



John Brian Green

May 13, 1951 - July 18, 2020

John Brian Green, 69, died early Saturday morning July 18, 2020 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

He was born on May 13, 1951 in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania to John Richard Green and Constance (Merriam) Green.

He grew up mainly in Independence, Missouri and graduated from Truman High School in 1969. He received a BA in Chemistry from the University of Kansas in 1973 and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Missouri in 1977.

Following graduation, John moved to Bartlesville and began a 39-year career in the petroleum industry. From 1977 to 1998 he was a chemist at Bartlesville Energy Technology Center, and its successors the National Institute for Petroleum and Energy Research (NIPER) and BDM/TRW Petroleum Technologies where he was involved in many projects and co-authored numerous publications. Beginning in 1998 he was employed with Phillips Petroleum, Conoco Phillips and Phillips 66 and retired as a Principal Scientist from Phillips 66 in 2016. Along the way he gained a reputation as an excellent chemist and problem troubleshooter.

He met his wife Judy (Godwin) while at the University of Missouri and they married in 1980 and raised their three children in Bartlesville.

John loved the outdoors and his many interests reflected that. Fishing and hunting were favorite activities and he especially enjoyed sharing them with his son Pat. He enjoyed hunting in both Oklahoma and Kansas, often with long-time friends who will miss him very much. Spending a cold morning sitting in a deer stand or a duck blind was not just hunting to him, but a time to contemplate the beauty of nature. Springtime to John meant white bass and crappie fishing and the annual family trips to Colorado for trout fishing which continued a family tradition that started when his dad was a boy. He was an avid gardener and enjoyed sharing his produce with family and friends. His 2020 garden was his best one ever. John could not be idle and was always working on a project, most notably his multi-year home remodel. He particularly liked working on projects involving his daughters Laura and Kristin.

During the last 15 months of his life as he underwent treatment for stage 4 cancer, John did not change a thing about his life because he was already doing exactly what he loved:

spending quality time with his family and friends and engaging in his favorite activities. John is survived by his wife Judy; children Laura Green (Kansas City, MO), Kristin Green (Moscow, ID) and John Patrick Green (Bartlesville, OK); uncle Mike Roberts; sister-in-law Linda Godwin and nieces Whitney Pasquini and Lauren Nagel; several cousins; many friends; and his two hunting dogs Truman and Dewey.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Constance Ann Green, and stepmother Kathy Green.

For anyone wishing to make donations in his name, suggested charities are American Cancer Society, Ducks Unlimited, and Red Cross.

A memorial service is postponed until a later date.

Comments



“ I just found out about John's passing on but knew for some time about his cancer. I am a former colleague from the B'ville research center and knew and appreciated John not just as a colleague but also as a friend and always someone to go to and ask for advice. Since I left the US, I tried to stay in touch with many of my former friends and colleagues 'from work' and I count John among them. I will always keep him in mind and remember him.

Dr. Roland Schmidt, Germany

Roland Schmidt - August 05 at 11:11 AM



“ John brought a special sense of humor to every thing he did. He always seemed to be genuinely happy all the time. You could walk into this lab and always count on a pleasant word and a smile. If you need help, he was always there. I can not think of a more pleasant, enjoyable, affable person. The world needs more people like him, but he was a one of a kind,

Dan O'Donnell - July 30 at 09:04 PM



“ John was the life of many hunting trips, whether chasing ducks or hunting quail. He lived to hunt and worked hard scouting prior to any trip. Go early and stay late seemed to be his motto whether at work or play. I always knew that when John invited the hunt would truly be an adventure. Pan fried quail and smoked duck would certainly be on the menu. On an overcast afternoon in Kansas, Pat, John, and I were having a slow day chasing ducks when we noticed a flock of mallards drop out of the clouds and land on the river. As we quickly headed towards them, flock after flock dropped in to join them. I excitedly asked John where they were all coming from. He looked over his shoulder and said 'The Duck Gods are smiling on us today my friend!' Hunting season will not be the same without him.

Mitch Meyer - July 28 at 04:27 PM



“ It was so much fun working with John at NIPER (and later BDM). He was always very encouraging and helpful. I will miss his smiling face.
My sincerest condolences Judy - it is very hard (even 20 years later).
Thinking of you,
Suzie Gassett

Suzie Gassett - July 28 at 03:53 PM



“ John Green, the Sage of Analytical Sciences, will be sorely missed. His humor was bar none and his common sense was uncommon among his peers. He gave his best to everyone. It was a privilege and honor to work with him during his last years at Phillips 66 and to see him one last time before his untimely passing. He leaves a legacy that will never be surpassed.



Dallas Lewis - July 28 at 09:10 AM



“ John was a beloved character at work. His knowledge and skill troubleshooting any hydrocarbon problem was amazing and displayed world class skill. But to me he was even more gifted with being humorous, including everyone, and just being a down to earth great and lovable guy. He was like a fun friend for some, the funny uncle to others, or a fun and funny grandpa to the younger crowd.

I still smile when I think about Merl, a company VP at the time, seeing John's hand go up during a town hall meeting and Merl laughing and saying, "Uh oh... Ok, John.. hit me with it.. what did I say wrong? *laughing* He always gets me on these... " And John giving him a funny one liner about some part of his presentation, making Merl and the entire room erupt with laughter.

John's skills are certainly missed. But getting to be around John to enjoy his joyous and wonderful character will be missed even more by his company friends.

Rest in peace John.

Scott McGee - July 27 at 12:36 PM



“ John was a very talented chemist. He was always willing to apply his wisdom and experience in helping solve problems and challenge that which was “accepted knowledge” and always did so with a dose of humor. He could often see in the data (or anything else) what others couldn't.

Larry Reed - July 26 at 08:53 AM