



John B. Anderson

January 13, 1923 - June 7, 2017

John Burroughs Anderson was born on January 13, 1923, in Webster County, Iowa, to Paul and Mabel (Johnson) Anderson. He died peacefully in his sleep on June 7, 2017, at Edgewater Retirement Community in West Des Moines.

Graveside services will be Friday, June 16, at 12 p.m. at the Storm Lake Cemetery followed by a luncheon at the Storm Lake United Methodist Church. A celebration of life will be Saturday, June 17, at 10:30 a.m. at Edgewater Retirement Community, 9225 Cascade Ave., West Des Moines. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

John graduated second in his class from Gowrie Consolidated School in 1941. He attended Fort Dodge Junior College and graduated from Iowa State University in 1949 with a B.S. in agricultural journalism.

John married Shirley JoAnn Dankel in Lake View on August 24, 1952. They had three daughters, Elizabeth, Krista and Janet, and six grandchildren.

John spent his career operating community newspapers in Iowa and received the Master Editor-Publisher Award from the Iowa Newspaper Association in 1977. He started as a reporter/editor in Eagle Grove, then owned and operated newspapers in Britt (1952–66) and Storm Lake (1970–80). He also was a stockholder and board member in the Dyersville and Waukon

newspapers. In 1966, he served on the staff for Murray for Governor in Des Moines.

For many years, he served as president of the J.S. Anderson Farm Corp., Gowrie, overseeing the Century Farm in Clay Township, Webster County, where he was born and that was purchased by his grandfather in 1884.

He was dedicated to community activities in the towns where he operated newspapers. In Britt, he was the secretary of the Britt Chamber of Commerce for 12 years; president of Britt Lions Club; director-secretary of the Britt Scholarship and Loan Fund; president of the Hawkeye Press Club; helped organize the Britt Industrial Development Corp. and the Britt Community Chest; and served on the Board of the Britt United Methodist Church.

In Storm Lake, he was president of the Storm Lake Chamber of Commerce and served on the Storm Lake Economic Development Corp. board, Methodist Manor board; City Planning and Zoning Commission; the first Star Spangled Spectacular committee; as Storm Lake's representative on the Highway 20 Corridor Committee; and as SCORE officer and charter member. He served on the District Judicial Nominating Committee and as chairman of the Buena Vista County Human Services Board and the Salvation Army. He was active in Republican politics, serving as a delegate to many county, district and state conventions and was named an alternate delegate to the National Republican Convention in 1984.

He was a member of the Storm Lake First United Methodist Church, Sigma Delta Chi journalism fraternity, Kappa Sigma social fraternity, ISU Alumni Association and Order of the Knoll, Lake Creek Country Club, N.W. Iowa senior golfers, and the Lions and Elks clubs. He was a community education program Rockin' Reader and after-school counselor.

He received the 4-H Alumni Award, SCORE 20-year service award, and SCORE Gold Member Award.

He liked to golf, read, garden, fish, travel, and spend winters in Arizona.

In 2011, John and Jo moved to Edgewater Retirement Community in West Des

Moines, where John loved sharing nightly dinners in the Pub and playing bridge and pitch with his many good friends.

John is survived by daughters Elizabeth Anderson (Loren Kruse), Ankeny; Krista Packard (Guy), Holland, Mich.; and Janet Fry (Steve), Waukee; sister Margaret Paulos, Davenport; and grandchildren Chris Packard, St. Joseph, Mich.; John Kruse, Ankeny; Erin Fry, Waukee; Anne Packard, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Kate (Drew) Warnock, Lexington Park, Md.; and Kyra Fry, Dallas, Tex.; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, parents, one brother, and three sisters.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in John's name to the Anderson-Kruse Fund for Excellence in News-Editorial Writing (Greenlee Journalism School, Iowa State University) through the ISU Foundation; the Edgewater Good Samaritan Fund; or the Storm Lake United Methodist Church.

Cemetery Details

Storm Lake Cemetery

Storm Lake, IA 50588

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN **16**. 12:00 PM (CT)

Storm Lake Cemetery
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Tribute Wall

PK

“ Mr Anderson hired me to be the summer intern for Mrs Yankey when she took the summer off. I had no newspaper experience but I learned so much those 2 summers I worked for him. Good memories. My sympathy to the family

Pat Kirby - July 26, 2017 at 08:38 PM

GB

“ I was saddened to learn the news of Mr. Anderson's passing ... as a young sports writer growing up in Alta, I had the good fortune being hired by Mr. Anderson to work in the sports department at the Storm Lake newspaper offices ... to some, it may have been just a summer job, but to me, it was the opportunity of a lifetime, another step on my career in sports journalism ... and because of his willingness to give me that chance, he has always had a special place in my heart ... my heart goes out Jan, Kris and Liz, and their families during this time of loss ... your Dad was a good man!

Grant Burger

Grant Burger - June 22, 2017 at 08:46 PM

LA

Thank you, Grant.

Liz Anderson - July 10, 2017 at 02:15 PM



“ Love's Embrace Roses – Purple was purchased for the family of John B. Anderson.



June 16, 2017 at 08:49 AM

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Funeral Home - June 15, 2017 at 11:06 AM

TW

“ In the Storm Lake of my youth, we connected as a community in many "low tech" ways, not the least of which were the weekly Register and Pilot-Tribune. Thanks to John, we had a pretty darn good local newspaper. He understood the community and those who lived there and hired good people to tell our stories. It was an honor to be a small part of his enterprise during my senior year of high school when I wrote for the Hi-Breeze page. From an influential but mostly behind the scenes position, John Anderson helped make Storm Lake a good place to grow up.

Tim Wilson - June 09, 2017 at 04:04 PM

LA

Thank you, Tim.

Liz Anderson - July 10, 2017 at 02:15 PM