



John Francis Ryder

October 22, 1951 - May 10, 2023

Funeral Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/8018280177>

Password: 4444MITB

Meeting ID: 8018280177

John Francis Ryder, beloved husband, father, and grandfather passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on May 10, 2023, at the age of 71. He is survived by his wife, Sherri, his seven children, 19 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren, each of whom will deeply miss his quiet, constant goodness and quick wit.

John was born on October 22, 1951, in Omaha, Nebraska to James and Jeanne Ryder. He grew up in a good, loving, large Catholic family with eleven closeknit siblings. Early in life, he developed an appreciation for hard work, service, and dedication to family. After completing his bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Nebraska, he moved to BYU to pursue a PhD in Analytical Chemistry. In his first year there, he met the love of his life, Sherri Drybread. The two of them would go on to have seven children and share 48 years together in marriage. After concluding his studies at BYU, John and Sherri moved to Midland, Michigan where he worked as a chemist and researcher at Dow for 38 years.

John was naturally shy and unassuming, yearning for the anonymity of discrete service. He felt most comfortable in the corner of a chemistry lab or snow blowing neighbors' driveways. But his inherent kindness and desire to bless the lives of others would result in him being asked to serve as a bishop and later in two stake presidencies. Each of these opportunities stretched him far outside his innate comfort zone but were responsibilities he humbly fulfilled with loving excellence and dedication, blessing the lives of so many.

He relished most of all his time with family, each of whom he was staunchly loyal and proud. Despite his busy work and church obligations, he rarely missed a game of any of his highly active children. He was happiest when picking up a child from the airport, tutoring a grandchild in science, or laughing at the boisterous enthusiasm of loved ones

packing into his home.

John's legacy of love, sacrifice, and service will live on through his family and friends. He will be deeply missed, but his memory will be a source of comfort and strength for those who admired and loved him.

Because of Jesus Christ, John believed deeply that the eternities are progressive and that cherished family relationships will continue. He therefore passed to the other side with confidence in treasured future familial reunions.

The memorial service will be held on May 13, 2023, at 11:00am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Stake Center at 951 East 100 South, Salt Lake City. The service will be streamed through Zoom (meeting ID: 8018280177. Or <https://zoom.us/j/8018280177>. Password: 4444MITB).

John is survived by his wife Sherri and their seven children: Jennifer / Rex Bush; Maureen / Randy Shumway; Victoria / Jeremy Vaughan; Jonathan / Christy Ryder; Mary / Jacob Nattress; Mike / Katie Ryder; BJ / Grace Ryder.

John's family requests rather than flowers or gifts that all donations be made in John's honor to www.ipffoundation.org to honor the four-year battle John courageously fought with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis.

Cemetery Details

Herriman City Cemetery

12465 Pioneer St.
Herriman, UT 84096

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 13. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (MT)

Salt Lake Eleventh Ward
951 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Funeral Service

MAY 13. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Salt Lake Eleventh Ward
951 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Tribute Wall



“ *John Francis Ryder*

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ *Many memories have flooded our thoughts these past few days since hearing the passing of our dear friend John. Our heart goes out to Sherri and the family. A few memories that came to mind were all the fun July 4th celebrations at their home. John put on the best fireworks display ever. Our children viewed the Ryder home as their second home. They were always welcomed with open arms. John and Sherri showed genuine care and friendship to our family. Mark also enjoyed serving with John in many different leadership roles and always learned so much from him. We will miss him dearly but will always hold onto all the fun memories of him and how our lives have been enriched by his friendship.
Your friends always , Mark & Jan Soderquist*

Janice Soderquist - May 12, 2023 at 03:36 PM



“ *We have many memories with John and the Ryder family. First at BYU and then in Midland for several years. We have great love and admiration for John. We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family at this time of grief.*

Bruce Richter - May 12, 2023 at 01:50 PM



“ *Sherrie and family,
My heart goes out to you in your loss. I have enjoyed every interactions I had with John over all the years since our families became permanently connected. I have loved watching him share his love, affection and knowledge with his grandchildren, especially those we have in common. He was a gentle and kind giant.
Richard Shumway*

Richard Shumway - May 11, 2023 at 11:19 PM

DW

“ We so loved John (and your whole family) ever since we moved to Midland. (And even before we came to Midland - he was in Tech Recruiting and I was a recruit.) I fondly remember serving with him in a bishopric for several years. John was a dedicated home teacher to us who provided tremendous support in helping us weather a rough patch in our lives. We will miss him greatly.

Sincerely,

David and Jennifer Wilson

David Wilson - May 11, 2023 at 07:59 PM

KW

How sad we are to learn of John's passing. He was a great person, whom we admired, and the Ryders were wonderful neighbors. Since the Ryders lived just half a block down the street from us, we were at each other's homes quite a bit, especially when we both had little kids. One strong memory of mine is that when our Jill, who was about 5 years old, ripped the skin on her finger open with a mishap on our swing set, I called John and he came right over and drove Jill and me to the ER. (Rick wasn't home.) I think I left Marcia and Dan with Sherri, though I don't remember. John was kind and gracious. Our thoughts are with Sherri and the Ryder children and grandkids.
- Kris Winterton

Kris Winterton - May 14, 2023 at 02:52 PM