



## John Michael Merritt

August 4, 1948 - May 31, 2021

John M. Merritt, age 72, of Shirley, WV, passed away at his home Monday, May 31, 2021.

He was born in Doddridge County, son of the late Archie Edward Merritt and Freda Wright Merritt.

John was a social worker for the State of WV. He enjoyed painting and drawing and was Catholic by faith.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a brother David Steven Merritt.

He is survived by his sister, Jane Pritsch and a nephew, William Pritsch both of McMechen.

There will be no visitation.

Private services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements entrusted to Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 751 Third Street, and New Martinsville WV.

Sympathy expressions at [grisellfuneralhomes.com](http://grisellfuneralhomes.com)

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ I first met John at work, we worked in the CPS unit at DHHR and later worked for Child Support Enforcement. John was a valuable mentor to me in both of these difficult professions. John was a quiet man but stood his ground when the situation called for it. He was compassionate, intelligent and ethical. John served his country as a Ranger in Vietnam and expressed mixed feelings about that era. He enjoyed providing care for his mother in her later years and faced his own health issues with remarkable courage. I know that John liked to travel and found peace of mind in gardening. He was a true friend and will be missed.

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**Chris Wolford** - June 17, 2021 at 09:00 AM

AP

“ Heartfelt condolences to the family. I worked with John for several years at DHHR. He was always kind and helpful to all who had the pleasure to know and work with him. I always admired his care and devotion to his Mother. Know he will certainly be missed by all.  
Angie

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**Angie Price** - June 11, 2021 at 07:41 PM

VI

“ John was a dear friend and so kind in many ways. John was funny and caring and thoughtful and he will be missed not only by me but by many. Condolences to his family.

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**Vicki** - June 07, 2021 at 11:25 PM

GW

“ I have known John for most of my life, since we were in the same class at Tyler County High School. It was always such a treat to talk with him whenever I could visit Middlebourne. I was so happy to have a long visit with him during our 50 year class reunion and I am so saddened to hear of his passing. He was so dedicated to his family and friends and helped so many people during his career. He will be missed by many. Sending love and grace to his family.  
Gloria Stackpole Walker

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**Gloria Walker** - June 07, 2021 at 03:00 PM

JM

“ I met John while working as a temp in the DHHR office in Clarksburg. He introduced himself and we realized he was my husband's cousin. We became immediate friends and I always enjoyed seeing him and catching up. He had a unique and special personality. I was blessed to call him my friend and family. 🙏❤️

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**Jane Merritt** - June 06, 2021 at 06:57 PM

DA

“ This is his niece from his brother and I want to thank you everyone saying sweet things about my uncle

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**Danielle** - June 03, 2021 at 12:16 AM

NB

“ I will always remember John as a gentle, easy going, man of knowledge and a great wit! Our oldest daughter looked up to John. I will never forget when she took her driver's test for the first time. She always excelled. She got in the car, I said "How'd it go?" Her response : "I want to see John Merritt". Off we went to Health and Human Services.  
It truly was my honor to laugh with John until the tears came. That is how I choose to remember him. Rest in Peace and don't forget to say your Rosary, my friend.

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**Nanci Bowen** - June 02, 2021 at 07:07 PM

SW

“ My love to all John's family. I remember all the laughs at church fellowship and on the bus ride to school. So glad Gerald and I got to talk to him for awhile at his 50th high school reunion. RIP From Sue Smith and Gerald Warner.

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**Sue Smith Warner** - June 02, 2021 at 08:40 AM

ST

“ Deepest sympathy to John's family;our hearts go out to you. I worked with John for a lot of years and he was a very caring and thoughtful individual and had a big heart. He was a devoted son to his mother. He had a wit about him that would bring a smile to our faces. He loved working in his yard caring for all the numerous plants,flowers and trees. John was our go to person for that vast knowledge when we needed help with our own plants. He will be deeply missed . Our hearts are heavy during these difficult times. May God bless you and give you comfort in the days ahead. Starla

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**starla** - June 01, 2021 at 10:27 PM