



John William Plunkett

April 1, 1951 - August 13, 2022

John W. Plunkett, 71, of Monrovia, left this world unexpectedly when his soul joined the happy hunting ground in the early morning hours of Saturday, August 13, 2022. He was born in Martinsville on April 1, 1951, one of seven children to the late Oscar Lovain and Catherine Elizabeth (Felix) Plunkett.

A Morgan County native, John first began his youth growing up on Kinnett's Lake, before his father purchased land on Briarwood Lake, building the family's forever home. Monrovia's first hippie, he was a proud graduate with the class of 1969 from Monrovia High School, later continuing his education at IUPUI studying English, Writing, and History. Moving to Indianapolis straight out of school, he opened his own pizza place – Talbot Inn, on Talbot Street. In his early 20's he heard the call from within him to head west where he was an expert tour guide at the Grand Canyon. While John held various positions in his youth, his path ultimately led him to the Indiana Department of Corrections, serving as an Officer for several years, retiring as a Locksmith in 2014, after 28 years of dedicated service.

Introduced to his soulmate and future wife in May of 1990, John was set up on a blind date with Laura Niggle. The two instantly hit it off and the whirlwind courtship lasted a mere two months before he proposed to her while on a weekend trip to Madison. The pair vowed their everlasting love on August 19, spending thirty-two years united as one. Settling in Mooresville, John once

again heard a call from within, this time to his deeply planted roots on Briarwood Lake.

With a deep thirst for knowledge, John surrounded himself with books of all sorts, but especially enjoyed history and Sci-Fi. A writer at heart, he loved a good jazz or blues tune on the stereo, taking spontaneous day trips with his best friend Laura, fishing, and old school camping. Interested in the Native American culture since his youth, he and Laura joined the Salt Creek Sundance Group following the beliefs of the Lakota Indians in 1998 where he was a loyal member. Attending the annual eight-day ceremony held yearly, he and his fellow members danced and participated in the community's activities and rituals. Intelligent, kind, and generous, John loved animals and was known for his speed, earning him the nickname "Turtle". Gone from this earthly world all too soon, he will be deeply and profoundly missed.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Barbara Pilkins.

John leaves behind his loving wife, Laura Leigh (Niggle) Plunkett, of Monrovia; siblings, Michael Plunkett (Lou) of Camby, Cathy Wells (Rick) of Brooklyn, Pam Beyerlien of Lewisville, Fred Plunkett (Sheryl) of Mooresville, and Robin Valente of Greencastle, brother-in-law, Harry Pilkins of Reelsville; several nieces and nephews, as well as his adored fur baby, Hollie.

Funeral and Cremation Arrangements have been entrusted to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. Friends and family are invited to gather on Saturday, August 20, from 11am to 2pm at the funeral home, with a Celebration of Life Service will beginning promptly at 2pm. JD Fish, Tracy Haines, and Frank Vanderpalen will officiate, and cremation will take place after services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to help offset his final expenses to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel, 585 E Main St,

Monrovia, IN 46157 by mail or online via PayPal at <https://paypal.me/LightMemorial>, please be sure to note that your donation is in John's memory. To share a favorite story, send an online condolence to the family, or light a candle in his memory, please search @MonroviaFuneralHome on social media or visit his tribute page at www.lightmemorial.com.

Previous Events

Friends & Family Gathering

AUG 20. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Celebration of Life Service

AUG 20. 2:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
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Tribute Wall

SH

“ *Laura, We are so sorry. You are in our prayers. Love and God bless, Sandy(Skelley) & Paul Holden*

sandy holden - August 21, 2022 at 10:23 AM



“ *I have very fond memories of Uncle John. When my mom, his sister, Barbara, was going through some rough times in life, he came and lived with her for a spell. He took the time and attention to make sure I was taken care of while mom took the time she needed to get better. He took me to see Top Gun at the Drive In, meals at Hardees, and more importantly he drew comics with me. We drew the Adventures of the Witch Doctor strip and I could really get John laughing with our cartoons. He was an amateur cartoonist himself, and I remember being blown away and inspired by his Beany and Weenie strips. Those memories are part of what inspired me to be a professional cartoonist today. Oh, and one of my earliest and fondest memories were my parents taking me to The Talbot Inn. I watched John make some hot sandwiches that night and that also ignited a love for cooking that I continue today. BTW - I have the old Talbot Inn sign from those days in my garage!! I'll never forget the gifts of kindness and inspiration that Uncle John left me with. He will also be a part of who I am and I'm grateful for the memories. May your soul soar on to the next level with grace and peace. All of our love. Yuri and Jill Duncan*

Yuri Duncan - August 19, 2022 at 09:46 AM

LP

Thank you so much.

Laura Plunkett - August 19, 2022 at 08:58 PM

PB

i am not sure where to begin. out of a family of seven siblings we shared so much. after our sis Barb passed i didn't expect to ever feel that kind of loss again. Heart rentching is the only word i have. years ago when John worked at the Grand Canyon he would write to me regularly , always with silly cartoon pictures that would make me laugh. he had a big heart for the underdog because he was not exactly the 'apple' of our Father's eye and understood what it was like to be looked down on. i will miss his great breakfast biscuits and gravy and i will miss his laugh. his last words to me (after he passed) were "IT is beautiful" and i will also cherish our last visit only a few days before he left us. John had such a belief and respect for the 'Red Road' and that is why i felt i needed to sing him that last song, just for him! though my voice kept breaking up i know he understood. another piece of the puzzle of my heart is now missing and there is no replacing it. i only hope to see him and Barb again soon. love you John, pam

pam beyerlein - August 21, 2022 at 05:35 AM

YF

“ Yuri, Apryl, Rebecca and Family purchased the Fierey Lily and Rose for the family of John William Plunkett.



Yuri, Apryl, Rebecca and Family - August 19, 2022 at 09:38 AM

SS

“ Pam and family, I'm so sorry for your loss.

sue starr - August 17, 2022 at 01:38 PM

VA

“ Mike, Sorry for your loss. Virginia Page

Virginia Page Austermiller - August 17, 2022 at 11:26 AM

TW

“ We met JP as he was affectionately known, through an online game. Even though we stopped playing eventually, we kept in touch through social media. Such a kind, encouraging man, always ready to ask how you were, remembering details of your life, asking how our dogs were doing as he was a great animal lover. Sadly we never got to meet in person but you will always be remembered with fondness JP, rest in peace our friend x

Tracey Wright - August 16, 2022 at 01:35 AM