



John West

January 13, 1943 - January 12, 2023

John West a resident of Checotah, Ok passed this life on January 12, 2023 in Tulsa, Ok at the age of 80. Born January 13, 1943 in Fargo, ND. John is a retired School teacher.

John was a hardworking, intelligent, and moral man. A thinker and caring man loved dearly by his wife Betty who has spent two great years together. John knew Jesus and due to his health Jesus took him home, now John is at rest.

He is preceded in death by his parents and a brother Pete West.

Survived by his wife Betty (Brimer) West of Henryetta

3 Daughters

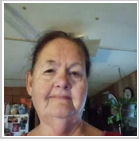
Grandchildren

Close friends: Jerald, Connie, Brad and Ronni

Fur Babies Barker and Duchess

No services are scheduled.

Tribute Wall



“ So many people loved John as I did. It's hard letting go .I personally .Miss him so. John was tired . Now he is at rest

Betty West - February 16, 2023 at 11:44 PM

KW

“ 1 file added to the album *Early Years*



Kathy West - February 16, 2023 at 05:59 PM



John sure loved his fur babies thanks I sure miss John. .Betty

Betty West - February 16, 2023 at 11:41 PM

KW

“ 4 files added to the album *Early Years*



Kathy West - January 24, 2023 at 02:34 PM



This is Betty West thanks for the pictures

Betty West - January 24, 2023 at 05:36 PM

JW

“ 1 file added to the album *Early Years*



Jim West - January 19, 2023 at 05:59 AM

KW

Thank you for sharing that picture, Jim. John's first racing rig.

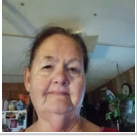
Kathy West - January 19, 2023 at 07:05 AM

LI

Yes. Thank you for sharing.

Yes. He sure looks like he is ready to race! Words can not express my thank you for sharing John's life.

Linda - January 19, 2023 at 06:53 PM



“ With John I Got the cream of the crop. I loved John and I miss him so. He was my soul mate

.I saw him take his last breath. Gave him 1 last kiss .Told John I would see him again in heaven

Betty West - January 18, 2023 at 04:24 PM

“ John Chester West...what an amazing man! He was not a man of many words until he got to know you. He loved teaching school, racing cars, and telling stories about childhood and life experiences. Kathy did an awesome job of sharing the many God given talents that John displayed in the 10 years that we were able to spend with him. This man worked hard every day except on Cowboy Shooting Day. Those days were totally "John Days. He lived and breathed them. Getting together with his fellow shooters was so special to him. He was always doing things on the property to improve things or spending time doing for other friends and neighbors. I don't recall anything that he put his mind to that he could not invent or repair. He loved the land, nature, and animals. I think John could have tamed the most wildest animals with his tender spirit and heart. All of our dogs were drawn to John. He was like the dog whisperer. He watched animals and was amazed at how they interact and have purpose in this world. I think John's purpose in this world was display to others the nine fruits of The Spirit that we are to bear in relation to God and Bible. Those fruits are Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control. Any person that knew John West "Black River Jack" knew that he was all these things. He could literally make a mean blackberry and cherry jelly as well and shared jars with friends and neighbors. In a sense John never retired from teaching... he just went about it in a different manner. He was teaching life lessons. John was a true friend that we adopted into our family. He was not just the neighbor down the road. He was truly a father, grandfather, and great grandfather to the Hardin family. We shared many thoughts, stories, laughs, adventures, politics, and dreams/visions with John pretty much daily. Jarrel, my husband, would always tease John that he was the "mayor of Shady Grove" because he had so much knowledge. John would chuckle. He had no ego. He was a Godly man. We also called him "our gardener". He loved growing trees, fruits and vegetables and was excellent at it and sharing them as well. At our big family Christmas get together this Christmas Eve, Jarrel received a gardening set and tried to pass it on to John. Kind of strange for me. John "our Gardener" didn't want it. This to me was a sign that John personally was growing tired. He had completed the destiny God had for him. Gonna miss that little man in the blue jean jacket and Rattlesnake Mountain cap pulling up on his four wheeler into our yard and sharing life with us. I know he will forever be in our hearts and we will laugh and cry as were are reminded of John Chester West. Thank you Lord for sending John into our lives. He was truly a blessing and gift from you. Your words are true and you meet our need! John needed us and we needed him. There is a song that says "Love the people that God gives you for one day He'll want them back". We could all learn from those words. They leave in the physical but in the spiritual remain in our hearts. Hence the word precious memories. We love you John and know you are here with us in spirit on this mountain and we will still be asking for your advice on things and listening for your reply from Heaven.

