



Albert "Al" John

April 3, 1944 - March 13, 2009

Albert "Al" John, 64, Bismarck, died of pancreatic cancer on March 13, 2009, at his home with his family by his side. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday at 10:30 AM at Faith Lutheran Church in Bismarck with Rev. Wes Aardahl and Rev. Chris Alexander officiating. Lunch will follow the funeral service. Burial will be at the ND Veteran's Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Monday from 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM at Eastgate Funeral Service in Bismarck where a prayer service will be held at 7:00 PM. Visitation will continue on Tuesday one hour prior to the service at the church. Al was born on April 3, 1944, in Mandan, ND, to Helmut and Alice Dress John. He grew up and attended school in New Salem. Following high school, he joined the U.S. Army and served in Panama from 1962 to 1965. Upon his return, he met and married Rita Hertz. Al worked at various jobs before starting his thirty-year career with the U.S. Postal Service. He retired as postmaster in Mott, ND, in 2001. While working and living in Mott, he also served as mayor for ten years. Upon retirement, Al and Rita moved to Bismarck. Then, Al decided he didn't like retirement and started working at Medcenter One until his cancer did not allow him to work anymore. Al enjoyed collecting items such as matchbox and model cars, coins, stamps, and various other items. He enjoyed people, traveling, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his beloved wife of forty-two years, Rita of Bismarck; one son, Kevin of Bismarck; two daughters, Rhonda and Nicole of Bismarck; one brother, Bill Alice Rieckman of Washington; one sister, Betty Tweed of Grand Forks; three

grandchildren, Brandon, Josh, and Justine of Bismarck; two great-grandchildren, Logan and Brayden of Bismarck; and his nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Helmut and Alice; three sisters, Elsie, Barb, and Ruth; four nephews, Dalton Wald, Jerry and Scotty Noeller, and Billy Prey; one great-nephew, Michael Trupp; and one great-niece, Melissa Graves.

Tribute Wall

JU

“ Papa I miss you more and more everyday and it's been 4 years. You were my bestfriend, we did everything together. You taught me more than anyone has ever and I'll never forget what you've done for me. Forever you will be in my heart.

Justine - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ I couldn't have asked for a better neighbor than Al John. I would see Al in the driveway after his diagnosis and at times I could tell he was not feeling well. Al still always had time for a warm hello, smile, and time to gab about anything and everything. Al spent his life making sure that his family had everything they needed. I knew his heart was in the small town when he moved to Imperial Valley, but he moved here because his family needed to be in the area. I think that is why my family was lucky enough to have the John family living next to us. Imperial Valley sort of has the feel of a small town. Another testament to Al's kindness was Al accepting a greeter position at the hospital even after his retirement. He told me while we were talking in driveway that he never had a more satisfying job. I looked at the forecast this morning and noticed sunshine is predicted for the next ten days. I would like to think that this is Al's continuing way of watching over his family. We will miss you Al.Glen

Glen Ternes - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Our sympathy to all the the family. I worked with Al at Medcenter and he was a great guy.We know he will be missed but remember that he is such a wonderful place and we only hope to get there.Remember you are in our thoughts and prayers.Carter and Renee Jangula

Carter and Renee Jangula - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ I worked beside Al on my very first day of work at the Bismarck post office in 1980 and he made me feel welcomed. Over the years in the post office, we worked together many times and I made sure we were there to help celebrate his retirement on his last day of work at the post office in Mott. He was very knowledgable, but more importantly, he truly cared about his employees and customers. He will be missed!

Rita Heck Plegge - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ I "met Al "the Door Man' as I called him while he was working at MedCenter. Our friendship grew each time I stopped by. Al was always so kind and through each visit we would find out more about each other. He always shared his family and he always asked about mine. One very cold day when Al was holding the door open for me, he made a comment about how cold it was. I suggested he dress warmer, and that maybe a scarf around his neck would help. I told him I would knit him one. That weekend I knitted Al a warm scarf and he wore that scarf every day, even when he didn't need to just in case I stopped by. What a kind man, thinking about other's feelings. Another day he saw me across the street carrying a load of boxes. Al left his post, walked across the street, insisted on taking the boxes from me and proceeded to carrying them into the clinic and up to the 6th floor! I started thinking about Al's kindness he shared and decided to spread it around. I now try to do a little "Al" kindness each day to make others feel special too. Al will forever be in my heart. Whenever I made it passed him going into the clinic without saying hello and giving him a hug, because he was so busying helping someone else, on my exit he'd say to me "how did you sneak in here?". I can just hear him say when I meet him in Heaven " Nancy, how did you sneak in here!". The world would be such a better place if we saw it through Al's eyes, kinder and gentler. I will be forever blessed for having Al "the door man" as my friend. To Rita and all his family, you have my deepest sympathy, I will continue to keep you all in my thoughts and prayers.

Nancy Woodmansee - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ I remember the day Al started working at Medcenter. He was such a perky little guy and so willing to help whoever needed his assistance. He always went out of his way to make someone's day a little brighter. And he always reminded us at the front desk to have a smile on our faces. After he got sick, he would still stop and joke around with us. And he would still walk with that little bounce in his step. We missed him when he quit working here and we'll miss him now. God bless!

Margo Bennett - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Rita, Kevin, Rhonda, and Nicole, So sorry to here about the passing of Al. Just wanted to let you no my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this diffucult time. Take Care. Lisa Barr Magstadt

Lisa Barr Magstadt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ Dear Rita and family, My deepest sympathy to all of you! I am at the hospitals at least once a week, sometimes more then that. I can't begin to tell you how much I always looked forward to seeing Al. Al would always greet me with a friendly smile and always called me by name. He was such a bright spirit and I will never forget our nice visits we had. May God's love heal your sorrow, and may His peace replace your heartache with warm and loving memories.

Father Patrick Schumacher/St. Joseph Catholic Church Mandan - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM