



John Eric Heugatter

February 16, 1972 - April 17, 2021

John Eric Heugatter passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 17, at the age of 49. John was one of the oldest survivors of cystic fibrosis, maintaining an active lifestyle despite many health challenges.

John was born on February 16, 1972 to Les and Darlene Heugatter. He was baptized at Park Place Lutheran Church in Houston, with Richard and Bernice Heugatter serving as godparents. He was a lifelong Houstonian, attending Shady Acres Day School, Red Elementary, Johnston Junior High, and Alief Elsik High School, Class of 1991.

John loved being around his family and enjoyed attending the yearly Heugatter Reunion and Strickler Reunion in Rosebud, Texas. John's many friends were very important to him. Not being able to see his friends made this past year very hard.

John inherited a love of cooking from his grandmother Bernice Heugatter. He cooked all his meals at home and often experimented with new recipes. His favorite jobs were in the food industry at Taco Bell and Long John Silver's and he enjoyed his latest job at Bed Bath and Beyond.

John's love of animals started at an early age. His pets included ferrets, hamsters, white doves, rabbits, and one year for Easter he requested and got a snake. He loved his dogs, especially Dakota, and more recently Bailey.

Heavy metal music was a big part of John's growing up. He played guitar in a band called Cry Wolf! with his friend B.J. Jasso. He enjoyed listening to music and attending concerts with friends. He spent many summer hours at

Astroworld and Westbury Square with his best buddy Kaynell Kirk. They loved going to Rosebud with Les and riding their bikes to Great-Grandma Lillie Strickler's house.

Mustangs were John's passion. His 2001 silver Mustang GT was his pride and joy. He kept it in perfect condition, often with the help of friends like Mark Pierce and Darrin Klingbeil. He entered car shows, and won many trophies and plaques. Car shows to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation were held by the Mustang Club in John's honor, raising thousands of dollars for research. He was a member of the Northside Mustang Car Club, Montgomery County Automotive Enthusiasts, and Silver Mustang Registry. The friends he made in the car club became his extended family.

John will be deeply missed by his loving family and many friends.

John is survived by his parents Les and Fran Heugatter and step-sister Jessica Noser, of Spring, Texas, and dear aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother Darlene Cheney Heugatter, and his grandparents Richard and Bernice Heugatter, O.L and Dortha Cheney, and John and Gracie McLaughlin.

A private graveside service will be held at Woodland Cemetery in Rosebud, Texas. Pastor Barry Sharp of First Lutheran Church of Rosebud will conduct the service.

Honorary Pallbearers will be his friends: Mark and Cathi Pierce, Darrin Klingbeil, Tracy Templer, Brian "B.J." Jasso, Shane Emmons, and Mike Juarez. His uncles: Mike Cheney, Wayne Heugatter, and Larry Heugatter. His cousins: Darrell Heugatter, Emily Heugatter, and Katherine Becnel.

Memorial gifts in John's honor may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ I was Assistant Director at Shady Acres and remember John well. He was a bright boy with a big personality. He was always cheerful and positive. He had a life well lived.

Susan S.

Susan S. - September 26, 2022 at 01:08 PM



“ John Eric Heugatter

July 20, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ I want to wish John's father, friends and family my condolences. My name is Sam and I knew John back in high school. I played in Cry Wolf with him and BJ. We were a good little band. especially for our age. It has been a couple of years since I've spoken to John. In hearing about his death makes me heavy hearted and sad. I hear his laugh and see his smile when thinking about him now. I'm sure he's up in heaven jamming with Hendrix and some of the other greats. . Rest easy and in peace John. We will see you on the flip side.

Sam Kovar - May 30, 2021 at 08:05 PM

FH

“ From Robert and Alisa Helmer purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



From Robert and Alisa Helmer - April 22, 2021 at 12:06 AM

KM

“ I have such fond memories of us as kids on Grandpa Strickler's farm in Rosebud and backyard barbeques at your house for summer holidays.. No matter the time and distance life took us as adults, John always seemed to pick up where we left off at family gatherings. Such a genuine and caring individual that never focused on his own struggles.

Rest in peace, John. You were such a strong person that I admired. You fought the good fight and you will be missed.

Love,

Kristen Strickler Moreno

Kristen Moreno - April 21, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



April 21, 2021 at 03:46 PM

NC

“ Northside Mustang Car Club purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



Northside Mustang Car Club - April 21, 2021 at 10:08 AM

FC

“ From Buck Strickler’s children purchased the *Treasured Lilies Spray* for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



From Buck Strickler’s children - April 20, 2021 at 08:31 PM

RQ

“ Rosendo and Pat Quinones purchased the *Florist Choice Bouquet* for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



Rosendo and Pat Quinones - April 20, 2021 at 11:25 AM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



April 20, 2021 at 11:07 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of John Eric Heugatter.



April 19, 2021 at 09:46 PM

WH

“ Like most guys, John loved cars. This trait was inherited from his Heugatter family starting with Papaw Heugatter. A few years ago at a family reunion, I drove my 1962 Chevrolet Impala and told John I would race him title for title. With his lovely smile and cunning wit, he said, "You might just have to walk home!" Needless to say that ended the conversation. John was such a trooper for the 49 years he dealt with cystic fibrosis. One word describes John and that word is "courageous". John had a strong faith and a strong will to keep on keeping on. Big John, as I usually called him, will be missed. A void will appear at every family gathering because of his absence. I pray he has already located MeeMee and he and she are cooking in style. If there are cars in heaven, he and Papaw will find time to tinker with them. Rest in peace, my friend; you deserve it!!

Wayne Heugatter - April 19, 2021 at 06:37 PM

LR

He bought his mustang from me a few years ago and I remember how excited he was when he saw it. He put so much love into that car and made so many great memories. Every time I saw him he had a huge smile on his face and we always joked around about the car. Rest in peace my friend. Prayers to his father and his wonderful family.

Lee Rosenbaum - April 20, 2021 at 06:47 AM

NB

Even though I will not be able to attend, I will say a special prayer at the time of the memorial service.

What an incredible person John must have been. I know that he made an impact to anyone he came in contact with.

I certainly remember all the grandparents, so he will be in good hands. Ms. Strickler and Bernice were such happy and great cooks.

Nan Hensel Bailey

Nan Hensel Bailey - April 22, 2021 at 09:42 AM



John handled life with such grace and aplomb in the face of daily adversity. I love him so much.

Les Heugatter - May 01, 2021 at 06:56 AM