



John L Birkey

May 8, 1948 - May 9, 2018

Princeton – John L. Birkey, 70 of Princeton, IL passed away on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at Silverado Naperville in Naperville, IL.

John was born on May 8, 2018 to Emery N Birkey and Sadie M Williams on May 8, 1948. He was a graduate of Malden High School and received his Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture from Western Illinois University. John married his love Lynn "Dianne" Pendarvis on June 9, 1979 at Red Oak Methodist Church in Walnut, IL. John worked for Pioneer Seed Corn in Princeton as well as working on his family farm.

He enjoyed Farming, gardening, and reading. John was quite the history buff and enjoyed antique tractors, hunting and collecting arrow heads and genealogy research. In his younger days he loved going fishing with his loving wife Dianne of 38 years.

John is survived by his wife Dianne Birkey of Princeton, IL, one daughter; Megan (David Balsewicz) Birkey of Winfield, IL, one son; Michael Birkey of Princeton, IL, one brother; Bill (Kathy) Birkey of Peoria, IL and one sister; Kathy (Jim) Susin of Metamora, IL and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents and one son; Daniel Birkey.

Services for John will be held at the Chapel at Oakland Cemetery Princeton, IL at 11:30 a.m. Monday, May 14, 2018. A graveside service will follow at Oakland Cemetery, Princeton, IL. Officiating will be Pastor Brian Strom.

Visitation will be held at the Chapel at Oakland Cemetery, Princeton, IL at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 14, 2018.

Memorials may be directed to Western Illinois School of Agriculture attention John N. Birkey Memorial.

Online condolences may be left at www.norbergfh.com

Tribute Wall

NK

“ *Many good thoughts of John and the great times he, his brother Bill and I had in our youth. So long ago and what seems to have gone by so quickly. Fortunately we all have memories which no one can take away. I only wish I had seen more of John in recent years. I pass on all of my condolences to Diane and the rest of John's family. May you hold those good memories close forever. Neil Kastor*

Neil Kastor - May 17, 2018 at 12:25 PM

JS

“ *This is Jack Stangel. I was John's friend from the Princeton Inn. John may have his faults to some, but he was always a gentleman to me. We would sit side by side. Some times not a word between us except hello for a while. After a bit I would say, "You'r thinking John. He would say yep. I let him think for a while then we would have a conversation. About the Civil war, arrow heads and the indians or his fathers part in ww2. He was my friend and I shall think of him often. My condolences to all his family. I'll miss just seeing the bill of his seed hat barely above the dash board while he drove down the street. He taught me his old college toast which I can not repeat here. But I shall always remember it always. It made us both laugh. (Yes he did smile and laugh a time or to.) He was my friend. With Love and respect Jack.*

John Stangel - May 15, 2018 at 02:05 PM

MS

“ *Dianne and family, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of John. You are in my thoughts and prayers at this time.*

Mary Slutz - May 14, 2018 at 05:05 PM

LS

“ *My thoughts and love are with you Diane during this time. Love to you and your family*

liz svadbik - May 13, 2018 at 03:26 PM

LD

“ *Dianne, I am so very sorry to learn of your husband passing. He is no longer in great pain and he can now rest. God has him safe now and He will be watching over you in this time of need. My prayers and thoughts are with you now, take great care, I hope to see you soon. Your friend, Linda Dant*

Linda Dant - May 13, 2018 at 11:20 AM