



## John Cook Whitford

October 31, 1950 - July 17, 2023

John Cook Whitford of Claremore Oklahoma met his Lord and Savior in person on Monday, July 17, 2023.

Johnny was born on October 31, 1950, in Nowata, Oklahoma to William “Bill” Charles Whitford and Joan Lee (Cook) Whitford. A rascalion from an early age, Johnny played his part in a merry band of Nowata outlaws, getting in as much trouble as he could find with those Nowata boys. He grew into a man of strong opinions and character, testing his limits on the backs of rodeo bulls, during his Army Service in Germany and on the many, many adventures to his beloved Mountains of Colorado. In 1973, Johnny married Marty Burrow and began a new adventure, that of husband and later a father to their sons, Hunter and Spencer. Hunter remembers that his dad always coached his teams and he sometimes got in trouble when playing shortstop for overthrowing first base. The boys have been some of his most important achievements, growing into men that Johnny was unfailingly proud of.

Professionally, Johnny began his career at Southside plumbing, then became his own boss, forming Whitco Plumbing. He worked in and around the Oologah, Nowata and Talala, (or Ta-la-la-Boom-D-A as John fondly called his little town), eventually experiencing the high-profile Colorado market while working with Precision Mechanical, Glenwood Springs, Colorado. For over 40 years he gave into the lives of his clients, plumbing their homes, “no runs or drips!” and dispensing wit and wisdom as freely as the copper pipe he always insisted on.

An avid hunter, fly fisherman, photographer and artist, Johnny took great joy in the tranquility of a good trout stream, lens framing a bird in its natural habitat, and recreating a mountainside landscape drawing on any available piece of wood, paper or box. While life did bring its challenges, Johnny's insurmountable spirit led him through the tough times, strengthening relationships both with friends and family as well as his heavenly father. In May 2008, Johnny married his sweetest, Julie White, and moved to Claremore, joining her wild and rowdy crew as a perfect fit. With Hunter, Spencer's family, Julie's sons and daughters and all the combined grands, Johnny became an epic storyteller, Jokester and all-around family man. He gave into the lives of all he met. His twinkling blue eyes, willingness to slow down and take time, and heart for Jesus, all making him a magnetic character for all he came into contact with. John is survived by:

His Beloved Wife;

Julie Whitford

6 Children;

Hunter Whitford

Spencer Whitford and wife Jentri

Fred Peters and wife Donna

Jennifer Looper

George Peters and wife Leslie

Gina Lehman and husband Matt

10 Grandchildren;

June, Willa, Corey and wife Brenna, Wyatt and wife Jensen, Wade, Keaton, Jesse, Emma, Allie, and A.J.

Brother;

Billy Whitford and wife Jan

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Joan, brother, Mike, and son in law, Michael.

A visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2023, at Mowery Funeral Service in Owasso, Oklahoma. A memorial service

will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 22, 2023, at Harbor Church in Oologah, Oklahoma. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave. Fl. 17, Chicago, IL, 60601. Rejoice in the Lord always, Again I say rejoice. Philippians 4: 4

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **20**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service  
9110 N. Garnett Rd.  
Owasso, OK 74055  
(918) 272-6244  
<https://www.moweryfs.com/>

# Tribute Wall

HM

“ When our family first moved to Oologah, Johnnplumbed our new build home growing up. He was always so kind and would talk to us kids as if we mattered. I’m so incredibly sad to hear of his passing and will keep his family and friends in my prayers during this difficult time.



Holly McComb - July 22, 2023 at 09:09 AM

SJ

“ My heart goes out to Hunter, Spencer, and his family. Johnny was a great friend to George and I before George passed away, way too early. He was the life of the party, and one of the best plumbers around. He came to our rescue many times, and helped me as well later on. I know he is already being missed. Rest in Peace, Johnny. We loved ya!



Sandie January - July 20, 2023 at 03:09 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Cook Whitford.



July 20, 2023 at 02:39 PM

JM

“ Johnny and my nephews were best friends from high school and beyond. He spent a lot of time @ my house and it was always a joy to have him visit. He was a fun loving and enjoyable person to be around. My deepest sympathy to his family. Jane McKay

Jane McKay - July 20, 2023 at 01:58 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of John Cook Whitford.



July 20, 2023 at 09:38 AM

DR

“ Johnny Whitco. We had such great times coaching little league together. You were such a great friend. You will be missed. RIP my friend, Danny Rosiere

Danny Rosiere - July 19, 2023 at 09:38 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Cook Whitford.



July 19, 2023 at 09:09 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Cook Whitford.*



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July 19, 2023 at 08:17 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Cook Whitford.*



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July 19, 2023 at 07:38 PM