Jarrel & Connie Hardin

Anelicia, Matt, Brooklyn, Bronson, & Bryston Brimacomb

Weston, Addie, & Brooks Hardin

Sam & Shelley Parks
Jim & Ann Hardin
Tom, Teresa, & Skylar Broyles

Connie Hardin - January 18, 2023 at 03:27 PM

TM

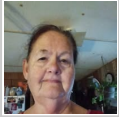
Beautifully said Connie. John is/was truly a special person and those of us who were privileged to know him will miss him greatly.

Teri Mershon - January 18, 2023 at 06:33 PM

KW

Thank you for your beautiful thoughts Connie. John often spoke of you, Jarrel, your family and your dogs with great affection. Yes, his spirit will remain at the ranch where he spent so many great times with your family and with his Rattlesnake Mountain Rangers club. I will make sure his friends and family read your tribute to John.

Kathy West - January 18, 2023 at 08:11 PM



It sounds like you loved John like I did.

Betty West - January 18, 2023 at 08:33 PM



I once asked John to soften his heart. He had been hurt so much in his life. Now John is at peace and with Jesus

Betty West - January 18, 2023 at 08:35 PM

CW

Thank you to Connie and the whole Hardin family for the beautiful tribute to my brother John.

Chuck West - January 19, 2023 at 09:13 AM

LI

Yes. John deserves the recognition. Thank you each for enhancing and enriching his life!

Linda - January 19, 2023 at 07:00 PM

KE

Beautiful insights from the Hardins. Thank you.

Kelly - January 28, 2023 at 12:47 PM

Jl

“ 1 file added to the album *Early Years*



Jim - January 18, 2023 at 07:39 AM

KW

That is an amazing photo Jim

Kathy West - January 18, 2023 at 08:22 AM

CW

The above photo is of John and his Grand Father who was President of the University of North Dakota.

Chuck West

Chuck West - January 18, 2023 at 12:26 PM

CW

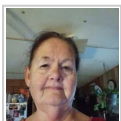
John C West - The Early Years (this will be abbreviated as he accomplished a lot during his lifetime.)

John was the second of four boys born to Charlotte and Jack West. He did most of the things that a boy would do while growing up through the primary and secondary education system in Fergus Falls, MN.. He showed an aptitude for building and fixing things. In this same time frame he became interested in guns of all kinds and picked up all kinds of information from our Father. He also became interested in stock car racing and entered all the eligible events for at least a couple of years. After graduation, he attend the U of North Dakota in Grand Forks. ND for a short time then transferred to Moorhead State University in Moorhead, MN where he graduated with a Teaching degree. He started teaching in Kenyon, MN for a short time then moved to Onalaska, WI where he taught business education courses at Logan High School in LaCrosse, WI until he retired in about 2000. A couple of years after he retired, he and Kathy moved to the Checotah area of Oklahoma. We saw each other 5 or 6 times during those twenty plus years, but we did keep in touch a couple time a month by phone to update each other. The main obituary has the “rest of the story”.

LOVE YOU BROTHER, YOU WILL BE MISSED!

Chuck West

Chuck West - January 18, 2023 at 01:03 PM



Thank you chuck

Betty West - January 18, 2023 at 04:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John West.*



January 16, 2023 at 09:47 PM

JV

“ *John (Kathy) were our lake neighbors. We shared a walkway going to our boat docks. I will always remember John as a hard worker!! John welded a ladder to our side of the dock and made sleeves that could be unscrewed to allow to boat dock to move up and down the pins as the lake levels rises and drops. We have some Welding art pieces John did, he was very, very talented. John stopped by the lake house this summer and we sat and talked for hours. We enjoyed seeing him. I'd never guessed that would be the last time. I send my condolences to his family and friends, John was definitely one of a kind!*

Jud & Deborah Vogt - January 16, 2023 at 09:42 PM

KW

Thank you Deborah, we loved the lake house and enjoyed our times with your family down there.

