



John Polk Campbell

December 31, 1935 - October 7, 2018

John Polk Campbell, 82, of Bolivar passed away October 7, 2018 at Citizen's Memorial Health Care Facility where he had been a resident for the past two months.

He was born December 31, 1935 to Jones Polk and Jewel Holman Campbell at the family farm southwest of Bolivar.

He graduated from Bolivar High School in 1954 and attended Southwest Baptist College.

John married his high school sweetheart Neita Armstrong on July 7, 1957 at the First Christian Church in Bolivar. They were the parents of 2 children John Polk Jr. and Jill.

They soon built a home southwest of Bolivar on land that had been in the Campbell family since 1848. John continued to farm that land until 2016.

John started his farming career at an early age assisting his father. During this time, he was also involved with 4-H and FFA projects. Later as his father's eyesight failed he managed both his father's and his own cattle operations. He was happiest spending time on his tractor maintaining the quality of his pastures or just riding among his cattle herd enjoying nature's beauty.

He also enjoyed traveling with family and friends to see the beauty of other areas. His travels included visits to most of the United States and Canada and even a trip to Russia with the People to People organization. A visit to Marshfield, Missouri to attend the Cherry Blossom Festival and Presidential Families Reunion was a special event thoroughly enjoyed by the whole family

each spring.

Preserving his family's history was important to John. His great-grandfather Ezekiel M. Campbell, a first cousin to President James K. Polk, was credited with being an original settler of Bolivar and Polk County. As part of his preservation efforts, John was instrumental in establishing the Polk County North Ward Museum. When the Historical Society was gifted a two-story log cabin in excellent condition by long-time friend and neighbor Paul Taylor, John took on the monumental task of moving it to the museum grounds.

Family survivors include his wife of 61 years, Neita; his daughter, Jill Campbell; one sister, Virginia Roedder all of Bolivar; several nieces, nephews and cousins, as well as many friends. John will also be missed by his two loving grand pups, Callie and Truffle.

He was preceded in death by his son John Jr., his parents Jones and Jewel Campbell, and two sisters Eloise Hurst and Carolyn Bays.

Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, October 12, 2018 at Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar. Burial will follow at Greenwood Cemetery in Bolivar. Visitation will be on Thursday, October 11, 2018 from 5:00-7:00 pm at Butler Funeral Home, Bolivar, MO.

The family has requested memorial donations go to the Bolivar High School FFA scholarship fund or the Polk County North Ward Museum.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **11**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
(417) 326-5233
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

OCT **12**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
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Tribute Wall



“ *John Polk Campbell*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *John Polk Campbell*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *My favorite favorite person! I loved to see him and Neita come into the bank. They were such a great couple, happy and smiles. I knew if I was at SBU ballgames and I was alone I could always go and talk to them. Very sad to read this. Anne Howe*

Anne Howe - October 13, 2018 at 09:18 AM



“ *It was a pleasure to wait on John Polk when he came in the ASCS/FSA office. I always tried to make sure I waited on him. He was such a nice and considerate person. He will be missed by all that knew him.*

Cathy McNatt - October 12, 2018 at 09:54 AM

LG

“ Neita and Jill, I am so sorry for your loss. John Polk was a one of a kind man. I will never forget the many fun trips I had with John Polk to see the horse races. He always would ask dad about how I was doing and what new things were happening in my life. He genuinely cared about others and showed this through his actions. He was a very close friend of my dad (Don Gray), and I loved to listen to their political debates. The world lost another wonderful man and we will miss him.

Landon Gray and Family

Landon Gray - October 10, 2018 at 09:01 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Polk Campbell .



October 10, 2018 at 07:19 PM

RR

“ Neita and Jill and Virginia---My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. John Polk and I have known each other starting through his aunt Lucy Campbell who lived next to us--and all of our lives we have been friends! J.P.- as I called him- was always pleasant and upbeat. He will be missed. Love, Rose Roweton

Rose Roweton - October 09, 2018 at 07:28 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Polk Campbell .*



October 09, 2018 at 01:31 PM

DF

“ Life puts us in places when we have no idea of how important those places will be to us in the future. Our oldest son attended SBU for his first two years of college on a basketball scholarship. In that first season we got a new puppy at Christmas time and decided to bring her along to a game in January of 2010. Not wanting to disturb people we sat with our little poodle in the high seats at the end of the arena. Directly in front of us sat two poodle lovers...John and Neita Campbell. From that point on they were our game pals and lovingly became known as our Bolivar "in-laws".

We miss those days, but have managed to get a dinner in with them every now and then when we travel south, which is not often enough. It is difficult with couples like John and Neita, they both have their own wonderful personalities, but we never talk about one or the other, it is always John AND Neita. He has been quite a character, lived a full life and for sixty-one years never went a day that he didn't know he was loved.

May God grant him his rest and a bountiful welcome into the Kingdom!

Neita and Jill, our hearts are with you and our prayers have been and will continue to lift you up!

Our love,

Dee & Dan

DAN C FRENCH - October 09, 2018 at 12:24 PM

KG

“ *Mr. Campbell has attended the Cherry Blossom Festival in Marshfield, MO every year for many years representing his family as descendants of President Polk. He was a kind, sweet man who has a dear wife and daughter. Hugs and prayers for the family during this sad time.*

Karen Gore - October 08, 2018 at 02:57 PM