



## John Mark Sockwell

September 17, 1950 - March 4, 2022

John was born September 17, 1950 in McKinney, Texas to J.E. and Lucille Sockwell. Even as a little boy, he loved to read and made excellent grades in school. John loved being a school teacher, and he taught in Joshua, Texas for 34 years before retiring. He never taught in any other district. Even after he retired, he couldn't be kept away from the classroom and went back to subbing at Joshua for another ten years before passing away. Teachers, students, administrators, and even the support staff loved his smile and his generous nature.

John was the last of his family having lost his mom, dad, and brother, Jimmy. He is survived by his sister in law, Judy Sockwell; his aunt, Charlotte Manning, and her sons, Luke and Bruce. He loved his extended family, David and Betty Vela, their boys, and now their grandchildren. He was there as Jason and Joshua grew up, and they knew him as uncle John John. He never missed a Christmas, birthday, or graduation of any of his extended family. He brought lots of joy to them all. John and David were fraternity brothers in college and have remained best friends for over 40 plus years. Both were members of teacher organizations and spent many a time at meetings or conventions laughing and meeting teachers from all over as well as sharing war stories or ideas. There is no doubt that John was the essence of what a teacher should be.

Keep smiling my friend. Now, enjoy your rest and being reunited with your family. Your friend and brother, David

I would like to thank the wonderful friends of John from the Joshua schools, especially Carol Warren, Diane Stroble, Cynthia Prater, Becky Weller, Carol Scott, and all the others that learned to love John as anyone who ever met him did. David

Visitation will be from 10:00am - 11:00am on Monday, March 14, 2022 at Byrum Funeral Home Chapel with a celebration of John's life beginning at 11:00am. Interment will be immediately following in Edgewood Cemetery, Lancaster.

# Cemetery Details

## **Edgewood Cemetery**

Nokomis Road @ Belt Line Road  
Lancaster, TX

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ John Sockwell was a fellow Alpha Phi Omega fraternity brother and friend during my time at East Texas State University. I have many fond memories of him. He was always a great friend and well liked by all who new him.

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**Mark Middleton** - March 13, 2022 at 06:40 PM

BB

“ We lived on Aspen next door to John Mark and his family, for as long as JE and Lucille were alive. John Mark, Jimmy, JE, and Lucille were more like family than neighbors! John Mark loved to cook, and would often call me over as a 8-10 year old kid from next door to try his new committee, cake, or brownie! I can't remember him ever having a bad comment for anyone. He was a kind hearted man, who did love teaching! When I became a teacher, he would always come over when he was in town to talk school. May you Rest In Peace my friend, I know your family welcomed you with open arms to heaven! I will never forget your blonde eyelashes, and how I could make you blush!



neighbors my whole life...

Beverly Bolton

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**Beverly Bolton** - March 08, 2022 at 09:22 PM

JD

“ John Mark lived with his parents and brother in our neighborhood in Lancaster. He was always an extremely nice person just like his whole family. Our neighborhood was full of kids with non stop activities daily. What a wonderful family who will be missed by all of us that were blessed to call them all friends.

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**joe davis** - March 08, 2022 at 08:27 PM

SU

“ He was a great person and a great teacher he will be missed❤️❤️  
❤️ Suzan Atterbury

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Suzan - March 08, 2022 at 04:53 PM



“ Reflections of Gratitude Casket Spray was  
purchased for the family of John Mark Sockwell.



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March 08, 2022 at 12:21 PM