



John B. Bates

September 13, 1950 - July 18, 2018

John Bates, 67, Topeka, Kansas, passed away Wednesday, July 18, 2018, after an extended illness.

John was born September 13, 1950, in Topeka, Kansas, the son of Jack and Elva Ransom Bates. He graduated from Topeka West High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Washburn University. John married Rita Boranyak in 1973 at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. He was a USD 501 Elementary Band Teacher for over 30 years and taught private music lessons at Midwestern Music for 19 years. John was a member of Topeka Civic Symphony, Washburn Jazz Band, KU Pep Band and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia at Washburn University. John was an avid Jayhawk fan and member of Topeka Jayhawk Club. He was also a member of the State Rehab Council. John and Rita loved to travel and their favorite vacation spot was Carmel, California. John was always a positive person, no matter what the circumstances.

John is survived by his wife, Rita; brother-in-law, Mark Boranyak (Sharon); sister-in-law, Terri Strong (Mark); nieces, Holly Busey (Matthew), Katie Faidley and Nikki Stiles (Chris); and many great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Kelly Marie Bates, parents, sister-in-law, Regina Faidley, and nephew, Brian Strong.

Visitation will be 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Funeral service will be 1 p.m. Monday, at the funeral home with burial to follow in Mount Calvary Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Washburn University Foundation, for the John Bates Memorial University Band Scholarship, sent in care of the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd
Topeka, KS 66606

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 22. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

JUL 23. 1:00 PM (CT)

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2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
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info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John B. Bates



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - July 22, 2018 at 12:34 PM



“ John B. Bates

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Rita

I'm so sorry to hear about John's death. I would have expressed my condolences in person, but I was working out of state. John was the only person I know who had worked in Quenemo. I still have work there sometimes.

When you are ready, come to one of the Hayden monthly get togethers. We would love to see you.

*With sincerest sympathy,
Andrea (Schiffelbein) Jones*

Andrea Jones - July 26, 2018 at 02:23 PM

LT

“ Rita, I'm so very sorry. A good person and very loyal Jayhawk! I'll miss seeing him.

Larry Tenopir - July 23, 2018 at 10:34 AM

CT

“ Dear Rita: I am so sorry for your loss. You and John were blessed to have each other for so many years. He touched so many young lives and was an inspiration to his students. May the memories of your years together sustain you. He will be missed by all who knew him. Carol Turner

Carol Turner - July 23, 2018 at 07:17 AM

SW

“ Rita, Bob and I are sorry to read of John's passing. We had lots of fun times with you two years past. Our thoughts are with you. Susan and Bob Ward

Susan Ward - July 22, 2018 at 12:25 PM

FS

“ Rita I am so sorry to hear of the passing of John. We go way way back like Highland Park North days. I remember being with you and John when you 1st moved into your new home and had a Christmas party, what fun we had. John kept us laughing the entire time. John will truly be missed. One of my favorite thing of him of all times was the strong beautiful voice he had and being Santa Claus every year, he not only made the kids light up but he made me light up also. He was such an amazing person to the 501family. Thank you for sharing John with us for all these wonderful beautiful years. May God-Bless you. My sympathy and condolences to you. Your friend, Flo Johnson-Stephens

Flo Johnson Stephens - July 21, 2018 at 11:08 AM

SB

“ So sorry for your loss. Mr. Bates was a gifted and caring band teacher, and my children loved learning from him at Avondale West Elementary. We still remember all those concerts where he coaxed brilliant performances out of beginning musicians! May your happy memories be of some comfort now, Rita.

Stacey Beatty - July 20, 2018 at 11:42 AM

JW

“ We send all our love and deepest sympathy to Rita...as we love you both so very much. We were so blessed to enjoy having you as our neighbors for so many years! And we are blessed to enjoy your friendship as you both are such fine people. We have shared much laughter and you know John lives on our hearts for always. We love you both...Jamey and Jerry

Jamey warren - July 19, 2018 at 07:27 PM