



John Harry Wiczoreck

March 17, 1944 - February 16, 2019

John Harry Wiczoreck passed away at his home near Chestertown, MD, on Saturday, February 16, 2019, following a brief illness.

John was born on March 17, 1944, during a snowstorm in Jersey City, NJ. He was the son of Harry and Matilda (nee Zydel) Wiczoreck. He was raised in Bogota, NJ, and was graduated from Bogota High School in 1962. He then attended Glassboro State College (Rowan University) and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1966.

He married Ruthanne Watson in August of 1966, and began his teaching career that fall in South Jersey. In 1968, John entered the U.S. Army as a bandsman (clarinet) and served until 1971, being stationed in NJ and Panama. In March 1971, his beloved daughter, Jennifer, was born. Following his honorable discharge from the army, he continued his education, earning a Master of Arts degree from Glassboro State College in 1971 as well as his teaching career. He moved to Pitman High School in fall of 1972, where he remained until his retirement in 1999. During this time, his first marriage ended.

In 1979, he met Juanita Slagle of Chestertown, MD. while living on his boat in Rock Hall. They were married for over 38 years, until his death.

John had a life-long passion for learning and teaching. While living the Philadelphia area, he continued his formal education at Glassboro State College and the University of Pennsylvania. He particularly loved the works of William Shakespeare, always striving to improve his knowledge and understanding of the bard. He participated in numerous Shakespeare colloquia at Fairleigh Dickinson University and programs sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. In the late 1980s, John volunteered with the Philadelphia Area Repertory Theatre as a dramaturge, editing production scripts. He was especially proud of an eight-actor version of, 'The Taming of the Shrew,' created with Artistic Director Paul Wagar, and performed at the Folger Shakespeare Library.

John spent many years as an adjunct professor of English at Rowan University, Chesapeake College, and Delaware State University. His final years of teaching were with the Washington College Academy of Lifelong Learning and the Chesapeake College Institute of Adult Learning. He loved researching topics that he wanted to teach and creating classes for to his students. His senior students were his favorites because they were always engaged in learning.

His interests also included classical music, particularly opera, movies of all eras and genres, theater, reading, and sailing. John belonged to as many as three book clubs during his retirement; he enjoyed many spirited discussions with friends and colleagues, and sharing good food and wine. He was an active member of the Rock Hall Yacht Club, where he could be found most Friday nights enjoying his favorite sauvignon blanc.

John is survived by his wife, Nita; daughter, Jennifer Dwyer and husband David of Issaquah, WA; brother, Arthur of Sebring, FL; sisters-in-law, Chris Bigelow and husband Donnie of Chestertown, Wanda Woodall and husband George of Dover, DE; and brother-in-law, Gilbert Slagle, III, and wife Cynthia.

He also leaves to remember him numerous nieces, nephews, colleagues, and friends.

A memorial service is being planned for late spring.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Kent County Public Library, or Jonah Kent Bigelow at BB&T Bank, 22940 Jefferson Blvd., Smithsburg, MD 21783, or Shore Shakespeare Company, through the Mid-Shore Community Foundation, Easton, MD.

Cemetery Details

Private

Tribute Wall



“ *John Harry Wieczoreck*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *John Harry Wieczoreck*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *John Harry Wieczoreck*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *John Wieczoreck was one of my favorite Renaissance people. For over a decade I took the classes he gave at Chesapeake College through the Institute Adult Learning. He taught the American Musical starting with 1890's minstrel shows through the golden age of the 40's and 50's to the present, He loved the subject from an early age, frequently visiting Broadway and even helped with a production when he was a teacher. He also arranged for our class to attend Gershwin's "Porky and Bess" when it was playing in Wilmington. He had a classes on many subjects such as graphic novels, several on films and their directors, the next was to be on Shakespeare's Women, his last was on local sites and museums. He frequently mentioned his wife Nita and their interesting activities in the arts, including local theatre and dance. He seemed to have many interests and was willing to share with his students. He enriched my life and I miss him.*

Marilyn Mylander

Marilyn Mylander - May 04, 2019 at 03:21 PM

LS

“ I was a member of the Library Men's Non-fiction Book Club for several years. John was also a member. John's opinions on the books we read were always artfully expressed, and given with humor. He will be missed.

Larry Schroth

Lawrence Schroth - February 26, 2019 at 11:35 AM

RH

“ I had Mr. Wieczoreck for freshman English at Pitman High School many years ago. I've always fondly remembered his good nature and good humor - I was definitely a challenge to have in class. I went on to major in English Literature and then became an attorney. Looking back, I think my "negotiations" with Mr. Wieczoreck over the classroom seating chart and how many times a week I was permitted to call him "John" was the beginning of my career as an advocate. Sincere condolences to his wife, Juanita, who he spoke of frequently in class, and the rest of his family.

Rebecca Higbee-Ionno - February 25, 2019 at 12:49 PM

SD

“ Sheila Blyman Dlugoborski lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck



Sheila Blyman Dlugoborski - February 25, 2019 at 10:17 AM

NA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Nancy - February 22, 2019 at 03:25 PM

LI

“ *Luisa's Cucina Italiana lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck*



Luisa's Cucina Italiana - February 21, 2019 at 11:22 PM

MS

“ *Mary Simmons lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck*



Mary Simmons - February 21, 2019 at 12:41 PM

MS

I am so very sorry for your loss. Love, Mary

Mary Simmons - February 21, 2019 at 12:42 PM

WW

“ *Nita I love you and Jen, John will so be missed.*



Wanda Woodall - February 21, 2019 at 06:55 AM



“ *Kathi Morehead lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wiczoreck*



Kathi Morehead - February 20, 2019 at 02:31 PM

JB

“ *Nita I am so sorry!!!! Hugs*



joyce Benton - February 20, 2019 at 12:05 PM

PE

“ *Peggy States Edwards lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wiczoreck*



Peggy States Edwards - February 20, 2019 at 10:45 AM

JL

“ *John & Kay Lucht lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck*



John & Kay Lucht - February 20, 2019 at 04:37 AM

SG

“ *Stacie Glover lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck*



Stacie Glover - February 19, 2019 at 07:37 PM

RK

“ *Robin Klinefelter lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck*



Robin Klinefelter - February 19, 2019 at 06:48 AM

JJ

“ *Jim And Tina Johnson lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczoreck*



Jim and Tina Johnson - February 19, 2019 at 06:33 AM

FL

“ Frankie And Cathy Legg lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wiczoreck



Frankie and Cathy Legg - February 18, 2019 at 06:58 PM

PC

“ Peggy Clothier lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wiczoreck



Peggy Clothier - February 18, 2019 at 06:57 PM

BM

“ Barbara McLendon lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wiczoreck



Barbara McLendon - February 18, 2019 at 05:55 PM

LS

“ Liz Smith lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wiczoreck



Liz Smith - February 18, 2019 at 01:42 PM

MU

“ *Marie Usilton lit a candle in memory of John Harry Wieczorek*



Marie Usilton - February 18, 2019 at 01:03 PM