



John Laberrigue

October 11, 1946 - November 4, 2017

No obituary found for this tribute.

Tribute Wall

JN

“ Only today did I find this site and found out Farmer Juan had passed last November! We met in Marin in the early 70s, and managed to somewhat stay in touch all these years. We spoke a couple of times a year and sent cards and such occasionally. I intended to get back up there to visit with him when I could arrange my life accordingly. I wondered what was up when there was no card from Hawaii last winter.

We lightheartedly spoke of me going to Hawaii with him one day, and I was going to come park my trailer and camp @ Manson. Now, it's too late. I am just gutted. No one knew me to notify me of his passing. John was such a gentle giant, gave the best bear hugs, and I deeply regret not getting up there to spend time with him.

I would really appreciate it if someone would contact me and fill in the blanks. Email me at my last name dot first name (below) at gmail. Thank you

Judith Neeley (aka Hypatia)

Judith Neeley - July 02, 2018 at 11:29 PM

JM

“ I first met Juan at Pac Bell in San Francisco. He came in as a new employee after his pro baseball career. We became good friends, as I too was born in SF in 1950 and grew up in the Richmond district, until my family moved to Marin in 1959, or so. I was very involved in the music and counterculture of the times, and introduced Juan to many components of same. We both moved up to Corvallis, Ore. and from there ended up relocating to Lake Chelan, Wa. to pick apples, about 1971 or 72. After our first season, we wintered in Mexico, then returned to Chelan and bought 40 acres with 3 other friends. Juan spun off from that alliance and bought his orchard in Manson. Juan was an amazing man, smart, considerate, strong, athletic, free thinking, and fun to be with. I am thankful for our friendship, and am enriched by knowing Juan. Rest in peace, my friend, and know that you were loved and appreciated by many.
Fat Max.

Jack MacBurt - January 07, 2018 at 10:16 AM

AF

“ You made a wonderful friend. I will miss your emails and our oh so many telephone conversations. You challenged my mind and brought me laughter. Rest well my friend am sure I will see you again.

Andrea Fielding - December 20, 2017 at 01:36 AM

KL

“ Juan was a truly decent fellow with a big heart. Honest and forthright. I often enjoyed spending a little time with him. He will be missed.

Keith Little - December 06, 2017 at 05:17 AM

BO

“ I remember John well from our Class of 1960 at St. Cecilia. He was a great guy. I offer my condolences to John's family and he will always be remembered by our classmates, as we still gather to this day for different events. May John rest in God's Peace.
Bob O'Donnell

Bob O'Donnell - November 20, 2017 at 11:08 PM

JQ

“ Please see my shared story, on behalf of the St. Cecilia Grammar School Class of 1960. It says it all.
Heartfelt and loving condolences to his cousin, Cathy, and all other family members.

Jo Anne Quinn - November 20, 2017 at 07:58 PM

JQ

“ I (and many others) have known John since grammar school (St. Cecilia, Parkside District, San Francisco, CA). We all grew up in the same neighborhood, attended the same grammar school, and many went on to attend high school with John (St. Ignatius, San Francisco). He made some lifelong friends out of those neighborhood/school roots, including me. I still also remember his wonderful parents, Antoine (Tony) and Josephina (Jo). They were committed to giving their son the best life and education possible.

When our Grammar School Class of 1960 had their second reunion, someone tracked John down - by then he was in Manson, WA, living the life of a farmer. He was unable to attend (ah yes - the life of a farmer is 24/7), but contributed to our Reunion Commemorative Booklet. We were all quite impressed with his baseball years, first with the Atlanta Braves, and then with the Montreal Astros.

Over the following years, John sent me small, beautifully polished rocks, stones, crystals, and fossils, which I displayed in a cabinet. They were always accompanied by documentation, explaining their origins, and mystical meanings. He also shared photos of his apple harvests, and his dogs, Black and Blue.

One of his great pleasures was traveling to Hawaii every year, after harvest, to relax and re-group. I still have postcards he sent - and they were always very colorful and beautiful.

John had a great big, kind heart. If someone was in need, he was there to help. He had an abiding respect for the balance of nature, and I recall him, along with a bird expert, starting up a Barn Owl project, - building nesting homes, attached to barns, when these birds saw their natural habitats waning or destroyed.

"Thank you for being a friend," Farmer Juan....

Jo Anne Quinn - November 20, 2017 at 07:53 PM

JR

“ *Juan was a good friend and neighbor. He would stop by to shoot the breeze, share some news, pet the dog and drink some tea. He had a deep barking laugh, a fierceness, an unexpected sentimental streak, exuberant opinions and a laid back lifestyle.*

When he was interested in something his passion about it was intense. He read alot about natural health remedies and would make recommendations - some pretty wild theories and some just common good sense. He loved his rocks and crystals and when we bought the property next to his he gave us a beautiful crystal as a neighbor gift with special instructions on it's care. He loved his dogs. We knew Black and Blue the best. They would follow trotting behind him while he drove his tractor. One time a young coyote followed at a distance while he mowed, the coyote hunting for gophers. That really tickled him. In an e-mail he occasionally sent an idea about a dessert I might like to try (and with luck share!). He raved about Sandy Miller's pies and the freshness of the food in Hawaii.

And Hawaii - he loved Hawaii - his place to rest, his paradise.

His passions, his friendliness, his stops in for a visit and a cup of tea - all this will be missed.

I hope your spirit is in your beautiful paradise to rest, Juan.

Jill Risley - November 11, 2017 at 05:52 PM