



John Woodrow Hedges

March 13, 1915 - October 29, 2012

John Woodrow Hedges (March 13th, 1915-October 29th, 2012)

“Home is the sailor...”

Though with so many of his generation he had sailed into harm's way, today he journeys home in peace. Though sight in this world was taken from him, today he sees his Lord Face to face.

John Woodrow Hedges was born the 13th of March 1915 to John and Mary Hedges in Clinton County Missouri. In High School he held the state records for shot-put, discus and javelin. In 1933 at eighteen he joined the U.S. Navy and served there for the next twenty years, becoming a Chief Petty Officer less than nine years after enlistment. One wartime commendation reads, “... for courageous, efficient, determined action in the presence of air attack and at the risk of submarine attack... conduct in keeping with the highest traditions of Naval Service.” After World War II and Korea, John went to college and worked for the Post Office.

Yet he who had known war treasured most the peace of family and faith. After 72 years together, his beloved wife, Virginia (McIntire), preceded him home earlier this year. Again, in Heaven they dance... John is survived by his eldest son, Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges and his wife, Melissa, their daughter Sarah and her sons, Cole and Ethan; Fr. Jon and Melissa's son, Ben and his wife, Victoria with their daughter, Sydney and sons Noah and Luke. John is also survived by his son, Keith Hedges and his fiancé Evelyn, Keith's daughter Vanessa and her husband Seth Wells, their daughter Peyton and son

Thadeus; Keith's son Kevin and his wife Gaga; Keith's daughters Rachel, Megan and Emily.

John had sight in his heart though not his eyes. He listened attentively and spoke only wisdom and grace or on occasion, something very silly and joyful. That is why his life gave each and all he met, especially children, the touch of heaven he had in his heart.

Arrangements are with Welch, Ryce, Haider and there will be a Tribute Wall for John on their website at www.wrhsb.com where photos and messages may be posted. Trisagion Prayers for the departed will be said at John's parish, St. Athanasius Orthodox Church (5580 Calle Real, Goleta) Sunday November 4th at 5:00PM. The Funeral will be at the Church Monday November 5th at 10:00 AM with burial and military honors at Goleta Cemetery following immediately.

In lieu of flowers, John had asked before his passing that memorial donations be made either to the Building Fund at St. Athanasius Church (PO Box 35 Goleta, CA 93116) or to John's beloved Sarah House (2612 Modoc Road Santa Barbara, CA 93105). May his memory be eternal and his virtues multiplied among us!

Cemetery Details

Goleta Cemetery

44 South San Antonio Road
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93110
(805) 967-3608

Previous Events

Trisagion

NOV 4. 5:00 PM (PT)

St. Athanasius Orthodox Church
300 Sumida Gardens Ln.
Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Funeral Service

NOV 5. 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Athanasius Orthodox Church
300 Sumida Gardens Ln.
Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Tribute Wall

MH

“ Dear Ones,
Kind, loving, and faithful John Hedges peacefully joined his dear Virginia in Heaven Oct. 29th. Once blind he now sees the Lord face and the faces of our loved ones who have gone before. We wish you, as our dear family friends, could all be here with us to celebrate Hedgie’s life. Though they appeared to be physically separated this past 7 months John said that Virginia has been with him daily! In this same way may we each daily feel their presences, love and their never ending prayers to cheer us on. God bless you!
With all our love,
Melissa

Melissa Hedges - November 05, 2012 at 12:47 AM



“ I am sending my condolences to Fr.Jon-Stephen and to his wife Melissa who worked with me in the classroom at Isla Vista School, and also to John's grandchildren, Sarah and Ben, who had both been my students there.
My mother, Elsie Pliha, lived near John and Virginia at Encina Royale and often told me how much she loved and admired them. I can just imagine my mother, who died in October 2009, welcoming them into Heaven.
Barbara Cornish

Barbara Cornish - November 04, 2012 at 03:34 PM

MH

Dear Barbara,
What a joy to picture your dear mother Elsie welcoming John and Virginia to heaven. Thank you for your loving words and friendship!
Love Melissa

Melissa Hedges - November 05, 2012 at 01:00 AM

TM

My Uncle John Hedges always struck me as have a permanent smile on his face. As a young man, he met my father, Roderick L. McIntire, in the Navy in which Hedge would stay as a career. The family legend was that my father was always starting fights in bars and the like, but it was my Uncle Hedgies who finished them! He taught my Sunday School class at Grace Baptist Church in the '60's. A good man!!

Timothy McIntire - March 14, 2023 at 08:08 PM

CH

“ *Carla Harris lit a candle in memory of John Woodrow Hedges*



Carla Harris - November 03, 2012 at 10:46 PM

CH

I will miss our dear John, but I am happy he is reunited with his dear Virginia. What a brave man of faith and love. He is an inspiration to me.

Carla Harris - November 03, 2012 at 10:47 PM

MA

“ *Margaret lit a candle in memory of John Woodrow Hedges*



Margaret - November 03, 2012 at 07:29 PM

MA

I knew John and Virginia thru their friend and neighbor; Fran Williams. My parents and I would have a little Christmas get together at Fran's house over the years. Both John and Virginia were wonderful people and a delight to know.

Margaret - November 03, 2012 at 07:32 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album Dad Memorial



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 02, 2012 at 05:38 PM



“ I will always remember John's smile and saying, "The Lord bless you!"
He was filled with the joy of the Lord and shared it freely.
May his memory be eternal.
Marilyn Gillquist



November 02, 2012 at 12:59 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album Dad Memorial



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:13 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album *Dad Memorial*



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:13 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album *Dad Memorial*



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:12 PM

TM

This is my Uncle Hedgie, Aunt Virginia my father's oldest sister, and my cousin Jon-Stephen as I remember them growing up. They lived 8 blocks away from us on Conquista Street.

Timothy McIntire - March 14, 2023 at 08:14 PM

FH

“ 9 files added to the album *Dad Memorial*



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:11 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:07 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:06 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges - November 01, 2012 at 11:05 PM



“ *John was always kind to me, always had a cheerful greeting for me at church, even after he lost his beloved wife, he never lost his cheerfulness. I will miss him greatly. Obadiah Robinson.*



Obadiah Robinson - November 01, 2012 at 05:11 PM