



John Griggs

September 20, 1958 - May 13, 2026

John Griggs, age 67, of Marathon, Iowa died Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at his home in Marathon.

A Memorial Gathering will take place Sunday, June 7, 2026 from 3-6:00 p.m. at the Marathon Park in Marathon, Iowa. The family is handling the services.

It is with great sorrow the family of Daniel John Griggs is mourning his sudden and unexpected death on May 13, 2026.

John was born on September 20th 1958 to Gerald and Barbara Griggs. He will be forever missed by his loving wife of 43 years, Teresa, and their children Aaron (Kaila) Griggs and Nichole (Devon) Harrison, his grandchildren Anthony, Samuel, Kara and Mari Jones, and brothers David Griggs, and Michael (Cathy) Griggs, sister in law Karen Wenzlaf, and niece Jessica Griggs.

John graduated from Storm Lake High School, then attended Buena Vista College for two years before transferring to the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee with a Bachelors of Science in Social Work. He had a long career in Wisconsin and later in Iowa as highly regarded and well-remembered social worker specializing in at-risk youth.

He spent much of his retirement traveling and vacationing with his wife, Teresa, camping across Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, and even Mexico and Canada, taking in not one but two eclipses while they traveled and built memories for a lifetime.

Scheduling for the final celebration of life are still currently pending as the family grieves and makes arrangements.

Upcoming Events

Come and Go Event

JUN 7. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Marathon Park
2030 450th St.
Marathon , IA 50565

Tribute Wall



“ 5 files added to the album John Griggs <3



Nichole Harrison - May 27 at 03:09 PM

NH

“ *This is my incredible father.*

His hobbies were fishing, reading, writing, learning and "putzing" in his yard or garage. He spent his retirement years building a small park on one of his properties, guided by the stars. In his youth, he hitchhiked around the country, meeting the world with kindness and curiosity everywhere he went.

He was fearless, brave and strong.

He touched countless lives as a social worker of over twenty years. He specialized in adolescent boys--troubled youth that many would've (or had) given up on. There were so many details of his job that he couldn't share, but he carried the victories (and losses) of his clients with him to the end. He taught them to fish, spent his own hard-earned money to make sure they had shoes and coats and even Christmas presents.

He was so much more than a social worker, he was a mentor, a friend, a confidant and a father figure. He saw the good in everyone and was an expert at helping someone become their best self.

He was gregarious, intelligent, kind, creative and a million other things.

He was the best father, the best dad. He was so devoted to his family.

He taught me how to love, how to be a friend, how to stop seeing the world in black and white. He was a shining example of altruism. He was my best friend.

He made the absolute best out of the gift of life; he made the world a better place. He touched countless lives.

He will be forever loved, forever missed and forever celebrated.

Nichole Harrison - May 27 at 03:02 PM



“ *Teresa, you may have never heard of me, but I was John's roommate in college when we were going to WIT in Sioux City. We were HS classmates who spent a little bit of time together jamming to jazz. We just recently reconnected when he contacted me through FB. It was very good hearing from him, and a little about his life working with people. I was very much looking forward to seeing him this next year at our 50 year high school reunion. My deepest condolences go out to you and your family.*

Thom (Vince) Thomsen

Thom Thomsen - May 18 at 04:10 PM

TG

John spoke of you often and fondly

Teresa Griggs - May 20 at 03:23 PM

JC

“ *So sorry Teresa and family. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time and in the days ahead.*

Jessica Casey - May 16 at 09:52 PM

TG

Thank you so much, that means a lot

Teresa Griggs - May 20 at 03:25 PM

TS

“ *Teresa and family so sorry for your loss. Sure you are devastated. My heart and prayers are there with you*

tammy mcgowan stephens - May 15 at 01:25 PM



Thank you so very kindly. Old friends are the dearest

Teresa Griggs - May 20 at 03:24 PM