 PM

JF

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You have our deepest sympathy. Ray was a very kind man. He always had a warm smile and a positive outlook on life. Your family has been so close to us through the years. I have many good memories: as a student in shop class, drivers education student, snowmobiling, gun shows, Friday night fish nights, just to name a few.

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Jeff Ashland Family

Jeff & Penny Ashland Family - December 26, 2012 at 03:53 PM

JU

“ Mary Lou and families, There are so many wonderful memories of you and Ray and all the fun times we had. We will always have the good memories to get is through. Prayers and Blessings to all of you Nita

Juanita - December 26, 2012 at 01:42 PM

PR

“ Dear Mary Lou,
I knew Ray as a fellow educator. He was a wonderful person to have on staff at the Spirit Lake School District. Many of his students are remembering him today. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Peg Rick

Peg Rick - December 26, 2012 at 09:31 AM

MH

“ I have had the blessing to hear such wonderful stories from Debbie and feel I know the family so deeply. I send my prayers and love to the family and hope they cherish the memories that their husband, dad and grandpa have left.

Marsha Ham - December 26, 2012 at 09:02 AM

NR

“ dear Mary Lou,
So sorry to hear about your husband. If there is anything i can do don't hesitate to call. You have always been special to me. Love you Nancy. May God hold you in the palm of his hand and give you comfort at this time of great loss

Nancy Rickman - December 26, 2012 at 08:19 AM

LB

“ From all of us at the VFW in Spirit Lake, we will all truly miss Ray.
Don and Lynann

Lynann Burns - December 25, 2012 at 09:21 PM

BA

“ Mary Lou and family - Bill and I will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers. Ray was a great man who had dedicated his life to teaching whether it be kids or his "gun" friends. Take peace in the memories of your years together.

Bill and Cheryl Aumer - December 25, 2012 at 05:37 PM

PR

“ Ray was known to his Wyatt cousins as "Tater"..not sure how that got started. Ray was one of the older cousins so he was pretty well grown before I have any memory of him. I do remember one time when we picked up his sweetie, Mary Lou, at her home in Des Moines and they took a bunch of us to the Shrine Circus at Veterans Auditorium. What an experience for kids from a small town. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

Pat Wyatt Riemenschneider - December 25, 2012 at 02:50 PM

JH

“ Mary Lou - We didn't know Ray as well as we knew you, but we know he was a fellow teacher who found joy in his work with students - a trait to be much admired. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We regret that our being in Arizona makes it impossible to personally express our condolences.

Jim and Maryanna Hubbard - December 25, 2012 at 02:47 PM

RS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Mary Lou and family. We got to know Ray as neighbors when we lived in the neighborhood. Ray was a joyful man and a man of endless good will. It is hard to imagine a happier man. Please accept our sympathy. May you rest in God's peace and warmth of many wonderful memories.

Roland and Barbie Schmidt - December 25, 2012 at 08:44 AM

MF

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you, Mary Lou, in this time of loss. God bless you and your family.*

Melanie Brons & family - December 25, 2012 at 05:59 AM

JO

“ *Ray was a wonderful brother-in-law. I'll always remember him as one of the most understanding people I every knew. He loved his family and we will all really miss him.*

Joyce - December 24, 2012 at 07:56 PM

BL

“ *Joyce just called me and let me Ray passed away. You have our Deepest Sympathy. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. We remember Ray as a very friendly, happy and always smiling. Bob and Betty Lappe*

Bob and Betty Lappe - December 24, 2012 at 07:42 PM

SH

“ *What a wonderful, wonderful man. Such a sweet smile and always so kind Our boys worshiped him as a teacher. Bless u RJ .*

Sal and Jerry Haas - December 24, 2012 at 07:18 PM

PO

“ *Ray John was my uncle. I remember his laugh and how patient he was when me and my other cousins came to visit him and my Aunt Mary Lou and Deb and Lisa. He often took us fishing to the hatchery across town. I always looked forward to seeing him. Pat Olthoff-Blank*

Pat Olthoff-Blank - December 24, 2012 at 06:02 PM