



John Olendorff

October 30, 1947 - February 11, 2021

John Thomas Olendorff was born on Thursday, October 30, 1947 in Tulsa, Oklahoma to Irvin Frank and Mary Viola (Hellinger) Olendorff. He passed from this life to his eternal home in heaven on Thursday, February 11, 2021 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 73.

John was the only son of the family with ten sisters, five of them older and five of them younger. His father worked as a warehouseman for OTASCO, and his mother was a full-time homemaker. As a young boy, he attended Immaculate Conception grade school, then he transferred to an all-boys catholic high school in Subiaco, Arkansas. It was during this time at Subiaco that he asked the Lord to be his savior, and this is where he began his walk with Christ.

After high school graduation, John enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served in Vietnam for four years as a corpsman. During his service he made lifelong friendships that he truly cherished. He also found his passion for photography, while in Vietnam with the purchase of his first camera. This passion would continue throughout John's life. He always appreciated God's creations in nature, some favorites were flowers, insects, and wildlife. This was evident in the beautiful photographs he took of them. Never letting the opportunity pass by to document God's artwork.

He met his wife Diana of 48 years on a blind date. They knew immediately

that they were in love. A few months later he proposed at the Pagoda Restaurant. This started the beginning of their love story. They married on June 17, 1972. John was a devoted husband and was overjoyed, when he became a father to Jason and Jeffrey. He always knew the importance of keeping Christ in the center of these relationships.

John spent 28 years as a Systems Analyst for PSO and rarely missed a day of work. This strong work ethic even followed him into retirement. Helping others has always been a big part of who John was, which led him to working at the VA Call Center. Being there for other veterans brought him comfort.

Besides his photography, he also enjoyed coin collecting. Both of these joys he shared with his sons. Diana and him had also found a hobby to enjoy together, crafting. They started a business together making bird feeders and wind chimes. Working together, sharing their talents to make beautiful pieces of art. This led to many adventures traveling across the Midwest to craft shows and fairs. John and Diana cherished this time together immensely. Their hearts also cherished their brothers and sisters in Christ. They were longtime members of Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Wagoner, where John served the Lord as a Deacon and the church's treasurer. His church family including even the littlest ones will miss him deeply.

John was so proud to become a "PaPa". He had such a special connection with all three of his grandchildren. He never missed an opportunity to celebrate them. This normally meant that he had his camera ready to celebrate and document, whether it was birthdays, dance recitals, or baseball games. His most recent occasion was the baptisms of his granddaughters. Such a proud moment for a proud Papa. He will surely be missed by so many, but there is the hope and peace of seeing him again.

John truly has the best lens now from heaven.

Cemetery Details

Park Grove Cemetery

1000 W. Houston St.
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 259-8691

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB 21. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Visitation

FEB 21. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Funeral Service

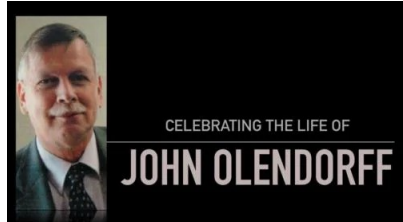
FEB **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
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Tribute Wall



“ *Hayhurst Funeral Home created a Funeral Service in memory of John Olendorff*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 18, 2021 at 03:45 PM



“ *John Olendorff*

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ *Justyn Williams lit a candle in memory of John Olendorff*



Justyn Williams - February 23, 2021 at 10:21 PM



“ *I'm glad I was given the opportunity to know John. John definitely was very loving, & devoted to his family and friends. I remember he always and I mean always had a camera with him, snapping pictures. John and his wife raised two good men, one who married my sister and I'm thankful that our families become one.*

Justyn Williams - February 23, 2021 at 10:19 PM

CP

“ I will miss John so much, he was very special to me. Not to long after my dad passed away we started going to his church and after we got to know each other he told me he would fill in for my dad. That meant a lot to me. He would call me on the phone just to see how I was doing or just talk about anything. He would give me fits at church but those times are things I will cherish forever. I know I will see him again which brings comfort to me. So glad the Lord had our paths cross❤️❤️

cindy patterson - February 21, 2021 at 07:12 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John Olendorff.



February 21, 2021 at 01:57 PM

DO

“ John you are the love of my life and you always will be. You are the best husband dad and PaPa. Thank you for being the Christ like example for our family. Love you forever and always. Diana

Diana Olendorff - February 20, 2021 at 08:44 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of John Olendorff.



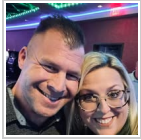
February 19, 2021 at 05:11 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of John Olendorff.*



February 18, 2021 at 08:49 PM



“ *I MISS YOU DAD.*



Jeff Olendorff - February 18, 2021 at 05:41 PM



“ *Love, The Harpers, The Davis, The Towns purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of John Olendorff.*



Love, The Harpers, The Davis, The Towns - February 18, 2021 at 12:58 PM



“ *John and I worked together for many years at PSO. He was a dedicated employee and was a nice guy. He was my friend and I will miss him.*

Rick Kula

Rick Kula - February 17, 2021 at 06:58 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John Olendorff.*



February 16, 2021 at 06:29 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of John Olendorff.*



February 16, 2021 at 06:26 PM



“ *John and Diane were huge helpers with my parents. I will always be grateful for the friendship John and my parents had together. Please accept my sincere condolences for this huge loss to your family. Jean Comer Meadors.*

Jean meadors - February 16, 2021 at 04:27 PM



“ *John was always kind and sharing with everyone. He appreciated the great gifts that God provides all of us each day, faith, love of family, and the world of nature. The smile, the twinkle of his eyes, and his sharing of love will be remembered forever. John and I share a mutual love of our children and the exceptional grandchildren that we are so blessed to enjoy. John will be missed but not forgotten, he was and is loved.*

Darrell Williams - February 15, 2021 at 02:13 PM

BF

“ Barry and Cathy Frey purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Olendorff.



Barry and Cathy Frey - February 14, 2021 at 05:41 AM

HH

“ It is our honor and privilege to serve the Olendorff family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of John.



Hayhurst Funeral Home - February 11, 2021 at 02:48 PM

DO

John, you are the love of my life and you always will be. You have been the best husband, dad, and PaPa anyone could ever have! Thank you for being the Godly example to our family. Love always, Diana

Diana Olendorff - February 20, 2021 at 05:33 PM

RD

I worked with John at CSW/AEP and a group of us quite often would go eat lunch downtown with John. John was a sharp computer systems analyst. I knew he was a strong christian, and is in a good place in heaven. My prayers to his family.

Ron Dix

Ronnie Dix - April 11, 2021 at 04:36 PM



i miss you PaPa it's been to long.

Hadley Olendorff - September 13, 2023 at 12:09 AM

HO

hi papa I'm turning 16 this year I miss you and I hope your having the time of your life in heaven I love you!

hadley olendorff - September 04, 2025 at 11:38 AM