



John Emil DeHaes

December 12, 1936 - November 6, 2024

Long time Ft. Collins resident, John DeHaes died on November 6, 2024, at the UC Health Medical Center of the Rockies.

Celebration of Life service will be Saturday, November 16, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Bohlender Funeral Chapel in Ft. Collins, CO with Pastor Kimberly Salico-Diehl. Private family inurnment will be at a later date.

John Emil DeHaes was born in Washington state on December 12, 1936, to Marie and Emil DeHaes. He and his family moved to Norfolk, Nebraska in 1947, where John attended and graduated from Norfolk High School in 1955. John went on to enroll at University of Nebraska at Lincoln where he was a member of the Nebraska football team. He graduated in 1959 from UNL where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology.

John's working career began in the Wildcat Hills around Scottsbluff, Nebraska working on a geology site. From there he decided to pursue a career in another one of his passions...communication... by becoming the news reporter at the Chadron Record in Chadron, Nebraska, and also working for the KCSR radio station as a sports and news reporter.

While at Chadron, he met and married Lorraine Ford on March 9, 1962, in Norfolk, Nebraska. At that time, he also gained two bonus daughters, Jo and

Lorrie.

After a move to Grand Island, Nebraska, John and Lorraine moved one last time to Ft. Collins where he worked at a local KCOL radio station, and then he finished out his working career at the City of Ft. Collins.

John was an avid writer. He often wrote “yearly” books filled with poetry, stories, and observations that he had written for family and friends. He also had a love of sports especially baseball and football... following the Rockies and Broncos through “thick and thin.”

As a Christian and member of the American Baptist Church almost his entire life, John was actively involved in his church by serving on various committees and as a Trustee, Lay leader, Sunday School teacher, and usher. He and Lorraine were also sponsors of the Youth Group for years, serving a weekly meal to the college kids.

John’s quick wit, warm smile, and love to visit with anyone will truly be missed.

John was preceded in death by his loving wife, Lorraine, his parents, Emil and Marie, a younger brother, Chuck, and granddaughter Jamie Lee.

John is survived by two bonus daughters, JoAnne (Doug) Teaford and Lorrie Ford (Chris Deibler) of Lincoln, NE, and brother Bob DeHaes of Norfolk, NE.

Six grandchildren: Jerry (Eileen) Hoffmann of Denver, CO; Jim (Kathryn) Hoffmann of Lincoln, NE; Andrea (Brian) Cox of Grapevine, TX; Nicole (Dirk)Ochs of Overland Park, Ks.; Heather (Shane) Woodson of Charlton, MA; and Amanda (Jeremy)Spitzer of Shrewsbury, MA.

Eleven great grandchildren: Drew (Bre) Hoffmann, Reid (Tyra) Hoffmann,

Abigail Hoffmann, Samantha Hoffmann, Henry Clay, Katie Woodson, Savvi Spitzer, Michael Woodson, Jamisen Cox, Olivia Hoffmann, and Merritt Spitzer.

Special friends Averil Strand and Jaaffar Strand both of Ft. Collins as well as nieces and nephews in NE and CO....

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV **16**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel
121 W. Olive Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall

RD

“ One of the very best friends I ever had starting in junior high. We always kept in touch. He was very intelligent and talented and brought all his gifts to his life as a Christian. And what a great sense of humor! I miss him. Rev Warren Danskin

rRev Warren Danskin - November 22, 2024 at 06:23 PM

RU

“ I would often see John walking around our neighborhood in Fort Collins long before I came to know him. We first became acquainted through the faith library network, in which John represented the American Baptist library and I the First Methodist library. But, by coincidence, we both incurred Advanced Macular Degeneration at the same time. Since we lived nearby, John and I car pooled to our respective eye injection appointments for years, until we reached the point where neither of us could no longer drive.

Coming back from our eye appointments, we would often stop at Culvers for lunch. It was during these times together that I came to really appreciate John's wit and faith. One of his favorite stories concerned the small color-coded patch the eye center put above your eye to indicate the proper injection medication. John's patch was black and, as he tells it, the lady sitting next to him in the waiting room one day asked John about his vision problem. John pointed to the patch and said, in all seriousness, "Well, I have this hole in my head and it's been affecting my eye sight," to which the lady replied, "Oh, you poor man."

I deeply miss the time I spent with John, but the pleasure we shared together will stay with me forever. -- Rafael Ubico

Rafael Ubico - November 18, 2024 at 01:10 PM



“ Jann and I are so very sorry we didn't realize John had passed. He was a strong influence in our life. We listened to him on KCOL as he read the news in Fort Collins as KCOL's news director. He and Loraine were the sponsor of the "Enquirers" Sunday School Class at American Baptist Church. We enjoyed spaghetti suppers at their home, helped them move to their home they bought in north Fort Collins, and overnight trips with the Enquirers class up the Poudre Canyon.

John was a man of God, who we could always turn to whenever we faced a difficult time. He spoke at Jann and my 50th Wedding anniversary celebration, and we enjoyed having him down to our home the last few years to share our lives and have home cooked food.

Jann and I are sad they we missed the Celebration of John's life today, but we know that he is rejoicing with Loraine in Heaven. Thank you John for all the Love and Care you have shown us. We will miss you.

Jim and Jann Black

Jim Black - November 16, 2024 at 09:59 PM

JH

“ Always a man ahead of his time - Grandad inspired the original "slant eye" captured in his granddaughter Andrea '70's and his great granddaughters Abigail and Samantha early 2000's.



