



John B. Kluttz

March 23, 1935 - January 9, 2023

John grew up in the Millingport community where he drove a school bus and worked at the local gas station during his High School years. He graduated from Millingport High in 1954 and entered into service with the US Airforce immediately afterward. Upon return from the service, he and his high school sweetheart Julie were married in 1956. He graduated from Nashville Auto Diesel College later in 1959 and began his career as a diesel mechanic at Mitchell Distributing Company, moving his growing family to Charlotte where they lived until their retirement.

When John purchased his first Model A Ford at the age of 17, he said that he took the car to the community mechanic when he had a small problem. The mechanic told him that if he was going to keep the car, he needed to learn to work on it. This is when John's passion for Model A Fords began and how he spent his happiest days with his best friends from around the globe for the rest of his life!

At age 50, after years as a Detroit Diesel Mechanic he and Julie decided to take the plunge and open a full Model A Restoration Shop. They thrived at their shop in Cornelius, NC until their retirement in 1998 when they moved back to Cabarrus County. John once again set up shop in his back yard garage where he attracted a loyal group of friends who visited almost daily. While on the farm in Gold Hill, John also began a lifelong love with Alis

Chalmers tractors after he restored his Dad's tractor and began amassing his collection of tractors as well.

John was the living embodiment of the phrase "Live your passion and you never work a day in your life". When not working on Model A's, he was learning everything he could from the history of the Ford Company down to the most intricate details of the cars. He was a mechanic as well as a historian. He loved his hours in the archives of Ford Motor Company and found pleasure in reading history after history of the company. John's philosophy was to restore a car to the exact specifications of how it rolled off the assembly line. He was a valued and highly-esteemed member of both the local and national Model A Communities, serving in many capacities during his years of membership and service. He was member of MARC - Model A Restorers Club, Hornets Chapter of the AACA and Queen City Model A Club. He served on the Judging Standards committee, was a Master Judge and presented highly-anticipated seminars at national club meets on topics of his considerable expertise. Along with his wife and lifelong partner, Julie who shared his passion, they gave many hours of time and in service to these clubs.

John restored many cars of his own and had the crowning achievement of winning the most prestigious award from MARC, The Henry for a restoration that garnered top points. He was also presented with the Ken Brady Service Award - the highest award given to members at the national level.

This is what John's Model A Community had to say upon learning of his death:

"John was a great Model A man and ambassador to our hobby. He was a friend to all that knew him. John was always ready, willing and able to take on any Model A project. He was willing to share his advice on the phone or in person. It has been said that John forgot more about the Model A than most of

us even knew.

We truly lost a GIANT in our Hobby."

He was an active member of Wesley Chapel Methodist Church where he loved serving as greeter on Sunday mornings. He also belonged to the United Methodist Men.

John is survived by his wife Julie Ussery Kluttz, for 66 years of the home. He is also survived by a son John David Kluttz (Kim) of Oakboro, NC; two daughters, Sally Simerson of Denver, CO and Betsy Tusa (John) of Lafayette, CO; three grandchildren, Bonnie Kluttz Sammons (Ben) of Richfield, NC John Alexander McKinnon (Sarah) of Asheville, NC and Seth William McKinnon (Amanda) of Germany; five great-grandchildren, Charlotte, Meredith, Grant, Victoria and Ronan. John is also preceded in death by his parents, J.S. Kluttz and Mary Wyatt Clayton Kluttz; a large and loving group of brothers and sisters, Jack Methias Kluttz, Annie Lou Kluttz Honeycutt, Jake Nelson Kluttz, Julius Kluttz, Mary Patricia Phillips and a grandson, Kevin Fowler Kluttz.

His funeral service will be 1pm Saturday, January 14, 2023 at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Kris Mares officiating. Mr. Kluttz will lie in state 30 minutes prior to the service. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends following the interment in the church fellowship hall.

Memorials may be made to, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105 or to, Stanly Community Christian Ministry, 1324 East Main Street, Albemarle, NC 28001.

Cemetery Details

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery

46963 Wesley Chapel Rd
Misenheimer, NC 28109

Previous Events

Lie in State

JAN 14. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church
46963 Wesley Chapel Road
Misenheimer, NC 28109

Funeral Service

JAN 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church
46963 Wesley Chapel Road
Misenheimer, NC 28109

Burial

JAN 14 (ET)

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery
46963 Wesley Chapel Rd
Misenheimer, NC 28109

Receive Friends

JAN 14 (ET)

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church
46963 Wesley Chapel Road
Misenheimer, NC 28109

Following the interment in the church fellowship hall.

Tribute Wall



“ *Stanly Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John B. Klutz*



Stanly Funeral Home - August 30, 2023 at 05:43 PM



“ *David Fisher lit a candle in memory of John B. Klutz*



David Fisher - January 13, 2023 at 10:51 PM



“ *3 files added to the album john klutz*



Tim C - January 13, 2023 at 10:31 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of John B. Klutz.*



January 13, 2023 at 09:58 AM



“ *Your family at Universal Furniture purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John B. Klutz.*



Your family at Universal Furniture - January 13, 2023 at 08:46 AM



“ *Yes, I'm an upstate New York native, but moved to New Orleans, LA and from there I moved to North Carolina. I first met John and Julie at their shop in Cornelius, NC in 1988. Me being a Model A enthusiast, I found a great friend and mentor in John. On two occasions I brought my fathers 1930 Model A down from New York for John to work on as we felt that John was the most competent individual to perform the necessary jobs. I will always remember the great handshake and bear hug that we shared when we encountered each other. A great and wonderful friend.*
~Ken Maidment

Ken Maidment - January 12, 2023 at 09:05 PM

JB

“ *Comming from New York and 'talking funny' it was always amusing to be with John and his at home friends . I was the target of their barbs.*

John was the best Model A Ford mentor to all of of us in the Model A Restorers Club. He shared his deep passion.

My fondest memory will of John, the Southern Gentleman. While at a National Model A event with my daughter, Sarah, I introduced them. John tipped his hat to her.

My very best to the Kluttz family, Jim Brand

JAMES BRAND - January 12, 2023 at 05:19 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John B. Kluttz.*



January 12, 2023 at 05:16 PM

HE

“ *HP Engines purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John B. Kluttz.*



HP Engines - January 12, 2023 at 02:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of John B. Kluttz.



January 12, 2023 at 12:27 PM