



John Robert Wade

MAR 27, 1952 - JUL 15, 2023



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Dr. John Robert Wade, a true man of the world, passed away Saturday, July 14, 2023, surrounded by family and friends, of which he had many from all walks of life. He collected friends everywhere he went and never let them go. He was adventurous and inventive. A lover of music and the outdoors. John grew up all over the South to parents Harriet and Robert “Bob” Wade with sisters Lynn and Jama. The family settled in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, where John graduated from Bay High in 1970. He then went on to graduate from Southeastern Louisiana University, briefly serve in the Merchant Marines, travel the world, and eventually graduate from veterinary school at LSU in Baton Rouge. His love of animals led him to open Northlake Veterinary Hospital on the Northshore where he was a beloved veterinarian and an outstanding surgeon. But, as would become a theme in John’s life, the siren’s call of new opportunity beckoned him and he sold his veterinary practice to Dr. Craig Guidry, who would become a trusted and loyal friend for the rest of his life. John then teamed up with his cousin Reid Green and founded Pacesetter, an ostrich breeding facility, with the help of Randall Thompson. After taking Pacesetter public, traveling the world educating others on ostrich rearing, and becoming an industry leader, John was ready to move on to the next adventures which included starting a revolutionary fiber cable company PrimeLink. But John’s love of animals pulled him back to the veterinary field, this time founding MicroChip ID Systems with his close friend and confidante Jean Anne Mayhall. John and Jean Anne built MicroChip ID to offer the premiere microchip identification systems for all animals, from family pets to commercial breeders. John loved his employees fiercely with some of them being under his employ for decades. He finally retired in August of 2022 and bought a motor home with his partner of almost 20 years, Jan Benitez, with the intention of spending his time traveling the country. Unfortunately, these plans were cut short when he was diagnosed with lung



Obituary

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cancer in February 2023. John fought the cancer for as long as he could before he succumbed to the disease 5 months later.

John is preceded in death by his parents Robert “Bob” Wade and Harriet Green Wade, and lifelong friends Donnie Caldwell and Jerry “Duff” Durrough. John is survived by partner Jan Benitez, sisters Lynn (Rene) Vicknair and Jama Wade O’Rourke; niece Jama (Zac) Howell; nephews John Michael O’Rourke and Bailey Wade O’Rourke; great nephews John Steven Howell and William Martin Howell; cousins Reid (Lisa) Green, Wade Green, and Wesley Green, and numerous Wade cousins; and close friends that he considered family Dr. Craig Guidry, Jean Anne Mayhall, Randall Thompson, Michael Mayhall, Sr, Michael Mayhall, Jr, Brian Mayhall, and Randy Meyers.

There will be no services held at this time.

The family asks donations be made in John’s name to Dose of the Coast, a local nonprofit that organizes charter boat trips along the Gulf Coast for terminally ill patients and special needs children. Please Share a Memory on the Tribute Wall at www.ejfieldingfh.com.



Tribute Wall

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AD

Allison Barca, Dvm posted:

I just learned of John's passing a moment ago when I called to order some microchips. I am so very sad to know that I will not get to enjoy a visit when I would normally go to pick up the chips. John was always fun to share experiences and laughs with. He coerced me into doing videos, interviews, and photos that I would never have done normally... BUT... who can say no to John?!?!? This is a huge loss to veterinary world, but a such a gain in Heaven. I will miss you here.

August 27 at 12:38 PM

PH

Pamela Lambert Hodge posted:

When I moved to the Northshore some 50 years ago, John was our family VET for all our animals. Always super nice and just a COOL person. So sorry God took him home so young.

June 26 at 8:44 AM

JM

Jonathan Wade Meyer posted:

RIP to my God Father. You will be missed, John

August 11 at 2:27 PM

VG

Vicky Graham posted:

How do you say goodbye to such a wonderful person? I started working for Jean Anne and John in 2004. I learned SO much from both of them. John was always patient, caring, and such a giving person. We laughed together, and cried together when I lost my husband. He loved his work family and always cheered us on in life. He was more than a boss, he was truly a friend to all of us and knew more about us than he probably wanted to! I send my heartfelt love and prayers to John's sister Lynn, Jean Anne and Jan-and to all who knew and loved John. I know that he is free of pain now and that he fought with all of his might, now it's time to rest. Thank you for all of your wisdom and advice over these years. I will carry them with me always. 💜💛

July 25 at 5:01 PM



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Lisa T Lemoine posted:

John Wade was a shining light of all that was good in the world. A beautiful human being inside and out. I recall one of many Sunday lunches back in '86, at Johnny Lauricella's, there being a well known psychic visiting. She gave John a reading saying he'd be moving west, likely Colorado. We all laughed...I assisted John & Randy in the marketability of Prime Link. And my once neighbor, the late Bob Clemons of Folsom was where Pacesetter had it's beginnings.Oh! I guess that psychic was right!My sincere condolences to his family and loved ones who were blessed to bask in his always warm hearted sunlight. Lisa T Lemoine

July 25 at 9:50 AM



Deanna March 27 at 6:44 AM

He didn't quite make it to Colorado, but he helped one of his employees (me!) buy a cabin in the woods there and was supposed to stay in my guest house and recover from chemo. Sadly, his time was cut short before that could happen. So beautiful to read someone saw that in the picture though! Thanks for sharing. And happy birthday in Heaven Dr. Wade! We miss you!!!!



