



John W. Cummings

September 30, 1942 - April 15, 2023

The staff at Heishman Funeral Home Inc. sends condolences to the family of John Wesley Cummings.

John Wesley Cummings (age 80) of Winchester VA, passed away unexpectedly on April 15, 2023. John was born on September 30, 1942, in Washington D.C. to parents Alice Stiegel Cummings and George Wesley Cummings, both of whom preceded him in death as well as his brother Robert Cummings. John was also preceded in death by his wife Billie Woodward Cummings, the love of his life whom he met while both were attending Emory and Henry College in Emory, VA. John is survived by his brother Richard Cummings (MaryAnn Ashford) and sister Barbara Wood, as well as his daughter Wendy Cummings, son Kevin Cummings (Kristin), granddaughter Brooke Cummings and grandson Bradley Cummings. John was a career employee of the federal government, primarily with the U.S. Customs Service and Immigration and Naturalization Service, where he held many senior leadership positions. Prior to his federal civil service, John was also a veteran enlisted soldier in the U.S. Army. As a lifelong devout member of the Methodist church, and more recently attending a Brethren church, John was very active in his church community throughout his life and often taught Sunday school and preached to the congregation. John was a devoted husband and a loving father and grandfather, and his kindness had no boundaries. John was a selfless person who was happiest when helping

others. John enjoyed volunteering at Shenandoah Memorial Hospital. The family will hold private memorial services. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John's name to Community Mission Church of the Brethren, 50 Coffman Town Road, Woodstock VA 22664 or Emory and Henry College, Office of Advancement, Emory and Henry College, PO Box 950, Emory, VA 24327. Arrangements by Heishman Funeral Home Inc., Valley Funeral Service Branch, Edinburg.

Tribute Wall

WE

“ Rest in Peace John. you were loved. -- Wendy Fleming Estes

Wendy Estes - December 10, 2024 at 10:48 AM

WC

“ What a wonderful human being my dad was. Patient and kind, fair and just, loving and giving of himself. Truly a man of faith, he lived a goof long life here on Earth. I will miss him with every ounce of my being but am full of joy that he is with the absolute love of his life, my mother. "I'll be along" love you Daddy.

Wendy Cummings - April 23, 2023 at 07:02 AM

CS

“ As Uncle John's nephew (his wife Billie was my mother Kathy's older sister), I feel very lucky to have had him in my life. Whether it was for a summer party at their pool in Vienna, a Thanksgiving meal, or a Christmas gathering – he always brought his kind spirit, indelible wit, and positive energy. I know he is incredibly proud of his children Kevin and Wendy (and of course his daughter-in-law Kris & grandchildren Brooke and Brad), and I take solace knowing that he and my Aunt Billie are now reunited in Heaven. Much love to the Cummings Family <3.

Chase Smerdzinski - April 21, 2023 at 01:37 AM

CH

“ I knew John during the 90s in Washington, D.C. He was truly a man of noble nature. I am deeply sorry to hear of his passing. My sympathies go out to his family and friends at this sad time.

Charles T. Fillinger
Bangkok, Thailand

Charles - April 20, 2023 at 06:09 AM

KC

“ I can say so much more than what my sister Wendy and I penned in Dad's obituary, but right now I will just say how grateful we are to have been a part of his life...and how honored we are to call him our Dad...

Kevin Cummings - April 18, 2023 at 07:33 PM

LT

“ John was my friend and a volunteer with me at Shenandoah Memorial Hospital. His warm smile and caring heart will truly be missed. John's memory will stay in my heart and the stories we shared I will treasure. Thank you John for being in my life. Linda Thompson

Linda Thompson - April 18, 2023 at 10:30 AM

JH

“ John was an amazing and Godly man. Just to know John was a pleasure and I enjoyed our numerous games of word with friends. He was one of a kind and will be deeply missed.

Joshua Helsley - April 17, 2023 at 08:25 PM

JL

“ I worked for John from 1992 until his retirement. John was very kind and forgiving toward me. From what I observed this was his way toward all others. His leadership and example made me a better person. I deeply feel his passing. Jim Lassiter

Jim Lassiter - April 17, 2023 at 07:18 PM

JG

“ I always loved seeing him when he was volunteering at the hospital, he always said hello and had a smile on his face. He will be missed, so sorry for your loss.

Jeannine Garrett - April 17, 2023 at 04:45 PM

MC

“ As one of his sisters-in-law, I can honestly say there is no finer person than John. He was a "saint" to his wife's family. We adored him for his calm guidance and the loving care he showed to all in his extended family. He was always available to help anyone out. He and Billie even took special care of his mother-in-law for thirty six years after her debilitating stroke. We will all miss him so much but we know he and Billie are enjoying being together again!! Mary

Mary Clark - April 17, 2023 at 04:35 PM

KW

Billie was the oldest sister and I was her "baby sister" - I was only 6 when she left for college and I remember missing her so much. She started dating John while in college and I remember feeling I was going to lose her when they announced their engagement after graduating - instead I got the big brother I always wanted with John. Together, they made sure I always felt their love and attention throughout my life and especially after my mother had a massive stroke when I was 14. John always gave me such good advice about living an abundant-filled life and his calm presence in many of my teen age anxiety filled years. I have loved him, respected him, and looked up to him all of my life and will continue to rely on the many wonderful memories (Christmases, Thanksgivings, pool parties, visits to Abingdon) just to name a few. To borrow a term from Pastor Dale's wife Lisa, John was a spiritual giant in every way and his kindness to everyone at all times will be missed. He is with Billie and that gives me solace 💕. Kathy

kathryn woodward - April 19, 2023 at 11:02 AM

WE

Rest in Peace John. You were an amazing person and I'm blessed for having known you.

Wendy Fleming Estes - April 07, 2024 at 06:01 PM

TM

“*My most sincere condolences to you my dear friend, Wendy. May God comfort you during your time of bereavement. I'm just a phone call away if you want to talk. Love and hugs to you.*

Tanya McKay

Tanya McKay - April 17, 2023 at 02:21 PM

SH

I am Sheila Blankenship Heldreth who knew John through the Woodward/Rector family. With the advent of email and social media Billie Marie emailed me several times and I was friends with her and John on Facebook. John was a kind and compassionate individual devoted to his family. He was so kind and supportive of my Aunt Edith Rector and cousin Murphy Rector during and following the death of my uncle Charles Rector. My sincere condolences to his family. He will be greatly missed!

Sheila Blankenship Heldreth - April 18, 2023 at 02:24 PM

NW

John was truly a blessing to our family. He always showed great support and love for all in his family. He was there when times were good and when times were difficult. His faith in God was a shining example to all around him. He always gave truthful answers and his wisdom and advice were a boon to me and my family. I send my love to the family.

Norma Kay Woodward

Norma Kay Woodward - April 18, 2023 at 10:21 PM

DS

Heavenly Father, Bless and Hold John in your Loving and Gentle Arms and Peace in your Kingdom. Prayers and Thoughts to all his Family. A Friend, Dolores Smerdzinski

Dolores Smerdzinski - April 20, 2023 at 06:59 PM

JG

I have thought of John so often since you announced his passing. Jim grew up with Billie and we all attended Vienna Methodist. Then, surprise, when I walked into my new job in 1966, there was Billie. Our friendship continued over the years as we couples moved from one home to another. We enjoyed our lunches with John after Billie's passing and will miss his true friendship. We have followed your, Wendy and Kevin, journeys and send our love and blessings. Karen and Jim Grieve

James W. and Karen R. Grieve - October 15, 2023 at 08:56 PM