



John F Callahan

December 25, 1945 - February 24, 2023

John F Callahan, 77, passed away on February 24, 2023 in Pueblo West, Colorado. Born in Texas, John was raised in Marble Falls, TX and later in La Junta, Colorado. He is survived by Carol (formerly Carol Roberts of La Junta, Colorado), his wife of 51 years; sister Kathryn (Bruce) Bown; his life-long friend David (Jan) Freeman; and numerous nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his adoptive parents Elizabeth and Mack Callahan; and brother, William "Bill" Callahan.

John graduated from La Junta High School in 1965. Proud to be an American, John served his country in the United States Navy as a gunner on the USS Shangri-La Essex-class aircraft carrier, and on river patrol boats in Vietnam. After returning from military service, he obtained a BS in Law Enforcement from Metropolitan State College in 1976 and joined the Aurora Police Department. While working with the police, John was a member of a joint task force with the US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was a special deputy with the US Marshals Service. He retired as Agent Detective from the Aurora Police department after 27 years. In retirement, John volunteered as a courier for the Pueblo Sheriff's Office for 17 years. John enjoyed shooting sports and was an accomplished gunsmith. He excelled as a gun instructor and taught concealed carry classes. He was also an avid hunter throughout his life.

John loved dogs. Together with Carol, they fostered 87 dogs, and adopted many senior dogs who would not have had a home without their love and

care.

Admired for his sense of duty, and respected as a good man and loyal friend, John was always willing to lend a hand to any job that needed done. He will be greatly missed by his family and community.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

A celebration in memory of John Callahan will be held Saturday, May 6 at 2:00 at the VFW Hall, 127 E. Spaulding Avenue, Pueblo West. Come share a few words and raise a glass to John, view a slide show and enjoy a good meal.

Please RSVP to j.c.callahan@q.com.

Prior to the celebration, a 3 shot volley by seven of his oldest and closest friends will take place at 12:30 at the 12th berm at Pueblo West Sportsman's Association, 630 Loma Drive, Pueblo West North. If you plan to attend, please bring your own ear plugs. The gun volley will be cancelled if raining or snowing.

Previous Events

Celebration

MAY 6. 2:00 PM (MT)

Pueblo West Sportsman's Association
630 Loma Dr.
Pueblo West North, CO 81007

Tribute Wall

JH

“ John Callahan was known as JC to many of us. He was my mentor as a fledgling detective. He took great notes, wrote great affidavits and he was a huge part of prosecuting the worst of the worst criminals in the Career Offender Program. John was an adopted uncle to my young son and daughter, and a true animal lover. John was a devoted husband to Carol. He stood tall, shot straight, and loved his nation. We have lost a good friend and a good man.

Jerry Hinkle - March 03, 2023 at 10:43 AM

JF

John was a great guy and great police officer. My pleasure to have served with him. God bless

Jim Farrell - March 03, 2023 at 10:24 PM

KP

“ My wife and I are so sorry for your loss. I was a young Sergeant on APD when I was assigned to Crimes Against Persons or later known as Robbery Homicide. John had been a Detective there for some time when I arrived. John never hesitated he helped me on several occasions even though Nobody like training there Boss. Not, John he jumped right in, It is my pleasure to say we worked together!
I am so sorry! Ken and Maggie Peterson

Ken Peterson - March 03, 2023 at 10:33 AM

LM

“ John always struck me as a very honorable and respectable man. We are less now with his passing. RIP John.

Larry McVay - March 01, 2023 at 11:47 PM

BL

“ *Bob Lerch lit a candle in memory of John F Callahan*



Bob Lerch - March 01, 2023 at 11:12 PM

JY

“ *John was a professional detective in my unit, working Robberies. An honorable Veteran of war and as a Veteran cop! He served with great distinction and will be sadly missed!*

Joe Young - March 01, 2023 at 09:20 PM

BW

“ *I worked with John at the Aurora Police Department. John was the lead robbery detective in the unit. He did an excellent job and was highly respected. Even though John was an excellent detective, what I remember most about him is that he was a good person. He was easy to work with and fun to be around. I was saddened to hear of his passing.*

Bill Wehmer - March 01, 2023 at 04:27 PM

JF

John was a great cop and an equally great person. God bless him and his

Jim Farrell - March 05, 2023 at 12:30 AM

DF

“ John and I were friends almost from the minute he arrived in Colorado. We were nearly inseparable from junior high through high school. The school did try to separate us in 7th grade, but it didn't work. After graduation our life paths diverged but we were always in contact and rejoined as soon as we had settled in with our careers. John was there for virtually every part of my life and shared in everything that happened as I went through it. He and I celebrated good times and consoled each other in bad times. John faced life head on and dealt with what came without complaint. This remained true right to the end. He lived his life on his terms but had concern for others and always stood by his friends and family. John was part of my family and an uncle to my daughters. I could not of had a better friend and his loss leaves a void in my life that cannot be filled.

Dave Freeman

David Freeman - March 01, 2023 at 03:46 PM

ML

“ A TRULY NICE Man!!! Always willing to help others. He will be missed by many

Sincerely, Michael (Bean) Liley

Michael Liley - March 01, 2023 at 01:52 PM

TM

“ Tim McCafferty lit a candle in memory of John F Callahan



Tim McCafferty - March 01, 2023 at 12:03 PM

TM

“ I only had the priveledge of physically sharing life with John for two years. Since 2009, we've maintained a relationship over the phone. I respected John for his candor, knowledge, humor and wisdom. He was an inspiration and a true friend. I will carry his memory forever. RIP Brother!

Tim McCafferty

Tim McCafferty - March 01, 2023 at 11:56 AM

MG

“ John and I worked together at the Aurora Police Department as partners for several years. He was a great partner, great Police Officer and an even greater friend. He will be missed and irreplaceable. May He Rest In Peace

Mark A. Golden - February 28, 2023 at 10:39 PM

LC

John was a true friend! Always willing to help me in any way he could. John, you will be sorely missed!

Larry Cummins - March 01, 2023 at 04:12 PM

JM

John was a friend and fellow dog rescue volunteer. He had such a big heart for all those four-legged creatures, and he was a joy to be around. My husband Tom and I are so saddened by his death.

Jen Munch - March 01, 2023 at 06:21 PM

MK

I was John's supervisor on APD for a short time. A genuinely nice guy

Michael Katz - March 01, 2023 at 06:59 PM

TM

Welcome home, brother, you've earned your rest!

Tom Maron, vietnam '68-'69,

Tom Maron - March 02, 2023 at 09:09 AM

LT

Knowing and working with John, on occasion, was a memorable experience. He is an exemplary individual who was very professional, courteous, and respectful, in every sense, to everyone who came in contact with him. We definitely need more people like him in our lives, and in this world. I feel very privileged to have known him and learned from him. He will live forever in our memories, but will be missed in our hearts. My thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family. Lex Tirone

Lex Tirone - March 08, 2023 at 12:27 PM

SL

I have known John since 2010 where we shared our volunteer job on the Pueblo county Sheriff courier team and he and I belonged to the Pueblo West Sportsmans Association gun club. John as I am a victim of agent Orange contracted in the Vietnam war. John was Navy and patrolled the river there and I was in the Army on land. I have Prostate cancer from that miserable war and bad memories. One day I plan to be with John. I miss John so much. He is not the first victim I knew. John was a very special and caring person. He as I love America so much, He is a Patriot and a solid one. I will miss him so much.

*RIP John
Steve Levine
USA, Retired*

Steve Levine - March 08, 2023 at 05:11 PM