Beth Strahan lit a candle in honor of John.

John, I have lived part of your life thru the love that my dear friend Jan shared with you. You and Jan were 2 of my favorite people . You have changed so many lives and you were an inspiration to many. You will always be in our hearts. I will make a donation to Dose of the Coast and you will be on that boat trip with the children in the bay city you loved so much.



July 24 at 9:15 AM



Pat Murphy posted:

John was a great guy. Though several years younger than me we grew up down the street from each other on Felicity St. in Bay St Louis. I liked his dad who was a real character, a lot. I last saw and talked with John when my band played for a Bay High reunion several years ago. He was blessed to have led such an interesting life and, I'm sure, will be missed and remembered fondly by many. Travel well John.Pat Murphy

July 24 at 5:49 AM



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NH

Nita Hunt lit a candle in honor of John.

Rip my friend. You were such a kind and thoughtful friend.

July 24 at 4:35 AM



DP

Dave Perreault posted:

It truly was a gift that I got to work with John for the past few years. It was a bit of an adjustment as I'd given up on finding a boss that valued me as both an employee and a person. He truly cared for his people and it was evident in ways both large and small. He was genuinely a good man, and I'll miss him. We all will.

July 24 at 4:32 AM

AD

Ann Dalton posted:

I'm so sorry to hear of this kind man's passing. When we moved to Covington in June 1987, from New Orleans, our vet Dr. Guas referred us to Dr. John Wade. What a perfect recommendation that was, truly a great, caring man & veterinarian. I'm sure my "Lady" is greeting him in heaven. My deepest sympathy to his loving family. Ann DaltonCovington, La

July 22 at 7:38 AM

TI

Timndebbiegriffith lit a candle in honor of John.

July 21 at 9:37 PM





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Yvonne Heverly posted:

It's so wonderful to see so many names here that I have heard heartfelt stories about. John and I worked together for 8 years. While it was a great 8 years, it was not long enough. We had so many long talks about life in general, recipes and music. So much talk about music! He was a perfect travel buddy when we went to trade shows. John was no ordinary employer. He truly cared about each one of us and our families. He made sure we all knew everything we needed to know about microchips and the pet industry. He gave us life advice. He gave us financial advice. He had compassion we needed it. He took care of our pets when they were sick or injured. He was our biggest cheerleader when we accomplished great things, individually or as a team. His smile was infectious. As I wrote to our colleagues to tell them of our sad news, I saw the same kind of responses over and over again...John was kind, patient, generous, thoughtful, sincere, patient, well respected, smart and on and on. One response said it best, "The world has lost a very special friend but Heaven has gained a true angel."John, I will never forgive myself for deleting your entire iTunes library. It was very kind of you to pretend not to be mad at me. I would have never talked to me again. I know your Heaven is filled with your favorite songs. You will always have a place in my heart. Rest easy, my friend. I expect you to see you for 3:00 coffee (am or pm, doesn't matter to me!) with all the pets of my past and a Modelo when I get there.To all that know and loved John, I am sorry for your loss. It's a hard one. I hope to meet many of you in person at the party.

July 21 at 6:08 PM



Bridget posted:

I met John at Bay High when us SJA girls came to BHS my junior year. I took typing, John and Davy Jo were sophomores in that class. They were so kind to this gangly shy girl, played the most delightful tricks on me and made me laugh everyday. He and Lynn were close and I know she has a hole in her heart. Sending love and light, and remembering him with a huge smile picturing Donnie and him wreaking havoc up there!

July 21 at 6:54 AM



Cecilia McMullen lit a candle in honor of John.

John was such a light in a dark world. His kindness and empathy were unmatched. I had the pleasure on knowing him for just a short while. In that time he gave me hope of a brighter future and the safety of chosen family. I'm thankful I was able to share some secret family recipes, good times, laughs, tears, and lots of joy with this beautiful man. We are sending all the love from the Harrison-McMullen familia to his beautiful family. Rest now Doc. ❤️



July 21 at 6:00 AM



Tribute Wall

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Heather Hill shared a photo to the **Business Life** album.



July 21 at 4:46 AM



Heather Hill posted:

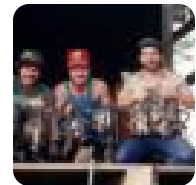
John was such a kind and beautiful soul. Our team learned so much from John and appreciate the friendship and opportunities he gave to us all. Our hearts are sad but our memories are all fond of the relationship we had with John.

