



## John Gale Callow

March 25, 1954 - September 19, 2019

John Gale Callow, age 65 of Richmond, VA departed this life for another on September 19th, 2019, surrounded by his loving family. He was born March 25, 1954 in Dixon.

Preceded in death by his younger brother Bryan and parents Maryln (Trader) and Gale Callow. John is survived by his two sons, Teddy and Bryan of Richmond, VA; his older sister, Caren (Neil) Freil of Dixon; his younger sister, Sophroana Chambers of Sterling; younger brother Scott of Rockford; nieces and nephews, good friends, and extended family.

John graduated from Dixon High School (1972) in Dixon, IL, where he was known as a popular, empathetic, and fashionable guy. He was also an all-state linebacker on the football team, pure defender on the basketball team, and long-distance runner on the track team.

John volunteered his service in the United States Army and was stationed in Germany in the early 70s where he met some of his best friends and travelled the world. He attended the University of Illinois and played club rugby on the Bloomington Blues, who won the era's largest rugby tournament in New Orleans during Mardi Gras. John moved to Los Angeles in the late 70s and met/married the mother of his two children, Cathy Callow Fallin.

He enjoyed many things. Among them were Notre Dame football, Red Sox baseball, golfing in Myrtle Beach, coaching and El Chapala. He coached hundreds of young baseball players, won a Little League World Series, taught Bryan and Teddy a myriad of sports, and, above all, loved his family. Nothing in his life gave him more joy than to see his two boys become best friends and to watch them grow into the strong, caring, and compassionate men they are today.

Tremendous and heartfelt thanks go out to the exceptional nurses and surgeons at the VCU Cardiac and Intensive Care Units, who provided incredible care for John and also helped with a peaceful and compassionate transition from this life to the next.

A celebration of John's life will be held at Crossroads Art Center in Richmond, VA on Saturday November 9th, from 3-5 pm where we will share food and drinks as well as our favorite stories of John.

Memorial donations in John Callow's memory can be made to the Big Brothers Big Sisters

Richmond chapter: <https://www.bigbrobigsis.com/give.html>

# Events

---

**NOV**   **Celebration of Life**   03:00PM - 05:00PM

**9**

---

Crossroads Arts Center

2016 Staples Mill Rd, Richmond, VA, US, 23230

# Comments

---



“ John Calloooooow, please report to the bathroom, your name is on the wall!!!! He often heard this when we worked for the Bloomington Parks Department. John was a roommate to Bob Criscione, Lauren "Skull" Chouinard, Marty Zurn and me, Stu Pippel when we all lived at the ZOO, a very popular residence for a long line of rugby players. If he never told you about the ZOO, you're probably better off not knowing because you wouldn't believe them anyhow. I along w/a few others assembled the squad who won at the time, "The World's Largest Rugby Tournament" in Hammond LA. Every piece clicked into place as we advanced to the championship match v Iowa State and came away an 11-nil convincing victory. John boy was very easy to like and could party w/the best of us because that was usually our recreational venture. Always easy for him to smile, but when he got mad, one could almost see the steam exiting his ears. but he didn't stay mad for long.

I along w/the rest of us have some great memories. I offer much belated condolences to your family as I will always remember John Calloooooooooow!

Did John ever tell the story of a road trip to Madison WI. A Callow quote that will go down in infamy. If you're good, maybe you will hear of it someday. I don't know if you will ever see this because I don't know how to save it. John Calloooooow, please report to the bathroom, your name is on the wall!!!! He often heard this when we worked for the Bloomington Parks Department. John was a roommate to Bob Criscione, Lauren "Skull" Chouinard, Marty Zurn and me, Stu Pippel when we all lived at the ZOO, a very popular residence for a long line of rugby players. If he never told you about the ZOO, you're probably better off not knowing because you wouldn't believe them anyhow. I along w/a few others assembled the squad who won at the time, "The World's Largest Rugby Tournament" in Hammond LA. Every piece clicked into place as we advanced to the championship match v Iowa State and came away an 11-nil convincing victory. John boy was very easy to like and could party w/the best of us because that was usually our recreational venture. Always easy for him to smile, but when he got mad, one could almost see the steam exiting his ears. but he didn't stay mad for long.

I along w/the rest of us have some great memories. I offer much belated condolences to your family as I will always remember John Calloooooooooow!

Did John ever tell the story of a road trip to Madison WI. A Callow quote that will go down in infamy. If you're good, maybe you will hear of it someday. I don't know if you will ever see this because I don't know how to save it.  
John Calloooooow, please report to the bathroom, your name is on the wall!!!! He often heard this when we worked for the Bloomington Parks Department. John was a roommate to Bob Criscione, Lauren "Skull" Chouinard, Marty Zurn and me, Stu Pippel when we all lived at the ZOO, a very popular residence for a long line of rugby players. If he never told you about the ZOO, you're probably better off not knowing because you wouldn't believe them anyhow. I along w/a few others assembled the squad who won at the time, "The World's Largest Rugby Tournament" in Hammond LA. Every piece clicked into place as we advanced to the championship match v Iowa State and came away

an 11-nil convincing victory. John boy was very easy to like and could party w/the best of us because that was usually our recreational venture. Always easy for him to smile, but when he got mad, one could almost see the steam exiting his ears. but he didn't stay mad for long.

I along w/the rest of us have some great memories. I offer much belated condolences to your family as I will always remember John Calloooooooooow!

Did John ever tell the story of a road trip to Madison WI. A Callow quote that will go down in infamy. If you're good, maybe you will hear of it someday. I don't know if you will ever see this because I don't know how to save it.

**Stu Pippel** - November 20 at 01:35 AM

---



“ John and I go way back to grade school,,, I've always wondered about him,,, I see he gave back in so many ways. I'm sorry I lost touch with this great friend in grade school and high school. Rest in peace. I will look you up someday. And we will continue our friendship

**cleveland burkitt jr** - October 22, 2019 at 05:35 PM

---



“ My sincere condolences to John's two son's & family. I'll never forget the many adventures we shared from being kids to our travels in Europe. Till we meet again my restless friend.

**Bob Owen** - October 22, 2019 at 11:33 AM

---



“ Teddy,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I loved hearing you talk about both of your parents and know that you are close to them, which is a blessing. Please know you are in my thoughts at this difficult time.  
With deepest sympathy,  
Liz Lupinacci

**Liz Lupinacci** - October 22, 2019 at 11:22 AM