



John Joseph White, III

April 24, 1939 - March 19, 2016

WHITE

John Joseph White, III, Ph.D., physicist, scholar, and researcher, died on March 19, 2016 of severe spinal cord injuries sustained from a fall on March 5.

John was born in Arlington, Massachusetts on April 24, 1939, the son of John Joseph White, Jr., and Ruth Madden White. Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 47 years Pat; son John J., IV, wife Aisha Garba White, and 9-week old granddaughter Jael Rose; son Edmund T., wife Anna Catipon White, and loving granddaughters Mia Christine and Nicole Marie; John's sister Susan Ruth and husband Stephen Thompson, of College Park, GA.; nephew Stephen Thompson, Jr., and sons Christopher and Michael; niece Leigh T. Loud and husband Adrian Loud with children A. J., Madison, and Bethany; and niece Samantha T. Kirby and husband Dr. Brian Kirby with sons Crawford and Solomon; brother-in-law James W. Wagner, nephew Paul W. Wagner, and many cousins including Patrick and John Boylan and their families.

John enjoyed a carefree childhood in the early '40s, growing up in Boston, MA of a different day, where he and friends were free to explore the city as they wished, often swimming at the YMCA or engaging in softball & baseball coached by his dad. With paternal roots in Northeast Vermont, childhood memories were filled with train trips to Island Pond, VT visiting family while his dad was serving in the US Navy during WWII.

John was proud of his role as protective older brother to his sister Susan (8.5

years younger) and, after the family's move to Chicago in 1948, John made his own spending money selling newspapers on a windy Chicago corner on Sunday mornings and later attending Rich Township High School, where his social dancing skills took him and friends to The Dick Clark Show.

During his years at The College of William & Mary, graduating with a B.S. in Physics in 1960, John served as editor of the college newspaper and excelled in Bridge tournaments. Also at W&M John discovered his love of track & field, later becoming a recognized national official in adjudicating the high jump. After completing graduate study in physics at Univ. of NC at Chapel Hill in 1965 John served in the rank of Captain in the US Army. Upon honorable discharge in 1966 he served as an Asst Professor of Physics at Univ. of Georgia, where he mentored many a struggling pre-med student through mandatory science courses.

Married with two young sons, he moved the family to Columbus, Ohio in 1975, where John accepted a position as principal research scientist at Battelle Memorial Institute. In 1992 when work at Battelle concluded, John's intellectual curiosity focused on ancient history, specifically a system of ancient writing found worldwide. Many of his research papers can be enjoyed in journals of the Midwest Epigraphic Society for which he served as editor. This passion for the common ancient symbols resulted in travels with Pat to many of the great museums of the world. Meticulously organized, he amassed an extensive collection of research and insights that epigraphers who follow in years to come may build from.

The family expresses appreciation to Pastor Lou Seipel of Broad Street United Methodist Church, to friends – Dennis Fuhr, April Lee, Brian Johnson, Roger Sexton, Ken Zimmerman, and Dr. John Ball, and to the Neuro ICU team at Riverside Hospital for their intense caring during John's hospitalization.

A celebration of John's life will be held on Monday, March 28 at Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home, 515 High Street, Worthington with visiting hours beginning at 10:00 until time of service at 1:00. In lieu of flowers the family welcomes donations to the Broad Street United Methodist Church Bell Choir,

505 East Broad Street, Columbus, 43215 in John's memory.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAR 28. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 885-4006
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *John Joseph White, III*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Oh-Kyung And Michael Taylor lit a candle in memory of John Joseph White, III*



Oh-Kyung and Michael Taylor - March 28, 2016 at 08:04 AM



“ *Pat White and Family: Our deepest sympathies and sincerest condolences on your loss.
From: Oh-Kyung and Michael Taylor*

Oh-Kyung and Michael Taylor - March 28, 2016 at 08:03 AM



“ *DEAR PAT, MY HEART AND MY PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TONIGHT. YOU ALREADY KNOW GOD WILL GIVE YOU COMFORT AND STRENGTH FOR THE DAYS AHEAD. GOD BLESS RALPH HALL*

RALPH HALL - March 27, 2016 at 08:22 PM



Ralph, thank you so very much for your message to our family. Your thoughts mean much for us at this time. Pat

Patricia White - April 26, 2016 at 08:41 PM

RH

“ *RALPH HALL lit a candle in memory of John Joseph White, III*



RALPH HALL - March 27, 2016 at 08:12 PM

PO

“ *Paul Graves and the staff at Graves Piano & Organ purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John Joseph White, III.*



Paul Graves and the staff at Graves Piano & Organ - March 25, 2016 at 01:17 PM

GW

“ *Gary, Ingrid, Garrison and Ethan White purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Joseph White, III.*



Gary, Ingrid, Garrison and Ethan White - March 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM

HU

“ God Bless and Thank YOU, Capt. White for your service in The U.S. Army...RIP..... And Semper Fidelis SIR.



Herb Guyer-Sharfenaker USMC - March 24, 2016 at 12:08 PM

RC

“ Dear Mrs. White:

Lauren and I were very sorry to hear of John's passing. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Jay, Lauren, Katie, Vickie, Charlotte, and Sam Catipon

Ronnie S Catipon - March 23, 2016 at 01:59 PM

LK

“ Sharing in your sorrow. With love and friendship.

*Love,
Laura, Emerson, Ellis & Escher Koh*

Laura Koh - March 23, 2016 at 11:12 AM

MP

“ Dear Pat and Family,

We are so sorry to hear about John's passing. He brought happiness and kindness to many, and he will be missed.

Love, John, Merry, and Elisa Pruitt

Merry Pruitt - March 23, 2016 at 10:26 AM

JB

“ *John's brilliant contributions to the study of early civilizations will be sorely missed. Every time he shared his findings or his ideas regarding language, modes of thinking of peoples all over the world, and a multitude of other insights, I learned something more. I'm sure that was true for the many, many people who enjoyed and learned from his work. My deep condolences to Pat and the rest of his family and friends.*

Jack Burgess - March 22, 2016 at 08:26 PM

JB

Track and field in Ohio has lost a great official and educator. Like all of his endeavors, John's meticulous approach left no gaps. His stories, either humorous or as examples, always seemed to connect to the subject at hand. My sympathy to all of his family and friends, he will be missed.

John Blakely - March 24, 2016 at 09:28 AM

KH

*Pat and family...you are in our thoughts and prayers.
Kathie and Dave Houchens*

Kathie Houchens - March 28, 2016 at 09:13 PM