



John C. Irwin

Topeka - John C. Irwin, 77, Topeka, Kansas, passed away Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at Legends at Capitol Ridge.

John was born July 27, 1944, in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of John and Jessie Kiser Irwin.

John and his wife, Bonnie Hylton, were married January 28, 1967. She survives. Other survivors include son, John R. and wife, Nancy Irwin, and their children, Elise and Alex Irwin, Fort Myers, Florida; son, Terrance D. and wife, Gretchen Irwin, and their children, Zachary and William Irwin, Andover, Kansas; and his sister, Diane Kelly, Lodi California.

John graduated from Topeka High School in 1962 and then went on to graduate from Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in Nuclear Engineering. He entered the Army through ROTC. During his year in Vietnam, 1969-1970, John achieved the rank of Captain as a Huey helicopter pilot. After three years with the Army, he went to work for the Department of Health and Environment in Topeka. During that time, he received his master's degree in Science and Industrial Safety and Health from Central Missouri State University. He also earned a master's degree from Kansas University in Public Administration. John was a certified industrial Hygienist and a Certified Safety Professional. He served 20 years in the Air National Guard, retiring as Lieutenant Colonel. John also worked with Westar in Topeka for five years.

Those close to John enjoyed a funny, goofy side of him beyond his professional and scholarly demeanor. He could always make his wife laugh, and she loved him for that. He was a dedicated family man who loved his family. He worked very hard and would do anything for them. John loved his grandchildren and found much joy in their laughter. They sure enjoyed his little quirks. In addition to visiting their grandchildren, John and Bonnie

were very fortunate to travel the world together. They loved going on cruises, especially with their dear friends.

The rosary will be prayed at 2 p.m. Sunday, January 23, with visitation following until 4 p.m. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Monday, January 24, at 10 a.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church. Burial will follow in Mount Calvary Cemetery.