



## John Steven Fehrman

September 11, 1952 - September 18, 2018

Long time Plumas County resident John Steven Fehrman passed unexpectedly in the early morning hours of Sept. 18, 2018 at Plumas District Hospital in Quincy, CA.

John was born Sept. 11, 1952 in Talmage, CA to Edmund and Edith (Adkins) Fehrman. He was raised in the Santa Rosa, CA area where he attended elementary school and was a graduate of St. Rose Catholic High School in 1970. He was a member of the Boy Scouts of America as a young boy and played Little League, which he loved.

John's father Ed was a long-time pilot and shared his love of the sky with his young son early in his life, actually taking him for his first flight when John was only three months old. John and his dad logged hundreds of hours each year at the airports in Santa Rosa. His dad taught him how to fly when John was quite young and he had his pilot's license by the age of 15, even before he had his driver's license.

After graduating high school (a feat accomplished with the help of the staff of Nuns that tried valiantly to keep the young Mr. Fehrman in line), he went on to attend Santa Clara City College on a full-ride baseball scholarship, as he was a heck of a catcher! After his baseball coach was approached by some of his professors who had the audacity to complain that John could not just play ball, he actually needed to attend classes, John decided to enlist in the U.S. Army.

John entered the Army in January 1971 as the Viet Nam War was actually winding down a bit. When they realized this 19-year-old kid had a pilot's license, he was immediately assigned to the Army Air Corp to be trained to fly Huey's. John flew helicopters through three tours of duty and received his Honorable Discharge in January 1975.

He returned to California after his discharge and became engaged to a pretty young lady, Kathy Johnson of Santa Rosa, whom he'd been communicating with through letters during his tour of duty. They married on Oct. 3, 1976.

John decided to pursue becoming a funeral director. He often joked that it wasn't because he felt it was his calling; it was because he figured he could accomplish getting the most education and a career in the least amount of time, as he still wasn't crazy about being a student!

So off to the San Francisco College of Mortuary Science he went, with Kathy's loving support, while he worked as an apprentice for \$250 per month. When he graduated they

relocated to Salinas so he could complete his apprenticeship.

The young couple soon discovered they were expecting their first child, so they began their quest to find a funeral business that they could afford with their limited funds. They were told about the availability of three small funeral homes in Greenville, Chester, and Westwood. John and Kathy flew to Chester and toured the three sites, and although Kathy was reluctant to make such a radical lifestyle change, she eventually agreed that it was their best option. Escrow papers were actually signed on the very day that Kathy gave birth to their son, Steven, in March 1978.

After relocating to Greenville, John and Kathy worked diligently to make a success of their business, both working long hours, sometime around the clock. They were blessed with two more children, daughters Nicole and Ashley. The family moved to Quincy in 1989 after purchasing Anderson's Funeral Home. They raised their kids and grew their business with hard work, dedication and many sacrifices of personal and family time. Their business is very demanding — open 24/7, 365 days per year — which John continued to do until the day he passed, as had Kathy who passed in March 2013.

John was a long-time member of Rotary, joining the Westwood -Lake Almanor Club when he was 24. He recently became a member of the Quincy Club. He was a volunteer for the Greenville Fire Department and their ambulance driver before the days of EMT's. He served on the Indian Valley Hospital Board and was a staunch supporter of VICA (Vocational Industrial Club of America). He and Kathy gave financial support to students graduating from QHS towards their trade school endeavors. He was also an avid supporter at the annual Junior Livestock Auctions every year during the fair. For many years John and his son Steve enjoyed a shared passion for racing, beginning with 4-wheelers and on to 410 sprint cars.

John was a dedicated supported of Sierra Hospice and hospice care in general, serving as their president for nine years. On June 6, 2014, John married a longtime friend he met through Sierra Hospice, Karron White of Chester, and she joined him in his Quincy home where she supported him in life and his business efforts.

His first wife Kathy, his parents and his sister, Julie Fehrman, predeceased him. He is survived by his loving wife Karron Fehrmann of Quincy, son, Steven (wife, Jennifer) Fehrmann of Grass Valley, daughter, Nicole (husband, Jed) Taborski, and daughter, Ashley Fehrmann all of Santa Rosa.

