



John Gillenwater

July 7, 1978 - December 9, 2020

John Gillenwater, 42, of Hurricane, unexpectedly went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

Born July 7, 1978 in Charleston, WV, John was the first child of Mark Gillenwater and Kathy Pauley Gillenwater. He graduated from St. Albans High School and most recently worked as a chemical operator with Optima.

John was a devoted husband and father. He was a member of River Ridge Church where he served as a children's leader for 4th and 5th graders. He will be dearly missed by his family, church family, and community.

John is survived by his wife of 21 years, Tina Gillenwater; his daughter, Alyssa Gillenwater, his son, Logan Gillenwater; his sister, Amanda Gillenwater and her husband, Jim; his step-sister, Kristin Garman, his father Mark Gillenwater and his wife, Annie; his mother, Kathy Pauley Gillenwater; several beloved nieces and nephews, as well as his extended family.

An outdoor celebration of John's life will be held 1p.m. on Friday, December 18, at River Ridge Church in Teays Valley, where friends and family will gather to celebrate and remember. Social-distancing will be practiced and masks are required. You may also visit his tribute page at ChapmanFuneralHomes.com to share memories and offer condolences to the family.

Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane is honored to serve the Gillenwater family.

Cemetery Details

Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane
Saint Albans, WV 25177

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 18. 1:00 PM (ET)

River Ridge Church
1 Saturn Way
Hurricane, WV 25526

Tribute Wall



“ Chapman Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Gillenwater



Chapman Funeral Homes - December 14, 2020 at 06:13 PM



“ John Gillenwater

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ Met this fantastic young man, when he and he's father Mark were singing behind me at a Promise Keepers event! Wonderful person 😊



William Artis - December 18, 2020 at 09:44 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John Gillenwater.



December 15, 2020 at 06:02 PM

DS

“ Mark we are so sorry to hear of your loss Our prayers are with you and your family Don and Bobbie

Don C Sibold - December 15, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John Gillenwater.



December 15, 2020 at 09:04 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Gillenwater.



December 15, 2020 at 08:44 AM

WS

“ He was a wonderful Godly man that was always willing to help anyone or anywhere in the church,He was always happy I never heard him complaining about anything,although I didn't see him often lately, he always knew me when we happened to run into each other.Our Thoughts and Prayers are with his Family..May God Bless you in the days ahead as you deal with extoranairy Loss. Gary and Wilma Stanley.

Wilma Stanley - December 14, 2020 at 09:23 PM

LB

“ So very sorry for your loss. Had the privilege to hear John preach at Valley View FWB Church in Hurricane.several years back. What a good and faithful servant he was. Praying for peace and comfort for his family.

Lee Ann Black - December 14, 2020 at 09:07 PM



“ Margaret Massie lit a candle in memory of John Gillenwater



Margaret Massie - December 14, 2020 at 07:50 PM



“ May God send the family the peace and understanding that is needed and courage to go forward in the coming days ahead. Moe* Ellie* & Logan* Rapp. -God Bless 🙏

Margaret Massie - December 14, 2020 at 07:49 PM



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



December 14, 2020 at 02:02 PM

TW

“ *Tom & Leslie White lit a candle in memory of John Gillenwater*



Tom & Leslie White - December 14, 2020 at 12:25 PM

MA

“ *Michele Ash lit a candle in memory of John Gillenwater*



Michele Ash - December 14, 2020 at 09:18 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Gillenwater.*



December 13, 2020 at 08:22 PM

AD

“ *April Duncan lit a candle in memory of John Gillenwater*



April Duncan - December 13, 2020 at 07:51 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Gillenwater.*



December 13, 2020 at 07:01 PM



“ *We're sending much love & prayers to all of you!!*



Pam Adams - December 13, 2020 at 09:26 AM



“ *I first met John at Valley view free will baptist church. He was being a substitute for the pastor. He and my dad hit it off!! He really showed dad alot about the bible and i am so forever grateful. He and dad became friends forever. Now they are in heaven living it up!! Thank u john good and faithful servant.*

Sandy Payne - December 13, 2020 at 08:38 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Praying for peace and comfort for the family and friends of John.*



Tammy Reed - December 13, 2020 at 12:43 AM

CC

“ *John was one to make everyone laugh. He was a genuine friend and will be missed. Many prayers as his family and friends learn to cope with having to finish our race without him here.* ”



cheryl cooper - December 12, 2020 at 10:55 PM

 Scott Roberts

“ *John will be missed so much. I worked with John at Optima. From the day he was hired, I can't remember him ever saying a bad thing about anyone. His faith was apparent. His love for God and family was shown not only in his actions but also his words. I worked maintenance and John was an operator. We would dread seeing his shift reports, because he would point out things that need to be done, little things, but if he saw it, it would be on the shift report. Lol. We didn't want him finding work for us but he always did. Now I'd give anything for more of those shift reports. To say I'm going to miss him is an understatement. He could always make you laugh. Go rest high buddy, I hope to see you again one day.* ”

Scott Roberts - December 12, 2020 at 09:58 PM

CA

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album* ”



carl anderson - December 12, 2020 at 07:02 PM

AS

“ My family and I met John and his family at his father’s farm @ Renick a few years ago. We continued seeing him every fall at the yearly celebration. He was such a pleasure to talk to. He was never in a hurry when we talked to him. Everyone seemed very important to him. We could see and feel the presence of God in him. We will never forget his gentle and sincere personality. Our loving hugs go to his precious family. We love all of you Gillenwater Family!

Alida Schnell - December 12, 2020 at 06:49 PM

SA

“ Sarina lit a candle in memory of John Gillenwater



Sarina - December 12, 2020 at 05:32 PM



“ Mary Payne lit a candle in memory of John Gillenwater



Mary Payne - December 12, 2020 at 05:12 PM

CW

“ Our hearts are broken for your loss. We have so many beautiful memories of John and almost all of them involve laughter. He was one of the most genuine people we have ever known. He will be missed deeply but what joy we have to know that we will hear that laughter ring again when we meet in heaven some sweet day. Tina, Alyssa and Logan, we love you all so much.

Cheryl Workman - December 12, 2020 at 04:04 PM

HA

“ Such a nice person I worked at Wal-Mart he would come in and talk about his family you could tell he loved his family so much wish more people was like him .he on several occasions talked to me about the lord ,I feel god sends people into our lives for a reason ,but honestly never knew johns name till he passed but oh how nice it would be if there were more people in this old world like him.

Heather Adkins - December 12, 2020 at 03:52 PM

TB

I met John when I started working at Optima. From the first day I met him, he made me feel welcomed and said he was glad that I was hired without even knowing me. We hit it off right away and had lots of laughs and good times working on shift together. He made going to work something to look forward to. John was always happy. He was one of the best guys I've ever known. He had a wonderful outlook on life and was an inspiration to so many. He will be greatly missed.

Travis Brookover - December 12, 2020 at 08:24 PM

GG

My heart felt condolences is to the family, Mark and i are cousins and I seen John grow up as a small lad. It was no wonder he had that gift of love out side of the Lord given it to him. Mark and his family are all good Godly people and never had a bad word to say about no one, Mark and I played many of a day together on summit ridge growing up. John will be missed but is at home tonight with his Lord and some day we will me again.

Glenn Gillenwater - December 13, 2020 at 01:57 AM