



## Mervin R. Johns

August 6, 1949 - July 27, 2017

Mervin R. Johns, 67, of Augusta, GA, passed away on Thursday, July 27, 2017. Born in Marietta, PA, he was the son of the late Kenneth and Dorothy (Roland) Johns.

Mervin graduated from the University of Evansville with a degree in Electrical Engineering and worked at various nuclear power sites throughout his career. He was a pilot, served in the Airforce National Guard, and lived in South Africa for 18 years. Mervin had enjoyed flying and also participated in activities such as hang gliding, wind surfing and flying an ultralight. He had a great sense of humor, was adventurous and loved his family.

Mervin is survived by two sons, M. Arend Johns and Aidan R. Johns both of Augusta, GA; two brothers, Gary L. Johns, husband of Estelle of Simpsonville, SC and John K. Johns, husband of Donna of Elizabethtown, PA; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Diane Coble.

A memorial service honoring Mervin's life will be held at the Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc. 16 East Main Street, Mount Joy on Friday, August 4, 2017 at 4:00 PM. Family and friends will be received at the funeral home before the service

from 3:00 to 4:00. Interment will be private at East Donegal Township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice in his honor.

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ Just found this today and it brought some sadness. I knew Merv at the University of Evansville. I was the Director of Housing and Merv was such an impressive young man. I loved his sense of humor and enjoyed lots of good times with him. I later spent a weekend with him in Lancaster and he was a wonderful host. I miss you, Merv. Condolences to his family and friends

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**Bill Shipton** - December 13, 2023 at 09:44 AM

KT

“ My sincere condolences to Merv's family. I worked with him for many years in S.C. He always had a smile, a good story to tell and brightened my day. I loved to hear about his adventures in flying ultralights and So. Africa, and he would often talk about his sons. It was obvious he loved his children very much. His passing has made the world a little dimmer.

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**Karen Conner, Kingston, TN** - August 06, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ I have many fond childhood memories of "Mervie" as a classmate at Maytown Elementary, and later as "Merv" at Donegal High School. I remember his interest in movies and his antics with Alan Acri. May Merv rest in peace. He did not quite make it to the 50th class reunion for Donegal grads and we will miss him. God's best blessing to his family.

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**Dallas Wolgemuth** - August 04, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ We are very deeply saddened by the sudden passing of our very dear friend Merv. We will be thinking of you all tomorrow and will light a candle, and reflect on all the wonderful, fun and many good times we shared with Merv. He was a very special soul, so spontaneous, an incredible zest for life and a drive for all things fun and mischievous, his love of so many sports, a great windsurfer, an amazing Pilot, a great sense of humour, and one very clever and intelligent man. The only person we entrusted with our lives and went microlighting with him over the Clanwilliam Dam in the Western Cape. He knew how to enjoy life! Always had a funny chirp to add. Our children remember Merv as the "action" man and they knew that when Merv arrived fun was going to be had by all. Thank you for all these wonderful memories made with you Merv which we will never forget and will hold close in our hearts forever. We send our heartfelt sympathies to the entire family and surround you with all our love at this very sad time Angus and Mary-Ann McGee

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**Mary-Ann & Angus McGee South Africa** - August 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MA

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**Mary-Ann & Angus McGee South Africa** - August 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Thank you Merv for making my life a little better by your presence and laughter. You will be missed my friend. My deepest sympathy to your family. My prayer comes from Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.".....Till we meet again my friend, rest in peace. Tony

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**Tony Nazzaro from Vogtle Project** - August 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ I have such great memories of Mervin from our high school years. From reading the obituary, I can tell he really left his mark on this earth. My sincere condolences.

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**Betsy O'Connor Tomlinson** - August 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ I am very sorry to hear of your loss. The Bible gives comfort and hope when it states, "there is going to be a resurrection."--Acts 24:15

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**Leon Gentry** - August 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Condolences to Merven's family. I co-starred with Merv, Greg, Alan, Steve and Jody in our film making in Alan's grandfather's old house in Marietta. Merven made sure all the equipment worked and did the special effects and acted. He bought first his 90 cc honda and then that old 500 cc triumph in parts. We went on many trips to the triumph shop along the river south of Columbia. I'll bet he rebuilt that motorcycle engine 23 times in the barn behind his house. He got the motorcycle running right. Merven could always figure this stuff out. I bought his 500cc triumph and took it to Cleveland while in college around 1968 and of course we never let my parents know about it. I had more laughs than I could handle in Henry Hackman's chemistry and physics classes at Donegal. Merven helped me with many of my practical jokes and things like making contact explosives to put into cigarettes or on top of toilet seats. In 1976 he called me in Johannesburg, South Africa where I was working in mining and asked if it was safe to come to work in South Africa. He mentioned something about spears. I was so glad when he came. Our last 3 years in South Africa were spent a lot with Merven on holidays, dinners and trips to the local river where he had a speedboat for water skiing. He had bought a souped up "mini" cooper car. He rented large homes with his coworker friend Jeff and had a great time. While I'm sad Merven has died, I also believe I'll be with him and that he's around us. For me, Merven was part of our "pack" or "pod" or "group" meant to be together and we will always be so. I love you Merven. mitch

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**Mitch Albert** - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ I met Merv at the beginning of 1984 in South Africa. He and my late husband, Jeffry Bergamy, came out to South Africa in the late 70's with fellow Americans and the French to get our nuclear plant up and running. Merv was a big part of our lives until we left for the USA in 1985. In fact, he joined us on our honeymoon for a ski trip in Austria. Merv had such a great sense of humour and was as adventurous and active as we were. We reunited in Augusta, Georgia, where Jeff also was based at Savannah River Site. Great fun always and wonderful memories of our times together. I am so sad to hear of his passing, but I hope that he and Jeff will be reunited in God's playground. My heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the family he leaves behind. May God give you strength and courage during this difficult time. Best wishes and blessings, Nadine Bergamy

Nadine Bergamy - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ Mervin R. Johns

Nadine Bergamy in South Africa. - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ To the family of Mervin Johns, We are so sorry for your lose. May God have his arms around eachOf you in the days ahead. We will liftEach of you up in prayer. David and Robin Linville Martinez, Ga.

Dave and Robin Linville, Martinez, Ga. - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ My sincere condolence

Steve Roland - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WC

“ *Mervin R. Johns*

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**Westhampton Subdivision/Our Condolences** - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *Met Mervin a few times in the neighborhood. He was a great guy. My condolences to the family. Take care Mervin, you will be missed.*

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**Lee S.** - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *Merv brought so much joy into our lives growing up. I recall his ghost stories in the back room of your farm house, his creative movies he would produce, and his laughter. While he was learning to fly the ultralight in South Africa, I recall a movie he sent home explaining to his folks that there was nothing to worry about and it was plenty safe. The next section he is standing with his arm in a cast. He had crashed; but he still insisted to his mom that all was OK. :) May God give you all His comfort and grace as you celebrate his life and mourn his absence. Tenderly & with my prayers, Don Johns*

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**Don Johns** - August 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM