



John Richey Lewis

September 12, 1945 - January 1, 2016

John Richey Lewis, 70, of Lenoir, NC, formerly of Cornelius, NC, passed away on Friday, January 1, 2016 at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, NC. He was born on September 12, 1945 in Sumter, SC to Betty Breese Lewis and the late Walter M. Lewis; 36 hours after his identical twin brother, Richard. His childhood was spent in both Pennsylvania and upstate New York. His family moved to Maryland in January of 1962 where John graduated from Robert E. Perry High School a year later. After high school he attended the University of Maryland where he earned a degree in Business Administration. In addition to his formal education, John was part of the Special Forces Unit of the Army Reserve. John married his sweetheart, Laura, in October 1973. Over 21 years, the couple welcomed eight children into their home. After they became pregnant with their last baby, and with John at age 50, the family moved south to eventually retire and, in John's sarcastic words: "to just raise kids and then die." John built a house in Cornelius, NC where the family lived for the next 18 years. In March 2011 they purchased 17 acres in Lenoir; a small town in the foothills of the North Carolina mountains. They restored a burnt down home there, creating a haven where they could spend their retirement together. He was a devout Christian and member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He lived a life of service, and loved working with youth and the Boy Scouts of America. In addition to serving friends and family, he organized multiple building projects; most notably for Habitat for Humanity and the Ada Jenkins Center. It is said that he built houses, barns and coops, but most

importantly, he built men. He never missed an opportunity to assist, love and care for those who would benefit from his service. John was an instant friend to everyone. He leaves as his legacy every heart he has touched and every life he has served. In addition to his mother, Betty, John is survived by his wife of 42 years, Laura Shipp Lewis as well as his children: Kari Thurber (Korey), Kenton Lewis (Mairenui), Amy Sholar (Travis), Amber Ross (Matthew), Makenna Anderson (Blake), Morgan Lewis and Hunter Lewis; his twin brother, Richard Lewis (Catharin) and brother, Alan Lewis (Diane); father-in-law, Ralph Shipp; grandchildren: Sydney and Savannah Thurber, Arihaumatanui, Ragiariki and Ragiatua Lewis, Journey, Londyn, Locke and Jett Sholar and Mack and John ("Little John") Ross. John is preceded in death by his father Walter, his mother-in-law Patsy, and his daughter Katelyn. A graveside service will be held at Sharon Memorial Park, Charlotte, NC with Rev. Casey Proctor officiating. A visitation for family and friends will be held Tuesday, January 5 from 6-8 pm at Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville, NC. A memorial will be held on Wednesday, January 6, at 7 pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints located at 1775 Connelly Springs Rd, Lenoir, NC 28645. The family will receive friends from 6-7 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the John Lewis Memorial Fund. They may be mailed to P. O. Box 343, Lenoir, NC 28645 or made through PayPal send money "Friends and Family" to Laura@LakeNorman.com. Donations will go towards a college fund for Little John and future grandchildren. Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville, is serving the Lewis family. Condolences may be made to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *John Richey Lewis*

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ *John Richey Lewis*

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ *John Richey Lewis*

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ *Just found out about John's passing. He is in such a wonderful place. Prayers and thoughts are with you. We were your neighbors in Cornelius and remember your wonderful family.*

Jan & Brown Pethel - January 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I knew that John Lewis has to be an incredible Father long before I had the honor of meeting him. This was because I had the chance to meet Elder Morgan Lewis, his Son while he was on his mission in Las Vegas. Morgan has an incredible level of maturity and a sense of life that was very rare even amongst other missionaries. This was no accident. When Elder Lewis completed his mission and I had the chance to meet his Dad, John Lewis I knew right away where much of Morgan came from. Morgan, your Dad was so proud of you for what you accomplished. You honored him so much with your two years of service. I am sure he is smiling and looking down on you as he makes his incredible journey. My deepest sympathy goes to the entire Lewis family. Andy Shreiar

Andy Shreiar - January 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ I remember the first day I met Mr. Lewis. He spoke of Mrs. Lewis, the children and grandchildren with such love and compassion during our first meeting and every time after he spoke of them. He made a lasting impression. His love and passion will live on in his wonderful family. I feel blessed that I had an opportunity to exchange in wonderful conversations in passing every time I saw Mr. John Lewis. Sending this great family Light and Love and continued prayers.

Crissy Thomas - January 05, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Dear Laura, We were very saddened to hear about John's death. We have so many fond memories of you both in the Mt. Airy Ward and will always remember him with love and affection. Frank and I would have attended the Memorial Service but we are in Phoenix, AZ for the winter months. May Heavenly Father bless you with the strength to continue on without him. We will remember him you in our prayers. Much Love, Lois and Frank Bequette

Lois & Frank Bequette - January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Brother Lewis was an amazing man only knew him for a short time he left a great expression upon my family patricia davis & tommy whitehead

Patricia Davis - January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Laura once again we are so sorry to hear about the loss of John, may God give you all of the peace and comfort you will need. The Friscia Family

Maria Friscia - January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. I enjoyed knowing my cousin when we were younger and reconnecting in the past few years.

Tina Whitley - January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

(S)

“ *I will always remember the approach Bro. Lewis took to everything: hard work. His willingness to help and serve those around him was marvelous. A good man has passed on.*

(Elder) Hilton Shumway - January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM