



John Malcolm Holmes

July 10, 1930 - July 20, 2024

John Malcolm Holmes, 94, of Bloomington, passed away peacefully on July 20, 2024, at Bloomington Hospital surrounded by his loving family. The world lost a great man, husband, brother, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, teacher, and coach that day. John lived 94 wonderful years and touched many lives with his honesty, compassion, wit, and integrity. He will be missed by all who knew him.

John was born July 10, 1930, at his family's farm in Greene County, Indiana. John was the son of James and Florida (Fine) Holmes. He was a 1948 graduate of Owensburg High School. After graduation, he worked on his farm and at the Oolitic limestone quarry before being drafted into the US Army where he served in the Korean War. After returning home John continued working at the quarry and farm while earning his bachelor's degree in education from Indiana University in 1958 and master's degree in 1965. John's teaching and basketball coaching career began in 1958 at Ellettsville High School. He went on to coach and teach at Cascade, Martinsville, Shawswick, and Avon, finishing his career as athletic director at Edgewood High School. In 1992, after 26 years of coaching and 34 years of teaching, John retired to enjoy his life farming, serving as president of Monroe County Farm Bureau Co. Op, and spending time with his grandchildren. In 2015 John was inducted into the Monroe County Sports Hall of Fame for his dedication and excellence as a high school basketball coach.

John is preceded in death by his parents, sister Wanetta Bough, and son Jefferson Holmes. John is survived by his devoted wife of 74 years, Joyce (Emery) Holmes; brother Jimmie O. Holmes of Springville; sons Jayson (Stephanie) Holmes of Evansville; Judson (Mary Anne) Holmes of Bloomington, grandchildren, Nathan (Danielle) Holmes, Hannah (John) Radzak, Jordyn (Kyle) Knudsen, Harrison Holmes, Hayden (Kayla) Holmes, and Houston Holmes; his four great-grandchildren; Piper, Henderson, Penelope, and Nolan.

John impacted countless lives as a role model. His legacy lives on in the values he instilled in the lives he touched. He left the world a better place.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 pm Thursday, July 25, 2024, at the Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 Bloomington, with Rev. Larry Mitchell officiating. Visitation will be held from 10:00 am to service time on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Ellettsville History Center.

Online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 25. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 25. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Mr Holmes was head coach my senior year 1965. He was a special person. Sincere Condolences to his family. I'm sorry I heard of his passing too late to attend his funeral. Jim Mitchell*

Jim Mitchell - July 27, 2024 at 11:54 AM

WH

“ *While I hadn't the pleasure of meeting John, I have great affection for his wife, Joyce, with whom I worked for many years at Bloomington High School North, and I send to her and their family my deepest condolences for their loss of husband and father. From all Joyce shared, he was a fine gentleman and may his memory be a lasting blessing. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. With sincere sympathy, Bill Hays*

William Hays - July 25, 2024 at 06:10 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Malcolm Holmes.*



July 24, 2024 at 04:29 PM

TF

“ *The Radzak Family purchased the Country Basket et Blooms for the family of John Malcolm Holmes.*



The Radzak Family - July 24, 2024 at 11:47 AM

BS

“ *bob strader sent a virtual gift in memory of John Holmes*



bob strader - July 23, 2024 at 03:04 PM

JV

“ *It is very sad to hear of John's passing. John and his wife, Joyce, are one-of-a-kind type people. Funny, caring, generous, and loving people. I enjoyed many lunches with both John and Joyce. What a loss for the family, but what a life well lived; a life full of service to others. Joyce and family, my thoughts are with you all. Love, Jennie Vaughan*

Jennie Vaughan - July 23, 2024 at 09:11 AM

NC

“ John was my uncle. He was just such a cordial and friendly person to be around. He was one of the best story tellers ever . . . especially relating tales of his childhood and the hardships and endless blessings he shared with his siblings (Wanetta and Jim). He also could retell stories of the antics that Judd and Jeff got into during their youth that would make a person "bust a gut" laughing.

One of my favorite memories was family Christmases at John's parents (Florida and Jim Holmes) residence. We drew names back then and maybe we spent \$5 - \$10 per gift (this was the late 1950's and 1960's). At around age 10 Uncle John had my name and I opened my gift to the most beautiful purse I have seen to this day!!! It was very unique in style and shape (circular with a leather drawstring closure at the top). Even to this day I have a hard time thinking of a gift that has excited me more. When I went up to Aunt Joyce to thank her for picking out the purse, she said "No, John had your name and he picked out your gift; you need only to thank him!". That made it all the more special. How could a man with all boys select such a cool gift for a little girl?

Way too many memories to share publicly, but he is an Uncle who will be very sorely missed and kept in heart and mind for the rest of my days. Love and prayers to Aunt Joyce, Jayson, Judson and all of the extended family.

Nancy Ann Clensy - July 22, 2024 at 04:41 PM

DW

“ Dalton and Libby Workman purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Malcolm Holmes.



Dalton and Libby Workman - July 22, 2024 at 10:46 AM

LH

“ Oh what a Great man. The best years of my life we're playing basketball for John Holmes. I will always cherish the memories of talking to him, listening to his stories, laughing alot and just enjoying his company. He was absolutely the Best man I ever knew. What a treasure. I will miss him and love him always. Farewell my good friend. Larry Hendricks

larry hendricks - July 22, 2024 at 09:56 AM

SR

“ Sorry to hear of John's passing. I taught with him at Avon High School. I coached basketball as well. He was a very friendly guy, fun to be around. I always thought a lot of Coach Holmes. Prayers to the family.



sharon rosenburgh - July 22, 2024 at 08:12 AM

GS

“ Whoever wrote John's obituary knew him well. John was a great man who did instill solid, good values in many people, John was a true educator, a man of influence and a family man.

My office was next to John's at Edgewood and I could hear the laughter from his office which meant John was telling a story. John had an incredible sense of humor.

He did leave this world a better place, I am influenced just having known him.

My deepest condolences to Joyce and the family.

George Smith
Mill Creek, Washington

George Smith - July 22, 2024 at 06:19 AM

AH

“ Aaron H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Malcolm Holmes.

Aaron H. - July 21, 2024 at 10:03 PM

SW

“ Mr. Holmes was a great teacher. He was my Drivers Ed teacher. He had me drive to Bloomington one day and I was scared to death. But we made it.
Rest in peace Mr. Holmes.

Susan Walker - July 21, 2024 at 06:41 PM

LI

“ Lindsay's lit a candle in memory of John Holmes



Lindsay's - July 21, 2024 at 06:24 PM

DW

Coach Holme was my H S coach my senior year. He took a dozen boys from 3 rival H S and easily won the Sectional. We went straight to Indianapolis and fought a top rated Muncie team to come up a little short in the last half of the 4th. A southern venue could potentially given us a chance to make regional. Coach Holmes was a great coach.

Dan Whaley - July 22, 2024 at 10:29 PM