

John David Evans, age 90 of Westerville, Ohio, passed away on September 23, 2023.

John was born in 1933 to Vera (Herron) and Gomer Evans in New Philadelphia, Ohio. He received his high school education from New Philadelphia Schools in 1951 where he was active in football, basketball, track & field, and American Legion baseball. He furthered his education at Otterbein College, earning a degree in education in 1960. Later, he pursued his passion for science and physical education, obtaining a master's degree from Xavier University in 1970. John served in the Army, in the 56 Military Police Company, as an MP during the Korean Conflict.

From 1960 to 1963, John was a science teacher, assistant football coach and head track coach at Mifflin High School. In 1963, he joined Westerville High School as a biology teacher, holding various roles such as science department chair, National Honor Society advisor, head track and cross-country coach and golf coach. His exceptional teaching and coaching abilities earned him numerous awards, including the Ed Barker award from the Ohio High School Association for outstanding contribution to track and field and the Sigma Xi Scientific Research award from the OSU chapter for excellence in science teaching. He also served as the treasurer of the State Track and Cross-Country Coaches Association for many years. After 33 years at Westerville High School, John retired and continued to share his knowledge as an adjunct professor at Columbus State Community College teaching Physiology, Anatomy, Pathophysiology, and Biology for twelve more years.

In his free time, John enjoyed playing golf and indulging in his hobby of building and flying radio-controlled airplanes. He was a proud member of the Westerville Model Aeronautics Association. John was also a life member of the York Masonic Lodge and held the prestigious 32-degree Mason status. He was an Otterbein "O" Club member and an original foundation member. John and his wife were longtime members of the United Methodist Church in Westerville.

He met his beloved wife, Carol (Chapman) Evans, at Otterbein College and they shared a beautiful journey together for 67 years. Their love and devotion were unwavering. John was a devoted father to his son, David (Jamie) Evans, and his daughter, Laurie Evans. He was also a loving grandfather to Alyssa (Josh) Claver, and great-grandfather to Chase Claver and Jocelyn Claver.

John was preceded in death by his sister and brothers-in-law Eleanor (Chapman) and Bob Phelps, Joann (Chapman) and Robert Richards, Jean (Chapman) and Phyllip Huffman, Charma (Chapman) and Dallas Tucker, Peter Hayden Chapman II, Wayne Reid, and Robert Murphy. He will be deeply missed by his sister-in-law, Beth (Chapman Reid) Murphy, as well as his many nieces and nephews.

John will be remembered for his love and dedication to education, his love for his family, and his passion for coaching. His legacy will live on through the lives he touched, and the memories created. 90 years loved.

The family requests donations be made in his name to the Otterbein "O" Club at 1 S Grove St, Westerville, Ohio 43081. Notes of condolences can be sent to Carol Evans at Feridean Commons, 6885 Freeman Rd, Westerville, Ohio 43082

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