



John Barden Fuller

January 3, 1921 - March 1, 2019

John Barden Fuller, (98) of Kensington, CT and Melbourne, FL, passed on to eternal life, wisdom and travel on March 1, 2019. Born in New Britain, CT Jan 3, 1921 to Frederick and Katherine Holmes Fuller. He died after a short hospital stay surrounded by his family. He leaves behind his wife and long-time friend T. Grace Firnhaber Fuller of Kensington, CT., along with sons Dr. J. Barden Fuller (Kathleen) of Southington CT, Russell Fuller (Rhona) of Southington, CT and daughter Nancy Clemmons (Edward) of Hudson, FL.. Additionally, he leaves behind six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his first two wives Marian P. Fuller and Ruby Bomba Fuller as well as his brother Fred Fuller and sisters Betty Stahlbush and Jean Kernan.

John was employed for 35 years with New Britain Public Schools as an Industrial Arts Teacher, District Administrator, and was selected as Teacher of the Year in 1973, retiring in 1980. He was a member for many years, past president, and 1975 Educator of the Year recipient of the Connecticut Industrial Arts Association. His employment history also included Stanley Tools, F Willis Construction and Market Square Hardware. He was an active with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts from the mid 1940's until the 1970's as an adult leader

John had a passion for travel, camping and Airstreaming. He towed his classic Airstream trailer extensively across the US and Canada. Even last year he was on the road actively camping. He was a long time, active member, fifty-

seven and a half years, and past region president of Wally Byam Airstream Club. John enjoyed the fun and adventure of travel with the many friends he made on the road. He recently commented that it was OK that his travels never got to Oklahoma, after camping in every other state in the continental US, nine Canadian Provinces and Mexico. He mastered the telling of bad dad jokes and the hidden wisdom of most of them. Additionally, he enjoyed playing cards and woodworking as time permitted.

He was a longtime member of South Congregational Church (New Britain, CT) and Kensington Congregational Church.

The family will receive the public at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Friday March 8, 2019 from 5 to 8pm. Christian services of celebration will be held at Kensington Congregational Church, 312 Percival Ave, Kensington, CT 06037 on Saturday March 9, 2019 at 10am.

Burial will be in New Britain at the Fairview Cemetery following the service. In Lieu of flowers donations may be made to Kensington Congregational Church Youth Fellowship programs. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

120 Smalley Street
New Britain, CT 06051

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAR 8. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home
45 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 225-6361
carlsonfh@aol.com
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

Kensington Congregational Church
312 Percival Avenue
Kensington, CT 06037

Tribute Wall

RC

“ *We enjoyed John's enthusiasm for life and airstreaming, may he rest in peace*

Our condolences to his family, Roger & Ruth Crockett

Ruth Crockett - March 08, 2019 at 03:29 PM

HL

“ Sincere condolences to the entire family of Mr. Fuller.



We get to meet and interact with many people in our lives. Rarely do we get to have a teacher from the ranks of the absolute very best (in the front row), 'Mr. Fuller', Teacher of the year for every year!

I was blessed with having Mr. Fuller as my Industrial Arts Teacher in Jr High School. I had many teachers, instructors, professors and educators through life but only one, Mr. Fuller.

I was one of many students in his IA classes for a couple years. He gave more than what his job description required. Consider, he was the Niagara Falls of educational instruction for those who wanted to learn. To translate, he went well beyond the course curriculum to those reaching out to his extreme knowledge and abilities. He had a photo shop (club) and allowed me to take part in it. It was indeed a privilege but that was who he was if you only reached out, he would always be there and never let you down.

I think of him very often as I toil with many projects. There is very little I can't do because of the work ethic he instilled and taught. How to do it right was also who he was. He quickly became a reward in my life and I will never forget him.

I don't feel worthy to use his first name so I will conclude with a 'thank you', Mr. Fuller!

Henry Lenkiewicz

Henry Lenkiewicz - March 08, 2019 at 02:44 AM

NP

“ John was my next door neighbor, Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader, camping friend and the father of three exceptional children. He ran camp Kemosahabe for a number of year and was instrumental in my earning the eagle badge. He was a mentor to me as I pursued my education as an industrial arts teacher. I am proud to have known him as a friend.

Nancy Pasco - March 06, 2019 at 09:28 AM

JO

“ Condolences to our friends the Fuller family. We had the pleasure of camping just a few times with John but will remember him fondly! It's wonderful he lived such a loved and adventurous life! A model to us all. John & Sandi O'Connor, Cape Cod Airstream Club

John & Sandi O'Connor - March 05, 2019 at 05:06 PM

JC

“ We have only known John for thirteen years and are proud to have called John our friend. Because of John's love of adventure and travel and Airstreams is how we first met. John quickly became a part of our extended family along with his two sons Bard and Russ and their wonderful wives Kathleen and Rhona. Our thoughts and prayers to the whole Fuller Clan and be sure that John will always be a big part of our memories of Airstreaming.

J. Rick & Sandi Cipot

J. Rick Cipot - March 05, 2019 at 08:11 AM

AM

“ *Mr Fuller was my 7th and 9th grade industrial arts teacher-Central Jr High 1955. He was very patient and kind to me, I had no ability. Tried to duplicate his personality as a high school teacher for 34 years. Al Miller*

Al Miller - March 05, 2019 at 07:31 AM

SD

“ *I never knew Mr. Fuller but know Tanya well. She married my awesome nephew, Christopher. I've got a strong feeling he was a wonderful kind man. My favorite picture of Mr. Fuller shows him playing and talking with Tinleigh. I could see his warmhearted love just from the expression on his face. Many prayers for the family as they find strength in His arms. Susan Dail*

Susan Dail - March 04, 2019 at 04:50 PM

MK

We had the wonderful opportunity to become acquainted with John...and later, Grace...at the Land Yacht Harbor Airstream Park in Florida.

John had unbounded enthusiasm for life and for Airstreaming and all it encompassed. He was always available to help promote the Park and anything dealing with Airstreams...and he did this with such wit, charm and knowledge!

He will be sorely missed at LYH and we extend our deepest condolences to that wonderful Grace and his family.

Marilyn and Dick Keating, Land Yacht Harbor, Melbourne, FL

Marilyn/Dick Keating - March 13, 2019 at 05:26 PM

AM

I was sad to learn of John's passing via his obituary posted on the Internet, and offer my deepest, though belated, condolences to his family. John and I first became acquainted via snail mail and the Internet almost 20 years ago when I contacted him in connection with a family history project I was working on. Yes, John and I are distant cousins because my gr. gr. grandfather, John Mitchell, and his gr. gr. grandfather, William Mitchell, both born in England, were brothers. John had compiled a record of his family tree which he kindly shared with me and we continued to correspond and exchange Christmas cards over the years.

Six or seven years ago we were in New Britain attending a memorial service for one of my favorite professors. After the reception that followed the service, held in Berlin or Kensington, my wife and I took the opportunity to call John. Luckily, we found him in, motored over, and spent several delightful hours conversing with John and Grace while seated on their front lawn. I did not know John as well or for as long as many of those who have registered comments on this page but it was obvious that he liked people and these feelings were mutual. Rest in peace dear cousin.

Gibbs and Rachel Mitchell, Westborough, Massachusetts

A. Gibbs Mitchell - January 26, 2020 at 11:59 AM