July 21 at 4:36 AM



Marlon Rovira shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I met John on our very first day of Veterinary School. How many ways can I possibly say what a good man and good friend he was? How many ways can I say how much he will be missed? I loved him. Marlon Rovira



July 20 at 7:21 PM



Deanna Beesley shared 2 photos and a video to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Thank you John and Jean Anne for hiring me at Microchip ID and changing my stars. You were the best employers a girl could hope for. So many life lessons in such a short time. You taught me how to invest and opened an IRA that doubled in the first year and then 8x during covid, my first home purchase in Colorado, and then later my dream cabin and guest house. Tried so hard to finish it for John. You two have no idea how much you have meant to my life or how much you have helped. I can't imagine where I'd be without you. John was the most caring and wonderful person. He was the biggest fan of my cabin and the guest house build. I miss you cheering me on buddy. Didn't know what else to do when you were passing besides going outside to work on the siding. Just sitting there caulking blindly with tears pouring down. I hope you are up there watching, finally getting to see what you created. I've been telling you to come see the bear and the elk for so long and I guess you are finally here. Can't wait to see you again on the flip side buddy. Until then, my heart is broken from your absence. Thank you for being a 2nd dad and such a great mentor. Hugs and lots of tears, -Deanna



July 20 at 9:56 AM



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MM

Melissa Mckimmy posted:

John taught me so much and changed my life in so many ways in the short time I knew him. I wouldn't be where I am today without him, without his kindness and caring, without his knowledge, and without his thirst for life. He was an amazing man whom I just simply cannot believe is gone. He will forever leave a mark on my heart and he will forever be dearly missed. Rest easy, John, and thank you for everything.

July 20 at 4:04 PM

GW

Gail Willie lit a candle in honor of John.

Prayers for all the family and all the friends.

July 20 at 1:07 PM



LD

Louann Dorrrough posted:

When my cousin Duff was seriously ill in the hospital in Jackson, Mississippi, in 2011, the doctors were having a hard time deciding what to do next. They were planning a risky surgery to divert blood to his liver. There were lots of people in the waiting area of the ICU, and this guy with a beard was questioning the doctors' judgment. I asked, "Who are you?" He said, "I'm John Wade." I smiled and said, "I know you!" The last time I had seen him, we were both kids in Bay St. Louis in the 1960s. But that's the kind of friend he was to Duff. Now they are together again, no doubt having a blast.

July 20 at 10:27 AM

CB

Carl Bennett posted:

It is with great sadness that I bid farewell to Doc Wade. I have known him for quite a long time and used his services as a veterinarian once upon a time. He was a person that always made you feel comfortable around him. My sincere condolences to all of John's family but a special heartfelt condolence to my long time friend Jan Benitez.

July 20 at 10:14 AM



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Joan Howell Kirby lit a candle in honor of John.



July 20 at 9:56 AM



Sue Hirsch July 21 at 5:19 PM

I knew John as a classmate in Vet School. He was a wonderful person and veterinarian. He was loved by many and will be missed. God has called you home. Be at peace.



Whitney Cline Sitzler July 20 at 4:42 PM

What a tragic loss to everyone that knew John. Our lives collided through family ties almost 45 years ago and we shared so much fun with our families. He has remained my dear friend and I will miss him forever. I like to think of him in Heaven sharing a Dewars & Water with Bob & John (our dads), and he is perhaps thinking of challenging someone to a PacMan tournament before the evening ends. Sleep well, John.....you will be missed by everyone who ever knew you. With much love.....



Jean Anne Mayhall July 20 at 3:48 PM

Peace out, John. ♥With all my love, always.Jean Anne



Todd Cameron July 20 at 1:01 PM

john wade...met him late in our lives but when our mutual friend Duff came to visit me in new orleans that first time, he told me an old friend was coming to visit...that day i met john and we were fast friends...had wonderful times w john & jan...fishing, eating & loving life...am gonna miss my ole friend...much love n peace at jan...



Joan Howell Kirby July 20 at 10:10 AM

Lifting your precious family up during your loss and difficult time!!!



Heather Hill shared a photo to the **Business Life** album.

July 21 at 4:46 AM



Two peas in a pod.



Media

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July 20 at 7:21 PM





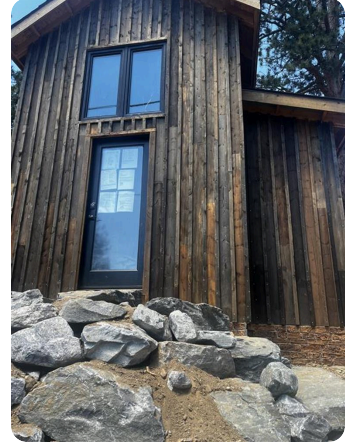
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July 20 at 4:23 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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