



## John W. Burton

October 3, 1940 - October 10, 2021

John W. Burton, age 81 of Mattoon, IL passed away at 8:20 PM, Sunday, October 10, 2021, at his residence in Mattoon, IL.

A funeral service in his honor will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at First United Methodist Church, 1601 Charleston Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938. Reverend Todd Krost will officiate. The visitation will be held from 4:00 PM until the time of service at the church. A committal service will be held at 12:00 PM Thursday, October 14, 2021, at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park, 13 Old Town Creek Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966. Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938 is in charge of services.

John was born on October 3, 1940, in Benton, IL to the late William Dwight and Elizabeth (Ward) Burton. He married Shirley M. Feltmeyer on August 3, 1974, in Mattoon, IL; she survives. He is also survived by one son, Steven W. Doerr and wife Lalonna of Pocahontas, IL; one daughter, Sara S. Painter and husband Scott of Newburgh, IN; two brothers, James R. Burton and wife Linda of Trenton, MI, Whitney "Jay" Burton and wife Lili of Hillsboro, OR; two sisters, Martha J. Patrick and husband John of Duncansville, PA, Barbara J. Tesnivich and husband Bob of Southgate MI; eight grandchildren: Joshua W., Jacob W., Julia W., Jennifer W., and Jessica W. Doerr, Megan L., Adam L., and Katherine L. Painter; eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a special uncle, Bill Smith: and a special aunt, Phyllis Smith.

John earned his Bachelor of Education and Master of Education from Eastern

Illinois University in Charleston, IL. As an elementary school teacher at Bennett School for thirty-one years in Mattoon, IL, John was devoted to education and the process of developing his students. He had a passion to help every child reach their highest potential.

John was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Mattoon, IL. A true follower of Jesus Christ, John served his church in many facets, including, Leader in Stephen Ministry, teaching Sunday School Class, assisting in the Benevolent Offering Program, and Director of Vacation Bible School. John also held memberships at The Coles County Retired Teachers Association, National Education Association, and The Gideons International. In the 1960's, John saw a need for a girl's baseball team and organized the Girl's Ponytail League in Mattoon, IL. He found joy in sharing the love of the game while bringing the community together.

A remarkable man and servant, John was committed to his family, loyal to his friends, faithful to God, and available to anyone who needed him, his memory will live on.

Memorials in his honor may be made to the First United Methodist Church, or The Gideons International, PO Box 140800, Nashville, TN 37214-0800.

Please visit [www.mitchell-jerdan.com](http://www.mitchell-jerdan.com) or [www.facebook.com/mitchell-jerdanfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/mitchell-jerdanfuneralhome) to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Pleasant Grove Memorial Park

13 Old Town Creek Road  
Murphysboro, IL 62966

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 13. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
1601 Charleston Avenue  
Mattoon, IL 61938

## Service

OCT 13. 7:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
1601 Charleston Avenue  
Mattoon, IL 61938

# Tribute Wall



“ *John W. Burton*

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *Mr. Burton was always my favorite teacher then I used to kick it with him when he worked at Walgreens in the mall. He was always such a sweet caring man. Fly high Mr. Burton*



**Cathy (Henderson) Davis** - October 26, 2021 at 08:34 PM



“ *Mr. Burton was the best math teacher anyone could ask for. He made math so fun and found creative ways to motivate us to work hard. I remember the summer after I had him for math, he stopped by our house to give me a prize I had won at the end of the school year. Those acts of kindness teachers like him do make a big difference in a child's life. It makes me cry to think about him. What a blessing he was to so many. I can't wait to thank him in heaven!*

**Julie Noteboom** - October 18, 2021 at 11:37 AM



“ *Mr. Burton was an awesome teacher! I had him at Bennett school in 2nd grade. He made learning so much fun and he is the reason why I became the teacher I am today. He will be missed by everyone who knew him!*

*Always,  
Ashley Hensley (Rinehart)*

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**Ashley Hensley** - October 15, 2021 at 12:59 PM

EL

“ *I am so very sorry for your loss....Mr Burton was one of my favorite teachers..He made learning fun.always soft spoken and had a smile!....cherish all your wonderful memories.*

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**Elaine** - October 13, 2021 at 09:06 AM

KC

“ *Kathi Cobble lit a candle in memory of John W. Burton*



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**kathi cobble** - October 13, 2021 at 07:47 AM

DM

“ *John was a dedicated teacher. He truly cared about his students and followed them through life. My sympathy to Shirley and his children.*

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**Debbie McClusky Matheny** - October 12, 2021 at 08:12 PM

CS

*I enjoyed working with John at Bennett School. I will always remember his rewards by giving out Burton Bucks. Oh he did inspire so many students. My deepest sympathy for the entire family.*

**Clyde Self** - October 12, 2021 at 09:50 PM



“ 53 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home** - October 12, 2021 at 03:47 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of John W. Burton.*



October 12, 2021 at 12:09 PM

RM

“ *Mr Burton was a truly remarkable man. He was my 5th grade teacher at Bennett school. I received a remarkable sketch of myself done by him I will always cherish this portrait. In later years when I worked at Walmart he never missed my birthday always stopping in with a birthday hug. You will be truly missed. Robin McDowell*

**Robin McDowell** - October 12, 2021 at 12:08 PM