The three bright lights of his life, his grandsons, Carter and Jackson Taborski and Colin Fehrmann and numerous nieces and nephews, also survive him.

Surviving siblings, Paul (wife, Lynn) Fehrman of Santa Rosa, sisters Marcene Fehrman of Arizona and Micheala (husband, Tim) of North Dakota and brother Eddie Fehrman of Colorado.

(Okay, we should explain the difference in the spelling of the last name. Seems John's grandfather dropped the second 'n' after moving to the U.S. from Germany. John's dad,

John and his siblings went with the shorter version and it wasn't until a few generations later the second 'n' was added back to Fehrmann).

A Rosary will be held Friday, Oct. 5, 2018 at 7 p.m. at St. John's Catholic Church in Quincy. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held the next day, Saturday, Oct. 6 at 11 a.m., at St. Johns.

Following Mass, a Celebration of Life will take place at 1 p. m. at the Plumas County Fairgrounds in Quincy, and folks are encouraged to attend that more informal event, although they are welcome at the Mass.

Thank you is simply not enough to say to the many people that have supported this family through these very sad days since his passing. Our hearts are full with the love and kindness folks in Plumas and Lassen County are blessing us with.

An opportunity to express your condolences to the family along with signing the memorial guest register is available online at [www.fehrmanmortuary.com](http://www.fehrmanmortuary.com).

# Comments

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“ Dear dear family of the wonderful John Fehrman, My husband, Andrew Hooper, and I moved to Greenville back in the fall of 1990. John was kind enough to rent us his house on 350 Cedar right near the Indian Valley Hospital where Hoop was working. John would sometimes pop over to fix something or help us with wood for the winter and he and I shared many a great and often funny story. He had a wonderful sense of humor, a great teller of tales, he had a wry view of life and of the world. But he was such a man of heart. He would climb many a boundary and over many a hurdle to help someone in their time of need. He was known to go to extreme lengths to help grieving families get their loved ones home or to accommodate a grieving mother in the loss of a child. I remember when he flew on his own time and dime to obtain a small casket over in Chico for a family who had lost a small child. He just got it done. Whatever was needed, he got it done. I was so sad to hear of his early death. What a huge loss for the community and what a huge loss to his family. I am so very sorry for your loss. Plumas has lost a hero.

Joan C Edwards - October 24, 2018 at 09:23 PM

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“ Dear Karron, Steven, Nicki, and Ashley: Frank & I go back years when we use to go have pizza nights with John Kathy and you 3 kids. Fun times. Great laughter and and hard work from all of us made our Pizza times rewarding. John was always on the roads from Quincy to Westwood and since we live on Hwy 89 he would drive by us often. I would always call and leave messages when I was home baking and sure enough he would stop for coffee and cookies or pie. Sometimes some of it would even get Home to share with the family. Ha Ha. He was a real cookie monster. Great since of humor and caring person. The people he served over the years were blessed to have him. Over the years we drifted apart but never in our love for each other. God Bless you all and Live to your fullest. He would. Love Sally & Frank Williams, Crescent Mills, CA

Sally Williams - October 19, 2018 at 06:28 PM

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“ Dear Mrs. Fehrman and Family, I have been riding my bike out at the airport for years and would see your Mr. Fehrman walking with his dogs. He always seemed deep in thought but would always give a wave and a smile. He seemed like a gentle soul and humble man. I'm sorry for your loss and will miss his presence out at the airport. Blessings to you and your family during this time of loss and transition.

