



John Richard James

August 18, 1939 - May 17, 2021

John Richard James, age 81 died on May 17, 2021 in Huntsville, Alabama. John was born to Donald and Margaret (Whitebread) James on August 18, 1939 in Dixon, Illinois. He graduated from Dixon High School in 1958 and served in the United States Air Force. Upon his honorable discharge he worked for a short time as a Defense Contractor then for the General Services Administration (GSA). From there he was selected to be a Department of the Army Civilian as a Quality Assurance Specialist (Ammunition Surveillance). During his 30 year civil service career, John was stationed in several stateside locations along with Germany, Japan, and the Marshall Islands. In his free time, his passion was researching German Pistols and Holsters becoming an internationally renowned expert, author and speaker on the subject.

He is survived by one brother, Thomas (Joyce) James of Coal City and two nieces, Mary Margaret (Craig) Borri of Lombard and Julee (Gardner) Coughlen of Shorewood. John has three great-nieces and three great-nephews, Savanna, Tess, Luke, and Wyatt Borri and Holli and Colton Coughlen. John is also survived by his best friend of almost 25 years, John Jacobi, of Huntsville, Alabama. The James Family appreciates all of his kindness and help he gave Uncle Dick and our family.

Funeral services will be on Tuesday May 25, 2021 beginning with a 10:00 AM prayer service at the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon followed by a 10:30 Mass of Christian Burial at St Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon with Rev. Timothy Draper officiating. Burial with Military Honors will follow at Oakwood Cemetery

in Dixon. Visitation will be on Tuesday from 9:00 to 10:00 AM at the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **25**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Jones Funeral Home, Dixon
204 South Ottawa
Dixon, IL 61021
Ph: 815-288-2241
info@thejonesfh.com
<https://www.thejonesfh.com>

Service

MAY **25**. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon
612 S. Highland Ave.
Dixon, IL 61021
(815) 284-7719
office@stpatrickdixon.comcastbiz.net
<http://www.stpatrickdixon.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *John Richard James*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *John Richard James*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *I enjoyed meeting John at my first NAPCA event and several visits thereafter. One of the old fellows that would warn new collectors about the "sharks" in the gun collecting hobby. Not afraid to name names. RIP, John*

Pete E. - July 08, 2021 at 09:05 PM



“ *Bro. John is a member of my son's church, Parker Memorial DeArmanville. My husband and I have visited with John everytime we came to see our kids. John was always kind to us. After my husband passed to Heaven, John took extra time to encourage me when I would see him! His sweet spirit blessed me during a very hard time! John is now with Jesus and my Jody! God bless your family.*

Nancy Bentley - May 25, 2021 at 01:50 PM



Thank you for your kind words.

Mary Margaret (James) Borri - May 26, 2021 at 08:04 PM

KS

“ Klaus P. Schad purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John Richard James.



Klaus P. Schad - May 21, 2021 at 08:55 PM

JK

“ John and I spent many days together at the S.E.NAPCA Conventions in Chattanooga, many hours on the phone and countless emails sharing our hobby and life's experiences. He was an absolute wealth of knowledge and loved nothing better than talking about it. Teri and I will miss him and remember him in our prayers.

Jim Kemp - May 21, 2021 at 01:18 PM

MB

Thank you for sharing your memories. Our family appreciates it.

Mary Margaret (James) Borri - May 21, 2021 at 08:09 PM

JC

Thank you for your kind words and memories.

Julee Coughlen - May 22, 2021 at 07:41 AM

JG

John Guenther Athens AL. I had the pleasure of meeting John thru John Jacobi and others. He was a friend mentor and shared his knowledge with the world. I will miss him but know he is in heaven. My prayers and condolences to his family.

john Guenther - May 23, 2021 at 07:21 PM

MB

Thank you.

Mary Margaret Borri - May 24, 2021 at 03:26 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of John Richard James.*



May 21, 2021 at 09:22 AM



“ *This has been a really tough week - there are just so many memories. John and I first met in the early 70's. Although we only saw each other a couple of times a year (at NAPCA conventions or when he would stop by my shop on the way to visit his Mom in Dixon), there were the phone calls - thousands of them! We would discuss what was going on in the collecting world, what was new with our collections and once in a while even talked about non-collecting subjects. He was there when I went through a divorce and the loss of my collection as a result of that mess. We always had time for each other regardless of the day or time. No matter how bad of a day I might be having, his calls would always cheer me up. He was my mentor, my friend....my brother. There simply aren't enough words to express how empty my life will be without John to keep it interesting.*

RIP my dear friend,

Tom Knox, Sr.

Tom Knox - May 21, 2021 at 07:13 AM



Thank you for sharing your memories. The family appreciates them.

Mary Margaret (James) Borri - May 21, 2021 at 08:09 PM



Thank you for your kind words and memories...

Julee Coughlen - May 22, 2021 at 07:39 AM



John helped me with my first book - he was one of the first to trade ideas, pictures, and thoughts. I will miss his knowledge and willingness to help a young guy getting into the hobby 20 years ago.

Edward Tinker - June 02, 2021 at 10:41 AM



John was a wonderful teacher and I learned a lot about pistols, holsters and people from him. All of the collecting fraternity will

Heinz - June 20, 2021 at 10:56 AM