



John Griffin Fagala

December 24, 1945 - November 30, 2025

John Griffin Fagala, 79, of Maryville, IL went to be with his heavenly father at 4:46 am, Sunday, November 30, 2025 at Eden Village Retirement Center. John was born on December 24, 1945 in Alexandria, VA to the late Holmes Griffin and Mabel Beatrice (Johnson) Fagala. John grew up in Eureka, MO attending school in House Springs before transferring to Broadview Academy, North Aurora Illinois where he graduated. John enlisted in the United States Army in 1967 where he served as a Medical Specialist based in Germany during the Vietnam War. John married Marlene (Schlemer) Elliott on June 7, 1986 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Maryville, IL. John retired as a Police Officer for the Department of Defense at (NGA) National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in St Louis, MO. John was a very active member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Maryville, IL where he played in the Hand Bell Choir, sang in the Vocal Choir, attended Disciple Classes and was involved in multiple mission trips. John was an avid reader and racquetball player, loved puzzles, enjoyed working out, traveling, attending Christian music events, singing with Raise the Praise Choir and spent countless hours attending events with his grandchildren. John and Marlene were a host family for the Gateway Grizzlies Baseball team for many years. John loved everything about his country, always reading or visiting historical sites and never forgetting what sacrifices were made for our freedom. John is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Marlene Fagala, along with his daughters, Dawn Marie Fagala-House of Glen Carbon, IL, Marla Kay (John)

Grant of Glen Carbon, IL, Monica Fay (John) Wright of Troy, IL, Melinda Gay Kershaw of Maryville, IL, Melissa May Elliott-Menne of St. Louis, MO and Melanie Rae (Brad) Szedlar of Maryville, IL.

Grandchildren, Madison Fagala, Samuel House and Jackson House of Glen Carbon, Nicole (Chris) Mueth of Maryville and Danielle (Jason) Foley of Collinsville, Brendan (Heather) Wright of St. Jacob and Keaton (Peyton) Wright of Troy, Savannah Danks of Glen Carbon, Taylor (John) Weidner of Maryville and Mason Kershaw of Glen Carbon, Elliot Ellis, Natalie Menne, Christian Menne, and Jacob Menne all of St. Louis, Major Cole (Amanda) Trover of Troy, Caira (Nicholas) Carter of Wood River and Chase Trover of Bunker Hill.

Great grandchildren, Brett Mueth of O'Fallon, Brady Mueth of Maryville, Makayla Foley, Makenna Foley and Macie Foley all of Collinsville, Carsyn Wright of St. Jacob, Kollyns Wright and Brooks Wright both of Troy, Preston Danks of Glen Carbon, Rhea Weidner of Maryville, Lukas Ellis and Charlotte Ellis both of St. Louis.

Sisters, Esther (Jerry) Mastbaum, of Dayton, OH, Phebe Fagala of Dayton, OH. Brothers, Charles (Denise) Fagala, Sr. of Dayton, OH, Reuben (Beth) Fagala of Kansas City, MO. Along with countless nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be on Friday, December 19, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Maryville and will continue from 10:00 a.m. until time of service at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 20, 2025 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church with a lunch to follow. Memorials can be made to St. Lukes United Methodist Church, Maryville, IL. Private family interment will be at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery with full military honors. Gent Funeral Home in Alton, IL is in charge of funeral services.

Additional information and guestbook may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC **19**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St Lukes United Methodist Church
6325 W Main St
Maryville, IL 62062-5783
(618) 345-9911

also Saturday, December 20, 2025, 10:00 to 11:00 am

Memorial Service

DEC **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
6325 W. Main Street
Maryville, IL 52062

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Jennifer S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Griffin Fagala.

Jennifer S. - December 22, 2025 at 07:31 PM

DH

“ David H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Griffin Fagala.

David H. - December 18, 2025 at 09:21 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of John Griffin Fagala.



December 18, 2025 at 09:21 AM

BS

“ John may be gone from our sight to keep watch over us, but never from our hearts.

Brad Szedlar - December 11, 2025 at 01:16 PM

JB

“ John was my adopted daddy. Not legally but might as well have been. I'm glad he is in a much better place now and doesn;t have to suffer no more.Hopefully I will see you in the future. You will always have a special place in my heart. Love you my friend.

Jack Bruehl - December 10, 2025 at 07:50 PM

DF

John was a very special man to me and everyone. I know he loved playing in our bell choir and taught me how to play the bells. He excelled in everything he did. It was heartbreaking to see how he suffered for so many years, and it brings peace to know he feels no more pain and is whole again. He has reached our ultimate goal and we will all see him again. Until we do, rest in peace, my friend. I love you. ❤️🙏

Denise Foutch - December 11, 2025 at 10:12 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of John Griffin Fagala.



December 10, 2025 at 03:48 PM

DG

“ Marlene and family, I am so sorry to learn of your husband's death. Eventhough I never met him, I heard so many wonderful things about him.
You have my deepest sympathy. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you.
I will always remember the good times we shared in Rebekahs.

Donna Courtney Grable - December 09, 2025 at 09:52 AM