



John Thomas Hovorka Jr.

October 19, 1932 - January 11, 2021

John Thomas Hovorka Jr., 88, unexpectedly passed away on January 11th, 2021 in St. George, Washington Co., Utah.

He was born October 19th, 1932 in Quincy Township, Adams County, Wisconsin to John Thomas Hovorka Sr. and Eleanor Amanda Moshure.

He attended grade school at both the McBride and Hadlock Schools in Quincy and was a member of the 4H club. In 1950 he graduated from Adams-Friendship High School in Wisconsin where he played some varsity basketball.

He enlisted in the Navy and served for four years from early 1951 to 1955 achieving the occupational rating of boatswain's mate.

He met Marlene Beverly Anderson at a dance through a mutual friend and they were married on March 19th, 1955. Together they were blessed with three sons, Kim, Dana, and Todd. John and Marlene were later divorced.

On November 14th, 1984 he married Doreen Bates, who remained his "Sweetie Beatie" for the past 36 years.

He was a devoted husband, faithful father, and loyal friend. He was slow to

anger and quick to forgive. His countenance was inviting, and his disposition one of good cheer and contagious laughter. He loved fishing trips to Canada with his boys and extended family. He loved boating, waterskiing, archery, hunting, and snowmobiling.

He was employed with the Nekoosa Paper Mill for 12 years from 1955 to 1967 and thereafter worked as a brakeman and conductor for the Chicago Northwestern Railroad where he ultimately retired.

He was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and served diligently in many callings throughout his life. He served as a fulltime missionary alongside his wife Doreen at Cove Fort in Southern Utah. More than anything, he loved to teach and bear testimony of the living Christ and of His infinite and eternal atonement. He found great joy in serving in the temple on behalf of those who have left this world without the blessings of the gospel in their lives. His influence for good will be eternal as it continues to ripple forth across the sea of generations yet to come through all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Edna Stoddard, first wife Marlene Anderson, a great granddaughter, a nephew, and a niece.

He is survived by his wife Doreen, three sons Kim (Janet), Dana (Ann), Todd (Cheryl), stepdaughters Cheryl (Vance) Jenkins, Laura (Brent) Baxter, Andrea (Mark) Snow, 20 grandchildren, many great grandchildren, and brother Harold.

A graveside service will be held his honor on Saturday, January 16th, at 1:00pm at Tonaquint Cemetery in St. George Utah. This will be limited to immediate family members due to COVID restrictions.

Cemetery Details

Tonaquint Cemetery

1777 S. Dixie Drive
Saint George, UT 84770

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN 16. 1:00 PM (MT)

Tonaquint Cemetery
1777 S. Dixie Drive
Saint George, UT 84770


Tribute Wall

VN

“ *Veracity Networks purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of John Thomas Hovorka Jr..*




Veracity Networks - January 15, 2021 at 04:21 PM

 Einehpets Atlarep

“ *Einehpets Atlarep lit a candle in memory of John Thomas Hovorka Jr.*




Einehpets Atlarep - January 14, 2021 at 04:55 PM

 Einehpets Atlarep

“ *Brother Hovorka was my greatest memory joining the church, he was the first to make me feel completely welcome. I have missed him for years and wish I could have seen him but I had lost contact when we moved. He truly was a great blessing to many and will be forever missed*

Einehpets Atlarep - January 14, 2021 at 04:53 PM

 Einehpets Atlarep

Sending love to his family and friends. The Peralta

Einehpets Atlarep - January 14, 2021 at 04:54 PM

SG

“ John always gave the best testimony on Fast Sunday. His wonderful memory let him quote scriptures and Gospel principles, tell stories and poems, and finish with everyone in attendance wishing their own testimony were so strong. He and Doreen were hard workers and so diligent in their callings, it was a pleasure to work with them. John will be sorely missed. Love to Doreen and family.
~ Susan & John Gordon

Susan Gordon - January 13, 2021 at 08:46 PM

RJ

“ I admired John because he could quote many lengthy scriptures and poems word for word. It believe it was a talent he cultivated and worked on. John was always friendly and welcoming. Best wishes to Doreen and the family.
Dick and Gail Johnson

Richard Johnson - January 13, 2021 at 03:25 PM

ML

John and Doreen have been such great friends for many years. I'm sure John and Terry have had a wonderful reunion on the other side, and are serving together again. My love and prayers go out to Doreen and their family at this difficult time.
With love always, Marilyn Lamoreaux

Marilyn Lamoreaux - January 14, 2021 at 01:50 PM

DC

Bill and I loved Brother Hovorka! What a memory he had! And what a sweet, loving person. He shared his conversion story with us one time and it so impressed us. He will be missed by so many. Always had a smile for everyone. We send our condolences to his wonderful family.
Debbi and Bill Compton

Debbi Compton - January 15, 2021 at 08:51 AM