



John Albert Purvis

December 18, 1960 - December 19, 2023

Princeton - John A. Purvis, 63 of Princeton, IL. passed away on December 19, 2023 at OSF St Elizabeth Medical Center.

John, known as "Big John" was born in Spring Valley to James and Maomia "Tina" (Skaggs) Purvis on December 18, 1960. He graduated from Princeton High School Class of 1979. He thrived as an actor/singer in the theater and choir.

He continued singing with the Barbershoppers a local singing group, until moving to Arizona for a brief time. He loved Big Band and Classical music, and was a true-blue Star Wars and Star Trek fan, but his passion was reading books and studying history.

In 2008, John created "Off the Beaten Path" a blog that showcased various places throughout Bureau County. As the popularity of the blog grew, he was invited to speak at the Princeton Public Library to share pictures and stories.

Big John is survived by one brother, Ron Heitmann from Princeton IL, and one sister, Kathy (Allen) Layton from Kasbeer, IL; two nieces, Stephanie(Matthew) Galassi and Ashley (Michael) Hensley and one nephew, Christopher (Miranda) Layton; three great-nieces; two great-nephews.

He is preceded in death by his mother Tina Purvis and father James Purvis as

well as his grandparents.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at the First Lutheran Church, 116 N Pleasant St, Princeton, IL. from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Masonic Services to follow the visitation.

Funeral Services to follow, January 2, 2024 at The First Lutheran Church, officiated by Pastor Bill Shields, at 11:00 a.m.

The family will hold a private graveside service at a later date. Cremation rites accorded.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the family.

Online condolences may be directed to www.norbergfh.com

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

First Lutheran Church

Funeral Service

JAN 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

First Lutheran Church

Tribute Wall

DH

“ *May peace and comfort find you during this difficult time. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.*
Denise Panzica Hochstatter

Denise Hochstatter - December 28, 2023 at 07:30 PM

LP

“ *John rode my area vocational bus back in high school to Peru in the mornings. Such a nice guy. RIP John*
Linda Olin Pierce

Linda Pierce - December 22, 2023 at 02:22 PM

LP

“ *Linda Pierce lit a candle in memory of John*
Albert Purvis



Linda Pierce - December 22, 2023 at 02:20 PM