



John Todd Davenport

January 15, 1969 - May 6, 2024

John Todd Davenport, 55, died at 6:20 a.m. Monday, May 6, 2024 at La Bella of Alton. Born January 15, 1969 in Alton, he was the son of Monica J. (Todd) Davenport of Alton and the late Orris Gene Davenport. Along with his mother, he is survived by many cousins and also his many fraternity brothers and their families and other friends. He was preceded in death by his father and his sister, Julie Davenport.

After graduating from Alton High School, John pursued his dream of being an architect and attended Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where he was affectionately known as 'Chip'. Like many of us, John realized his dreams had changed and decided to focus his education on Political Science and History. John eventually received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University. While at university John was involved in many campus organizations and grew popular amongst the student body. John pledged Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity his freshman year where he made many lifelong friends and was eventually elected fraternity president. After graduating from university, John pursued a career in administration at two different universities where he touched many lives by encouraging the students to grow as adults and seek their future careers.

John was an avid trivia whiz, he loved to read and collect books. He was well traveled from Maine to Alaska and throughout Europe. His dream of being on

the television show Jeopardy was nearly realized but he didn't make the final round - his friends jokingly decided that he was smarter than the other contestants and would win all the money.

John was diagnosed with cancer five years ago, which he met with bravery - John never said 'why me?', he continued to be cheerful in the face of adversity. John will be remembered for these traits - wit, humor, loyalty and bravery. He was the best of people and we all deserved to spend more time with this special person. John's family, many fraternity brothers, their families, and friends will cherish their memories with him for the rest of their lives.

A celebration of John's life is set for 1:00 pm on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at Community Christian Church in Alton, IL. We invite anyone who knew John to attend as we celebrate his life by sharing memories and stories together. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 25. 1:00 PM (CT)

Community Christian Church
Alton, IL

Tribute Wall

AR

“ I am a cousin of John's, I was always impressed of how knowledgeable he was with all the books he read about History, Architecture and Classic Cars. I went on many vacations with him and his mother, such as our Alaskan Cruise and our trip to England and Scotland. My mother who accompanied us on these vacations, always had fun. I will treasure these memories forever. John was a great guy, good hearted and loved his sense of humor. I will miss him dearly. Amy Roades

Amy Roades - May 25, 2024 at 12:14 PM

BO

“ I met John in high school. He was a couple years younger than me, but I was drawn to his fun and beautiful spirit. He shared his friendship and his group of incredible friends with me. I even got to attend John's senior prom with him. Even though we did not stay in touch, it seems like a lonelier world knowing that John is not in it. My heart goes out to his Mom and all his friends who I know are missing him. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Betsy Ortega - May 14, 2024 at 05:29 PM

JG

“ John and I worked together at the Kimmel Leadership Center at SIUE from 2003-2007. We became good friends. John shared his love and knowledge of St. Louis and surrounding areas by introducing me to many restaurants, museums and historical neighborhoods. John knew so much history and he loved sharing it. When I moved out of IL in 2016, we made sure to meet up at least once or twice a year to catch up. We regularly frequented Ponticello’s pizza on Bellefontaine in St. Louis for their famous thin crust, provel pizza. When they closed, we relocated our service just down the street to Pirrone’s pizza. We would spend hours, and I mean hours, sitting and talking. Memories, updates, future plans- we got it all straightened out. I’m going to really miss these times, John. You were a great friend- reliable, knowledgeable, dependable. Your laugh, your witty, dry sense of humor will be missed so dearly. Rest in peace, my good friend.

Joe Gibbons - May 10, 2024 at 10:37 AM

IS

“ John and I worked together as graduate assistants at SIUE in the mid-'90s. He was a gentle and talented soul. I'm a Jesuit priest now at Regis University in Denver and will offer a memorial Mass for John here this week-end. igibbons@jesuits.org

Ian Gibbons, SJ - May 09, 2024 at 04:43 PM