



## John D. Blankenship

February 7, 1959 - January 31, 2024

John David Blankenship, 64, of Centerville, passed away at home on January 31, 2024.

John was born on February 7, 1959 in New Castle, Indiana to Olive Pauline Little and John Frank Blankenship. He attended The First Baptist Church in Hagerstown, where he was saved and baptized in 1972. He was a proud Hagerstown Tiger and a graduate of the Class of 1977. In school John wrestled and played football.

John was never afraid of work and one of his first jobs was passing newspapers on the north end of Hagerstown during the early morning hours. Some of his fondest memories of that job involved meeting up with his long-time buddy Jamie Tuttle on Main Street to roll the papers together. He entered the U.S. Army after graduation in January of 1977 and served our country for 29 years. He worked every day he could up to the end, and no job was too big or too unimportant. His chosen fields included (but were not limited to) donut making, supply clerk, truck driver, youth minister, DNR quartermaster, IOSHA officer, safety inspector, interim pastor, and Grandpa Extraordinaire.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Betty Cooper Blankenship, who he married March 24, 2021. Although their time together as man and wife was short, they packed lots of love and adventure to ensure a lifetime of

memories.

He is also survived by the mother of his children, Mary Peterson, their three children, John (Kerry) Blankenship of Lafayette; Abigail (Jerry II) Ahrens of Sister Bay, Wis.; and Elizabeth Blankenship (Jay) of Lebanon; Betty's children, Amy (Jose) Garcia, of Richmond; Nicole (Shawn) McCoy, Bradenton, Florida; and Lacey (Rodney) Conley, Richmond, and his sisters and brothers in law, Tina (Mark) Richardson and Rena (Randy) Holcomb.

He is also survived by several aunts and uncles: Betty Crouch of Jamestown, Tenn.; Beulah Conner, Economy; Doris and Ralph Bailey, Bill and Vira Wylie, of Seaman, Ohio; Ernest and Konna DeWitt, Brenda Watkins, and Beverly and Ken Moore of Muncie, IN.

John leaves 23 grandchildren with wonderful memories and two great-grandchildren who will learn of his strength, storytelling, and his great faith. There are also numerous cousins, nieces Robyn and Torri Richardson, nephews Jesse and Lukas (Kylee) Holcomb, great nieces and great nephews and many family friends. John is remembered by all for his beautiful smile and his kind heart. He truly knew no strangers.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his sister Lois Jean Blankenship; nephews Mark Aaron Richardson, Shaun David Collins and Troy Alan Collins; and niece Kellee Marie Collins.

Visitation will be at Culberson Funeral Home on Monday, February 5 from 11 AM to 2 PM. Services will follow at 2 PM. Jake Edwards will officiate. Military service to follow. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 5. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Culberson Funeral Home - Hagerstown  
51 South Washington Street  
Hagerstown, IN 47346  
(765) 489-5511  
info@culbersonfh.com  
<https://www.culbersonfh.com/>

## Service

FEB 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

Culberson Funeral Home - Hagerstown  
51 South Washington Street  
Hagerstown, IN 47346  
(765) 489-5511  
info@culbersonfh.com  
<https://www.culbersonfh.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Culberson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John D. Blankenship*



**Culberson Funeral Home** - February 03, 2024 at 08:13 PM

HC

*John David will be missed very much. He was loved by everyone. Love you John David.*

**Heather [ Little] collins** - February 04, 2024 at 07:22 PM

AH

*Stopping by to spend some time with your memory. Love you Dad*

**Ahrens** - July 20, 2024 at 01:18 PM

MP

*John was my first love, the father of my children and will forever hold my heart. I miss you John.*

**Mary Sue Peterson** - January 23 at 07:11 AM

SJ

“ John and I were very good friends and we worked together at the Indiana Department of Labor as IOSHA Compliance Officers for numerous years. Losing someone you love is a devastating experience. While nothing can take away the pain, finding words can sometimes help you heal. Quotes that speak to the loss of a best friend might help you express your pain and the sudden void you are feeling in your life. Please accept my heartfelt condolences. My heart goes out to you after this sudden loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers. I was so saddened to hear this shocking news. My heart goes out to you at this time of grief. This is such a shock. All my best wishes to you and your family. "Fly High & R.I.P. John." Your friend, Steven J. Jones (aka) City!

Steven J. Jones - February 08, 2024 at 04:51 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Funeral Service



Rick Culberson - February 05, 2024 at 07:29 PM

JL

“ Jenny And David Lagomarcino lit a candle in memory of John D. Blankenship



Jenny and David Lagomarcino - February 05, 2024 at 03:39 PM

CW

“ So sorry to hear of John's passing. I had a chance to connect with him a few years ago when we both were living in the Columbus Indiana area. My sincere condolences to all his family.



Cindy (Moore) Walton - February 05, 2024 at 12:21 PM

JD

“ John and Charlene Denny purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John D. Blankenship.



John and Charlene Denny - February 05, 2024 at 10:54 AM

Susan Harrison

“ Susan Harrison lit a candle in memory of John D. Blankenship



Susan Harrison - February 04, 2024 at 01:24 PM

Susan Harrison

I have many fond memories of John; he was my best friend's brother and a high school friend. I know he will be missed.

Susan Harrison - February 04, 2024 at 01:26 PM



“ 105 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Culberson Funeral Home** - February 03, 2024 at 07:07 PM



“ *Sherrie Knoblock lit a candle in memory of John D. Blankenship*



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**Sherrie Knoblock** - February 03, 2024 at 02:47 PM



“ *You will be missed old friend. We started kindergarten together many years ago. God bless and praying for those left behind.*

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**Ernie Barnard Jr** - February 03, 2024 at 08:01 AM

RH

“ I have been blessed with wonderful family and you were absolutely the brother I needed~ I love how you watched out for me, how you loved to talk for hours, and the memories of our childhood of shenanigans we shared. I love how we were able to build close and lasting relationships with each other’s children, spouses, and extended families. To say you will be missed is an understatement. You have and always will watch over me~ with a fierceness that always reminded me how truly blessed I have always been. I love you most, Brother. You finished the race. Until we meet again.



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**Rena Holcomb** - February 03, 2024 at 01:54 AM

EB

“ I love you Daddy. Thank you for everything you taught me, our shared love of music and singing, all your sacrifice and all your love. I'll always be your baby girl. I'll be missing you until I see you again.



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**Elizabeth Blankenship** - February 02, 2024 at 11:55 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John D. Blankenship.



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February 02, 2024 at 08:03 PM

JB

“ Jeff And Alisa Brown lit a candle in memory of John D. Blankenship



Jeff and Alisa Brown - February 02, 2024 at 07:24 PM

MM

“ Mario Martins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John D. Blankenship.

Mario Martins - February 02, 2024 at 06:15 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of John D. Blankenship.



February 02, 2024 at 06:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John D. Blankenship.



February 02, 2024 at 05:08 PM

C1

“ *Class of 1977 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John D. Blankenship.*

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**Class of 1977** - February 02, 2024 at 05:08 PM

MR

“ *Marilyn Revalee lit a candle in memory of John D. Blankenship*



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**Marilyn Revalee** - February 02, 2024 at 04:34 PM