



John Alexios

July 13, 1953 - February 10, 2023

John Frank Alexios was born in Bridgeport, CT, on July 13, 1953, to the late Alexander C. and Ruth A. Alexios. He passed away in Brewster, WA, on February 10, 2023, from illness lasting a period of two+ years. He was the fifth of six children, and is survived by numerous family members who reside mostly in Connecticut, Florida, and Colorado.

His earliest years were spent growing up in Fairfield, CT, where he gravitated towards nature preserves and forested state parks; one of his favorite places being a land-conservation area which encompassed woods and an old gravel quarry, bounded by small rivers that ran over a rock formation into small lakes, and eventually into nearby Long Island Sound (Atlantic Ocean). He resided in Connecticut, until 1973. Having visited the Pacific Northwest a year earlier, John knew in his heart that he belonged there and returned to make it his home for the last, incredible 50 years! There he took on, with great desire and necessity to become one with his new environment: snowshoeing, skiing, hiking, canoeing, biking, gardening, and developed an enduring relationship with nature.

He was a mountain man and a man of the trees. His strong passion for the peace and simplicity of just being in and with nature inspired his writings, articles, and several poems and essays; many of which were included in a self-published book (under the pen name of John Sundara), “Observations of a Mountain Man That Has Come to Town” – March 2022. He was so proud of this literary achievement, and enthusiastic about sharing personal insights

with appreciative others.

A philosophical, honorable, kind-hearted, gentle giant of a man who chose to avoid conflicts and confrontations by living quietly and remotely in his beloved Methow Valley. John was multi-talented, creative, and self-taught; reflected in his unique carpentry/woodworking, musical aptitude, and off-grid living/survival skills. He found a niche and vast enjoyment in weekly participation at the seasonal Farmers' Market in Twisp, WA, where he sold his carefully crafted wood furniture and other items. He had a natural affinity for and ease with the wildlife, and an innate ability to gain their trust. Much of his writing is based on these extraordinary happenings.

Over the last several years, prior to his illness, John encountered hard times...starting with devastation from a major catastrophic and then lesser wildfires, flashfloods, mudslides, and the resultant housing shortages. John's family extends heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the many people and facilities who assisted him through those difficult years, and during his critical last months. This includes most recently the doctors, nurses, rehabilitators, aides, and technicians at the Regency Wenatchee Rehabilitation and Medical Center and at the end the Three Rivers/Brewster Hospital, who provided attentive care, comfort, encouragement, and kindness during his stay at both facilities. And, the staff and volunteers at the Okanogan County Housing Authority, Methow At Home, The COVE, and for over an even longer period of time Room One – all of whom provided respectful assistance, compassion, kindnesses, and friendship.

There are not enough words to properly thank and fully recognize John's hugely supportive, loving, and very dear old and new friends. These are amazingly kind and exceptional people! To list them all by name separately... there's risk of leaving someone out. Three couples, in particular, have given John and his family outstanding assistance over the past five months and from thousands of miles distance. Please accept our deepest gratitude and know that you are in our hearts for being there -- before, during, at the end, and in continuance of need.

There is enormous comfort in knowing that John did, indeed, live the life he loved. He was a remarkable and memorable man and, all who knew and loved him will miss him greatly.

The family invites remembrances, personal stories, and tributes to John.

If you wish to make a contribution in John's memory we sincerely thank you and suggest the following organizations for consideration: Room One, P.O. Box 222, Twisp, WA 98856 <https://roomone.org/about>; The Cove ,P.O. Box 895, Twisp, WA 98856 <http://www.thecovecares.com>; Methow At Home, P.O. Box 352, Twisp, WA 98856 https://methowathome.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=0&club_id=404167; or simply extend a special kindness to a stranger, or plant a special tree in John's name to memorialize his powerful love for and connection to the trees!

Tribute Wall

CA

“ To John's immediate family, old and new friends. Thank you so much for sharing Johnny's hopes and dreams with the life he lived for 50 years. He enjoyed the life he chose even during difficult times. There are very few people who could endure this environment and find it livable. John was a very special person to overcome the good and the bad times during his life journey to the state of Washington. May he rest in peace.

Cousin Julie

Constance M. Alexios - August 20, 2023 at 08:04 PM

TE

“ Although I did not know John directly, his poetic words inspired me at a much needed time to fully embrace my purpose as caretaker of animals and steward of nature. He brings me the peace I need on this earth and that I wish for him in eternal afterlife.

Teresa - July 16, 2023 at 12:13 PM

CO

“ John's birthdate -- 7/13/53. Missing you greatly; but believing you are in a peaceful, beautiful place.

Connie - July 13, 2023 at 12:54 PM

CO

“ Thinking of him with much love....John would have turned 70 today. "There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in my heart.....(Mahatma Gandhi)"

Connie - July 13, 2023 at 12:41 PM

IS

“ I met John around 1980 while he was living a quiet life in a remote location on the Middle Fork of Gold Creek, caretaking a remote property in his camper.



Following his arrival in the Methow, John had wintered deep in the woods at Foggy Dew, trekking 9 miles over Gold Ridge to Carlton for propane. He later blended into the small Gold Creek community, growing lots of broccoli, storing it in a creative underground storage facility, and constructing a primitive plastic workshop that contained a wood stove and a hand-made treadle lathe. Thus developed John's hand-made wooden furniture business of Twisp Farmers' Market, which he operated for many years. He was particularly fond of the opportunity to utilize unwanted wood from the forest floor, thus avoiding as much destruction of trees as possible.

John was caretaker of always-remote properties on Gold Creek, Texas Creek, Benson Creek, and Twisp River, and in later years he was chased from one to the next by wildfire and its related after-effects.

Always sensitive to wildlife and their needs, John wrote in his booklet, *An Endeering Tale with Observations and Commentary*, a tender account of one small deer herd struggling through the harsh winter of 1996-97 near his cabin at Wenner Lakes. This included a vivid description of one desperate situation requiring John to perform a risky rescue of one individual in the herd from the ice and cold waters of the lake. One of John's main concerns for wildlife was the US Forest Service practice of prescribed burning during Spring, when many young offspring might be unable to flee the flames.

John had a quick wit, a sense of humor, and the ability to see the ironies of life and interactions between humans and nature. He often mourned our lack of sensitivity to the natural world and took

this to heart. John is still greatly missed.

Isabelle Spohn - July 04, 2023 at 06:55 PM

BW

“ 2 files added to the album John



Barbara Weaver - June 13, 2023 at 03:55 PM