



John G. Falcone

December 21, 1938 - December 19, 2021

John Gerald Falcone

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John Gerald Falcone, 82, peacefully entered the presence of his Savior Jesus Christ on December 19, 2021 at his daughter's home in Joplin, Missouri, with Gloria, his beloved wife of 60 years, at his side. John was born in Chicago on December 21, 1938, the son of Madeleine and Nicholas Falcone.

John grew up with two younger brothers in the Chicago suburb of Melrose Park. As a youth, he honed a strong work ethic with an intense spirit of adventure, resourcefulness, and mechanical curiosity. As a young adult, John placed his faith in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for salvation and eternal life, a decision that shaped the remainder of his life and impacted generations of family, friends, and neighbors.

While attending college at Spring Arbor College in Michigan, John met and fell in love with Gloria Perry, and they married in April 1961. Shortly after, John served a 3-year stint in the U.S. Army beginning in 1963, including a deployment in post-war Korea. While in the Army, John developed an eye and passion for photography.

After his service, they settled in Wheaton, Illinois, where three daughters were born. John leveraged his burgeoning photography skills as a professional for Allstate Insurance and for weddings. Then, in 1974, after John became more serious about obeying God's leading in his life, they took a giant leap of faith to follow God's call to move their family to a small farm deep in the woods near Ellington, Missouri.

Although their life on the farm did not unfold as planned, John applied his exemplary work ethic, mechanical skills, and penchant for careful list-making to learning how to manage life in the hardscrabble woods of Missouri. John became proficient in adapting and using tools, machines and the land itself in order to make the most of their farm. He also started a new lumber mill business with Marvin Richards, his close friend and business partner.

Two more daughters were born while they lived in Ellington.

In 1987, John and Gloria moved with their daughters to Bolivar, Missouri, where John began a local real estate business. He and Marvin split the mill business, with John launching a lumber brokerage called Ridgeland Forest Products. For the next 34 years, John invested personally and professionally in the Bolivar and Polk County community. He developed two residential neighborhoods in Bolivar as well as several lots into subdivided properties near Pomme de Terre Lake.

John was also an avid fisherman on local waterways. He enjoyed restoring early 90's Miatas, working with power tools and machinery in his shop, and solving all sorts of mechanical challenges. He delighted in entertaining his grandkids at his home with tractor rides, his homemade go-cart track, bonfires, target shooting, games, and various building projects in his shop. His humor, gift for rhyme, and hearty laugh infected and enlivened every family gathering.

As the leader of a home full of girls, John lovingly prayed for and counseled his daughters through years of relationships. With each marriage, John welcomed every son-in-law as his own son, with love, respect, and a willingness to give wise counsel to them at any time.

He was a faithful member at First Baptist Church of Bolivar, where his faith grew through serving the community and studying God's word in fellowship with many precious friends. He was a trusted source of practical counsel and biblical wisdom, serving on various committees that leveraged his organizational, construction, and mechanical skills. He also helped lead the annual FBC Lovin' Thy Neighbor garage sale since its inception which benefited the needy across Polk County.

John's legacy of faith and love of life is reflected in the uncommonly long list of surviving family members whom he dearly loved and prayed for every day. John is survived by his wife of 60 years, Gloria (née Perry) Falcone. He also survived by five daughters: Kristina (Scott) Fox of Franklin, TN; Cheri (Tyrone) Adcock of Joplin, MO; Michelle (Leon) Wirth of West Chicago, IL; Elizabeth (Miles) Walz of Lawton, OK; and Angela (Joseph) Funderburk of Avon, CT. He is further survived by 26 grandchildren: Racheal (Chad) Moore, Jonathan (Kristin) Pressnell, Aaron Pressnell, Abigail Pressnell, Micah Pressnell, Caleb (Rachel) Adcock, Sarah Adcock, Jacob Adcock, Gabriel (Sage) Adcock, Anna (Cole) McAlester, Mary Adcock, Noah Adcock, Hannah (Joshua) Herup, Rebecca Wirth, Emma Wirth, Olivia Wirth, Leah Wirth, Clara Wirth, Alicia Wirth, Jenna Wirth, Madeleine Walz, Miles Walz, Grace Walz, Laura Jo Funderburk, Max Funderburk, and Jackie Funderburk. He is also

survived by 12 great-grandchildren: Isaac, Alanah, Lucas, and Aubrey Moore; “Baby Girl” Pressnell due in January 2022; Joscelyn and Isabelle Adcock; Owen Adcock; Eleanor Adcock; Jasper McAlester; Esther and Ezra Herup. John is also survived by his brother David (Joan) Falcone of Bolivar, MO and sister-in-law Janice Brandon-Falcone of Maryville, MO.

John was preceded in death by his father, Nicholas Falcone; mother and step-father Madeleine (Falcone) May and Charles May; and brother Paul Falcone.

A service for John will be held on Thursday, December 23, 2021, at 11:00 A.M. at the First Baptist Church in Bolivar. Visitation will be held one hour prior, starting at 10:00 A.M. Burial with military honors will commence later in the day at the Missouri Veteran's Cemetery in Springfield, Missouri at 2:00 P.M.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial donations be made to Samaritan's Purse through First Baptist Church, 119 North Springfield Street, Bolivar, Missouri 65613. Donations may also be made at www.samaritanspurse.org

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery

5201 S. Southwood
Springfield, MO 65804

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
316 N. Main
Bolivar, MO 65613

Funeral Service

DEC **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
316 N. Main
Bolivar, MO 65613

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Late getting to this, but I’ve wondered over the years if the 1970 Missouri Photo Workshop was John’s first exposure to Bolivar and the inspiration for his return with family many years later. He was a terrific fellow, someone with whom it was always a pleasure to interact.



Dave Berry - January 06 at 10:50 AM

TL

“ I’m sorry to hear of John’s passing. I remember the the day of Angela’s birth. We were all at the river when Gloria went into labor. I remember Gloria trying to convince John to take her home so she could shower before driving an hour to the nearest hospital. John was very patient with Gloria and so determined to get to the hospital.

Tracy Albert Loyd - December 29, 2021 at 10:53 AM

BB

“ Warm thoughts and God's comforting presence to Gloria and entire family as we honor the life of John. --cousin Beulah Baker

Beulah P. Baker - December 22, 2021 at 11:27 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John G. Falcone.



December 21, 2021 at 09:26 PM

SS

“ I am sorry to learn of John's earthly departure. He was a strong Christian believer & leader. I send prayers & hugs for Gloria & each of the family members. May God comfort them. Sharron M. Scott

Sharron Scott - December 21, 2021 at 04:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of John G. Falcone.



December 21, 2021 at 10:10 AM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of John G. Falcone.



December 20, 2021 at 06:06 PM