Virginia - October 09, 2018 at 03:00 PM

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“ Karron our hearts go out to you and your family. I always appreciated John’s kindness and compassion. You were both there for our family in times of loss many times over the years. You are in our thoughts. Love, John and Virginia (Bollinger) Lundquist



Virginia Lundquist (Bollinger) - October 06, 2018 at 07:39 PM

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“ Karron and family, My heart goes out to you. I can't tell you how much it meant to me when you and John came to my home during my lose, and since. I have a since of how you feel. I am so sorry, may God bless you. Ann Simon



Ann Simon - October 06, 2018 at 01:51 PM

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“ Karron and Family, John has helped Me through some of the roughest times of My life, I'm forever grateful for His compassion, when I needed it the most. Our thoughts,love and prayers go out to all of You in this tragic loss of such a fine man. May God bless You in the days to come with peace and comfort. Love, Si and Marlene Bollinger



Marlene Bollinger - October 06, 2018 at 01:20 AM

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“ Karron, I just learned of John's passing today! My heart is so broken for you. You will be in our prayers. I'm so very sorry!

**Stacy Russell** - October 05, 2018 at 01:51 PM

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“ Karron, Greg and I were sadden to hear of the passing of John. We only met him a few times. Put he was always so gracious and kind and so obviously in love with you. My heart and prayers go out to you and your family and of course John's children and family. We are praying that the good Lord will bring you peace that passes understanding.

Linda and Greg Bosworth and family

**Linda Bosworth** - October 03, 2018 at 05:48 PM

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“ I worked with John for several years as the Vital Statistics Registrar. He was so knowledgeable and professional in his career and always willing to share. He was also there when my parents passed and made arrangements and helped with decisions to ease my pain. John had a sense of humor that was well hidden BUT so funny. Love & hugs to Karron, Steven, Ashley & Nichole. Rest In Peace John.

**Ruth Steward** - October 01, 2018 at 10:10 PM

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“ John has helped so many families through the hard times when they have lost a love one The first person we thought of calling was John. He was a friend and a big part of this community. He will be truly missed. Thank you John from our family. Debbie Taddei

**Debbie Taddei** - October 01, 2018 at 05:18 PM

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“ Dear Karron, Rod and I were so saddened to hear of John's passing. We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. John was a part of our family for many years....just been remembering his great smile and twinkling eyes. He was a good man ,and friend!

**Sandra Murray Silva** - September 29, 2018 at 01:27 PM

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“ I have known John for more than 30 years as I was a hospice volunteer. Karen and I worked and lived close when she was in Chester. I was shocked tonight to hear of Johns passing. My prayers for Karen and the family.

I remember many services that John would stand in the background but we all knew he was the center of the events. I also remember my first hospice patient, an older woman who was dying of cancer and in Seneca for her last days. When she passed no one there could reach her son to move the body. I called John pretending to be a relative and asked him to come. We laughed about that for many years.

We (Bill and I) will be in Isreal at the time of Johns service but will be praying for you all.

In Christ, Barb Howe



**Barbara Howe** - September 28, 2018 at 11:32 PM

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“ I am complete state of shock right now, as I try to accept and understand the passing of my very good friend John Fehrman. For all of the family and other friends, peace be with you, as we all figure out how to survive this tragic incident . John, thanks for your complete trust and wonderful friendship for countless years. My hat has always been off to you for your dedication to the people you served for so many years. Rest in peace. your friend Bruce Robinson Lafayette Colorado

**Bruce Robinson** - September 28, 2018 at 12:32 AM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of John's loved ones. John was a very special person and had been a blessing to our family during several difficult times in our lives. He has been a great customer of our business for many years at Les Schwab/Horton Tire Center here in Quincy, and we will miss seeing him.

May God be a comfort and strength to you all.

Ron & Stephanie Horton

**Stephanie Horton** - September 27, 2018 at 11:43 AM

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“ Worked with John for a couple years, And Flying down to Grass Valley to Set his son Shop up. Hella good Guy to work for. My sincerest condolences to his family and all of his closest friends. GOD BLESS JOHN FEHRMAN, R.I.P. My Friend.

**James Koehn Sr.** - September 26, 2018 at 10:56 PM

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“ The consummate gentleman; always professional.  
A distinguished role model for community activism.  
What a tremendous loss for not only Indian Valley but the entire county.  
Someone has some big shoes to fill.

Love to his family.

Steven D. Wright

**Steven Wright** - September 26, 2018 at 07:15 PM