Jerry Hoffmann - November 15, 2024 at 12:16 PM

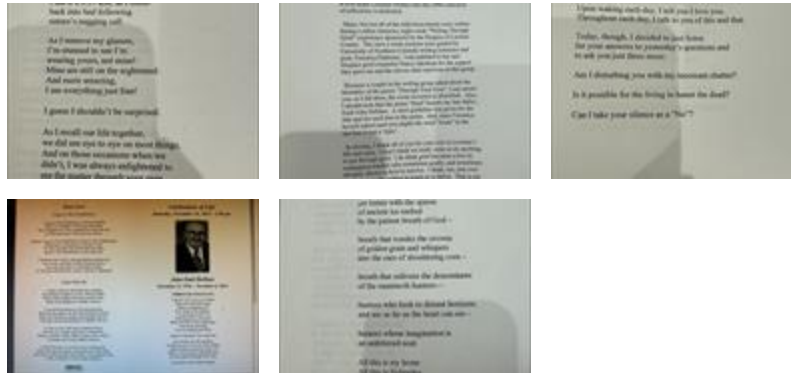


and Olivia!!

Jerry Hoffmann - November 15, 2024 at 12:29 PM



“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Jerry Hoffmann - November 15, 2024 at 11:57 AM



Grandad loved words and "wordsmithing," and compiled his writings each year and gave to his Grandkids. Included here are a few highlights including a poem to Granny "Through Your Eyes" in the year following her passing, "Steel" about his father John Emil, and included his intro to 2008 "Surviving" which compiled his writings the year after Granny's passing. Blessings are these gifts, much love Grandad.

Jerry Hoffmann - November 15, 2024 at 12:05 PM

JH

“ 36 files added to the tribute wall



Jerry Hoffmann - November 15, 2024 at 11:06 AM

JH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



JH - November 15, 2024 at 10:34 AM

JH

“ 1 file added to the album JH



JH - November 15, 2024 at 10:31 AM

EH

“ I first met grandad on he and granny’s 35th wedding anniversary in Ogallala, he was so kind and welcoming to me as I was introduced to Jerry’s family. Grandad became a loving part of our family, Olivia’s godparent, and was always up for a sporting event! He was one heck of a cribbage player too! I will miss him and our holidays together and am blessed for his presence in our lives. You are reunited with Granny and the Lord our Savior, may perpetual light shine upon your beautiful soul! Love you! Eileen



Eileen Hoffmann - November 14, 2024 at 03:31 PM

KY

“ We are so sorry for the loss of such a positive and kind man. At many Hoffmann family gatherings, we would always enjoy our visits with John. His optimism and smile were contagious. Prayers to all. Paige and Kevin Yost

Kevin Conrad Yost - November 14, 2024 at 11:18 AM

JH

“ 30 files added to the tribute wall



Jerry Hoffmann - November 13, 2024 at 10:15 PM

AC

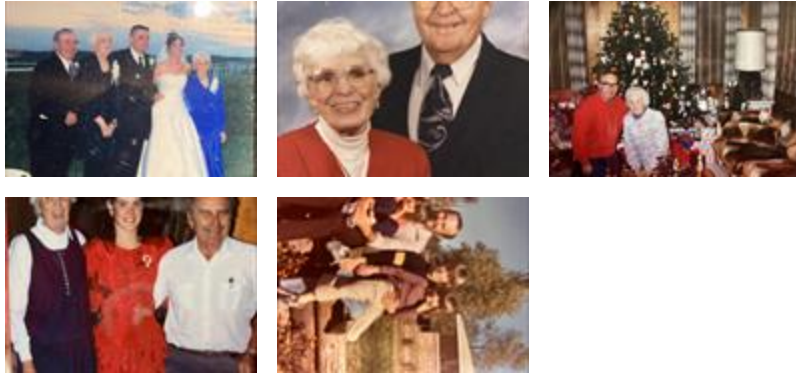
“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Andrea Cox - November 13, 2024 at 02:42 PM

HW

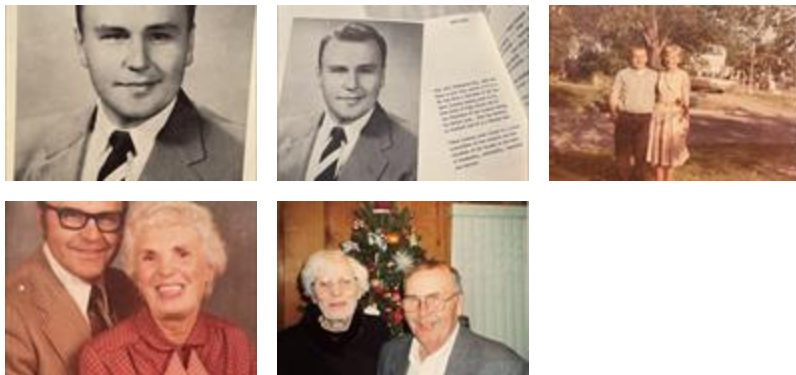
“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Heather Woodson - November 11, 2024 at 09:35 PM

JH

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Jim Hoffmann - November 09, 2024 at 08:25 AM

BL

“ *I only really got to know John these last three years. He had a big smile and hug when you were around him. John was a kind, warm, and generous man. He never ceased to amaze me with all the interesting stories of his life. When invited for dinner, which he never turned down, no matter what the meal was, he always had room for dessert. I was blessed to be able to called him my friend. Barbara*

Barbara Lambert - November 08, 2024 at 10:58 PM



Thanks for sharing Barbara. We appreciate you including him for dinner/dessert! He very much enjoyed the time spend with you.

Jim Hoffmann/grandson

Jim Hoffmann - November 09, 2024 at 07:13 AM