



John R. Anderson

December 11, 1942 - February 18, 2024

John R. Anderson, 81, of Clarion, formerly of Brookville, passed away suddenly at home on Sunday, February 18, 2024. He was born at home in Summerville, PA on December 11, 1942. John was the son of late Randolph “Randy” and Kathleen Gearhart Anderson. He graduated from Brookville High School in 1960, Clarion State College in 1965 and Indiana State College in 1970. John taught Social Studies at Baldwin-Whitehall High School and Brookville High School. At Brookville he was the Social Studies Department Chair and was awarded Teacher of the Year in 1982/83 and 1993/94. He retired in 1997. John is survived by the former Carole Gazibara, whom he married on November 25, 1966. They have 2 children, Pam (Kevin) Shayer of Philadelphia/Florida and Michael (Melissa) Anderson of Lucinda, PA. Also surviving are 5 grandchildren, Ryan and Brendan Shayer, Corbin Ragley, and Gabriel and Bryn Anderson. In addition, John is survived by a brother David (Crystal) Anderson, 2 nephews David and Joshua (Meghan), 3 great nephews, Krishna, Ari, and Baby Everett, and one great niece, Dorothy. He also is survived by his special friends, Julie Aaron and members of ARCA (Allegheny Riverstone Center for the Arts). In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his younger brother Stephen. John greatly enjoyed refereeing PIAA High School Football and Basketball games for 30 years. He was very proud to have been selected to referee multiple PA State Playoff and Championship Football Games. He was also a PIAA evaluator of football officiating crews. In retirement John and Carole traveled extensively to many

parts of the United States, Canada and over 40 countries. They achieved their goal of visiting all of the 7 continents and the trip to Antarctica was his favorite. He loved exploring new places and meeting interesting people along the way. John was a devoted catch and release dry fly fisherman. He had an opportunity to fish in Ireland where former President Carter fished, as well as in New Zealand. The Brookville Fly Fishing Project was his favorite local spot. He loved the outdoors and spent many beautiful days hiking along the Rails to Trails in the area. John was also a dedicated member and strong supporter of Allegheny Riverstone Center for the Arts (ARCA), attending many of their events and dinners and sponsoring many visiting artists. The Robert V. Burns Funeral Home in Clarion is handling the arrangements. There will be no public visitation. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Inurnment will take place in the Ohl Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Redbank Valley Trails Association, 419 Arch Street, New Bethlehem, PA 16242 or Allegheny Riverstone Center for the Arts (ARCA) Organ Renovation Project, P.O. Box 215, Foxburg, PA 16036.

Cemetery Details

Ohl Cemetery

Ohl, PA

Tribute Wall

MC

“ *Carole, my heart goes out to you in this time of sadness. My sympathy to you and your family. I miss saying "hi" to John as he takes his morning walks.*
Madelon Callen

Madelon Callen - March 08, 2024 at 11:34 AM

CB

“ *So sorry to hear of John's death, Carole. I often saw him in hip boots on my morning walk along the North Fork. He will be missed.*
Carole Briggs

Carole A Briggs - February 23, 2024 at 05:58 PM

DO

“ *Carole . We were so sad to read of John's passing. You were such good neighbors and friends. I'll miss trading fishing stories. We send our sympathies to you and the family !!* *Dave & Shawnee*

Dave & Shawnee O'Hara - February 21, 2024 at 01:10 PM

CM

“ *My sympathies to Mr. Anderson's family. He was my favorite teacher in high school. I had him as a teacher for United States History and for Economics and Government. He prepared me for college more than any other teacher that I encountered. He was such a smart man and an amazing teacher. I am sad to hear of his passing. It is nice to know that after he retired (at the end of my senior year), he was able to enjoy a lot of traveling and his hobbies. May he rest in peace.*

Christy McMillen - February 21, 2024 at 12:59 PM

JV

“ *Condolences to Carol and family. John "Mr. Anderson" was one of my favorite teachers. He had a way of instructing that made it easy to understand and learn. As long as you wanted too .We had many talks in and out of school. He had a way of getting his buck every year first day. He honored me by having me process his deer. He was one of the good ones!
.He loved to teach and changed the lives of so many students, I can see him now showing folks how to fly fish behind those pearly gates!*

moon

Jim Moon VanSteenberg - February 21, 2024 at 09:16 AM

TM

“ *My condolences to Mr. Anderson's family. I was in a couple of his social studies classes in high school. I was not the most teachable student, but his way of teaching and the content knowledge that he possessed were remarkable. I learned SO MUCH in his classes. He was an excellent instructor - without question one of the best that I ever knew. He and I crossed paths a couple years ago and I was able to share my thoughts with him. I am glad that I did that. Again, condolences to his family.*

Todd MacBeth - February 20, 2024 at 03:10 PM

JC

“ *When I read of John's death I was shocked and deeply saddened. John and Carol were patients at Dr. McNamara's dental office where I worked for years. I was always so happy to see them on my schedule. John and I always talked about sports and he related stories of my dad and refereeing experiences. My deepest condolences to Carol and family, whom John always spoke so proudly of. Much peace to all.*

Janie Bevevino Campbell

Janie Bevevino Campbell - February 20, 2024 at 01:06 PM