



John Welsch

June 12, 1953 - November 14, 2024

John Wayne Welsch passed away at home on November 14, 2024 after fighting a rare bone marrow disorder. John was born to John and Thelma Powell on June 12, 1953 in Kansas City, Missouri. After graduating from Lyons Township high school in Illinois, he came to UGA to run track for Spec Towns on a track scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree in education. He went on to earn his Master's degree and spent over 33 years teaching science in Gwinnett County. His time in Gwinnett was spent at Norcross high, Shiloh high, and finally Brookwood high school. Upon retiring he went on to teaching at George Walton Academy in Monroe, Ga and Loganville Christian Academy in Loganville. He loved teaching science and coaching and continued throughout his life. Although he loved teaching science, he was most passionate about sharing his faith in Jesus with students through bible study. He had an outgoing personality and a great heart which touched many over the years. He himself was a life long learner and truly a "Jack of all trades, and a master of none." Whether it was hunting and fishing, gardening, UGA athletics, or something new he was learning, his excitement endeared him to us all.

John is survived by his wife Vicky and "the boys": Brian Welsch and granddaughter Reagan, Zachary (Caroline) Birkholz and Thomas Birkholz, by his parents Eugene and Thelma Welsch, and brothers Steve (Sheilah) Welsch and Gary (Bridgett) Welsch. He is predeceased by his father John Victor

Powell.

A private memorial service will be held for the family to remember a man who touched so many. John loved serving the Lord and had a heart for missions. If you would like to honor him by joining with his local church to help plant new churches and to support missionaries, you can make donations in his name to: Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1403, Oxford, GA 30054.

Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Road, Loganville, GA 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Welsch*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - November 21, 2024 at 08:21 PM

JT

“ I just discovered this obituary. Coach was one of my favorite teachers during my senior year at Shiloh High. I nearly failed his Physics class first semester, then made an A second semester with his encouragement. I remember going home the first week and needing to get a lab safety contract signed, only to come back Monday to find him with his thumb in a bandage after an accident with a table saw. One of my friends and I would bring it up occasionally, including our semester project which involved putting together several simple machines that ended with a cassette player playing our reenactment of the table saw scene. To his regret, the principal came in to see all our projects, and Coach tried to get him to bypass our project. The principal grinned when he heard the recording, as Coach sighed.

Another memory is of making a rubber band vehicle that had to go down a marked course in the hallway. Mine went off the course and everyone laughed - I lost it, and was crying back in the classroom. He came back and encouraged me to try again. He knew that while it didn't have accuracy, it was blowing the others away with speed, one of the other criteria. He knew how to bring out the best in people.

Even though it's 30 years later, I see the picture in the corner and it's like I'm back in his classroom all over again. I've been substitute teaching the past year and so many memories have been coming back. I came here today because I'm doing a project for my own Secondary Education degree that involves going back through our "educational lineage", and I consider Coach a valuable part of mine. My condolences to the family on your loss. Thank you for sharing him with us.

John Trimble - April 08 at 02:58 PM

PK

“ Just learning of John's passing so sad to learn this. He was a favorite of my children's teachers at LCA. I attended men's Bible study with him. We shared deer hunting stories. If I had shrubs or small trees to remove John would adopt them. He was always such and enthusiastic person. I enjoyed getting to know him. He will be missed.

Paul Kelley - April 30, 2025 at 09:30 PM

ST

“ Dear John (yeah I know) My best friend growing up, such a tiny fraction of our lives but a huge portion in growing up. The backdrop was the late 60's and early 70's, we were the class of 1971 at Lyons Township High School. Honestly I don't remember where we met, had to be Timber Trials Swim Club, it was close to both our neighborhoods. Our first 2 years of high school were all about practice, school, church and family and young boys trying to negotiate those teenage youthful feelings. The real lessons came when cars were introduced into our lives. That independence was where our best friendship bonded forever. The first 2 years of high school were a little intimidating but with John's friendship those years were better to understand and experience. The real experience was when we became upperclassmen. Yeah we still had our regular commitments of sports and school but now we were mobile. Cars expanded our experiences by multiples. These years were when we shared our lives together. Our successes and failures, our new relationship with dating, proms and hanging out. We were always together sharing our growing pains. I remember one summer when we were cruising around in my brother and my CHEVROLET CORVAIR when we were turning into John's neighborhood and got rear ended by a big box truck and we all came out of the hospital with neck braces. John also spent a lot of time at my house, so much at times that my mom and family thought he was another son in the Toman house. Lorraine and Granny Broz would discipline him just like me. We were together all the time during our teenage growth years, always having each others backs. We even drove up to Wisconsin to buy my first gun, a 22 caliber rifle, to hunt squirrels. Dating was always fun and challenging, we would double date most of the time because we knew if it didn't work out both of us could still have fun. We both were pretty good in sports although he was really good in high hurdles. We always supported each other in our competitive lanes. That commitment was also a strong bond in our close friendship, people would say that we were always together. Graduation was again a shared night of fun and enjoyment together with other friends but it was us and them. College took us in different paths,

John went to University of Georgia to run track and become a wonderful teacher, someone who cared about others. We stayed in contact with each other still sharing our lives together but long distance. John's next big share was my wedding, there was no one else who could be my best man at our wedding. He was it, no one else could take that place. All those years of growing up through life's lessons, he was family, my other brother. Although it was only a fraction of our young lives, it meant the world to me. I will never forget John, and our deep commitment to being best friends!
Scott Toman



Scott Toman - November 24, 2024 at 12:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Welsch.*



November 21, 2024 at 03:38 PM



“ 68 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - November 21, 2024 at 03:13 PM

CM

“ *Vicky, we are praying for you and the boys as you grieve with hope. I'm forever grateful for the investment you and John made in the lives of students while you were at LCA. His larger than life personality will be missed by so many. Much love to you, Doug and Christy Monda*

Christy Monda - November 21, 2024 at 02:25 PM