Kathy West - January 17, 2023 at 06:40 AM



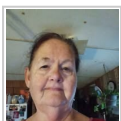
“ *[Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of John West.*

January 16, 2023 at 03:17 PM

EG

“ *John west was my best friend.i met John in high school and was have kept in contact all these years. We had many fun times at the various events we raced at.ive never met a more gentle giving man in my life and will miss him very much.*

Eugene j Gerke - January 16, 2023 at 02:25 PM



Thank you Gene so much

Betty West - January 16, 2023 at 05:28 PM

KW

“ John Chester West was born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He taught business education and typing at the high school level for nearly half of his life in La Crosse, Wisconsin. John had many talents. He was an accomplished hobby stock car racer and won many trophies in competitions on dirt, blacktop and on ice. He even took an interest in go-cart racing. John was an exceptional welder, metalworker, carpenter and rock layer. He designed and built the ironwork for the gazebo in Galesville, Wisconsin’s central square. He also created replicas of the arch truss McGilvray Bridges in Wisconsin for a restaurant called Seven Bridges. (See accompanying photo of two of the bridges that are now in the yard in Oklahoma) He truly enjoyed raising sheep and caring for his land. When John discovered the Cowboy Action Shooting sport, he jumped in and loved every event. He even started his own club, the Rattlesnake Mountain Rangers on his ranch. John designed and built the steel targets and all of the various stages involved in a Cowboy Shoot with the help of his friends, Ronnie, Danny and others who volunteered their services. With the alias of “Black River Jack,” John attended shoots in several states on a regular basis. The friendships he made through the sport were amazing and priceless. As age took its toll on John, he had to limit his shooting outings, but kept endlessly busy with his greenhouse, sheep and property maintenance. John kept up on the world and national news and enjoyed talking on any political topic. Rest in Peace, John. You will be sadly missed.



Kathy West - January 16, 2023 at 06:59 AM

TM

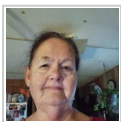
Great job Kathy! So nice of you to share parts of John's life that we didn't know! Love the pictures too, as the one on the far right doesn't really look like John to me. Guess I never saw him w/o a hat much! Thanks for sharing.

Teri Mershon - January 16, 2023 at 12:18 PM

KS

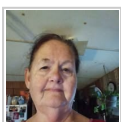
Very nice Kathy! Thank you for sharing!

Kara (West) Strupp - January 16, 2023 at 03:09 PM



Thank you everyone for sharing. I truly loved John as I know you all did 2. Betty west

Betty West - January 16, 2023 at 05:15 PM



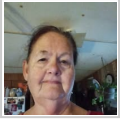
Kara are you John's daughter

Betty West - January 16, 2023 at 05:17 PM

KS

Yes, his oldest daughter.

Kara (West) Strupp - January 17, 2023 at 09:40 AM



Glad to hear this God bless

Betty West - January 17, 2023 at 12:02 PM

JK

“ *John and I worked together at Logan High School in la Crosse Wisconsin. He was a great friend who we shared many common thoughts. I will miss our telephone conversations which lasted a couple of hours sometimes. Jesus will hold you in his arms John.*

James William Konichek - January 14, 2023 at 05:58 PM



Thank you James

Betty West - January 14, 2023 at 09:36 PM

RM

Traveled with John (Blackriver Jack) for 12 years shooting Cowboy Action Shooting. help build his house and other things he needed help with, and if I needed help he was there for me He will be truly missed

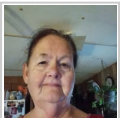
Ronnie Mershon - January 14, 2023 at 10:28 PM

TM

Knowing John is a privilege I am happy to have had. Among other things it was great to have him at our home for Holiday dinners, and I especially loved the fact that he made us 2 cases of Blackberry jelly - which we are still enjoying. We will miss him for sure.

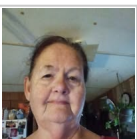
Teri Mershon

Teri Mershon - January 15, 2023 at 10:07 AM



Thank you Ronnie and Teri when we lost John we lost a great man

Betty West - January 15, 2023 at 03:24 PM



“ *John was the love of my life. Wish I could have spent more time with him one day I'll join him in heaven*

Betty West - January 14, 2023 at 01:31 PM