



John S. Rigden

January 10, 1934 - November 24, 2017

Rigden, John S., of St. Louis, Missouri was born January 10, 1934, in Painesville, Ohio, to William Percy and Eltheda Xelpha (nee Weaver) Rigden, and entered into rest, November 24, 2017, in St. Louis, Missouri, at the age of 83 years, 10 months and 14 days.

He is preceded in death by his parents and one brother William Rigden.

He is survived by,

his loving wife of 32 years, Diana (nee Wyllie) Rigden, his first wife, Dorothy (nee Takala) Rigden Hassell,

six (6) children, Jeffrey Rigden, Gregory (Brenda) Rigden, Jonathan (Ann) Rigden, Keith (Linda) Rigden, Karen (Thomas) Montes-de-Oca, Lawrence (Debbie) Brick,

nineteen (19) grandchildren, Melanie Schaller, Vanessa (Ryan) Hodack, John S. (Alexandra) Rigden, Joshua (Hannah) Rigden, David Rigden, Ryan (Samantha) Montes-de-Oca, Savannah (Brent) Bulbuk, Katrina Rigden, Kevin Montes-de-Oca, Angela (Harry Driscoll) Rigden, Catherine (Tyler) Reed, Caleb (Eden) Allison, Emily (Michael) Leshen, Walter Rigden, Murphy Montes-de-Oca, Taylor Allison, Anna Rigden, Rachel Rigden, Bryce Rigden,

eleven (11) great-grandchildren, Harrison, Connor, Tanner, Ty, Jackson, Lincoln, Sean, Benjamin, Atticus, Revere, Carson,

and many other family and friends.

John is the author of 6 books on physics and the history of physics, and spoke at many international events on physics during his lifetime. Rigden received his B.S. from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Massachusetts, his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard University. He served on the faculty of his alma mater, Eastern Nazarene, as well as Middlebury College and the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He was an Honorary Professor of Physics at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and held an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Denison University. Rigden was editor of the American Journal of Physics from 1975 to 1985. In 1987, he joined the American Institute of Physics, where he served as Director of Physics Programs. In 1992, he was appointed Director of Development of the National Science Standards Project at the National Academy of Sciences. In 1995, he was elected chairman of the History of Physics Forum of the American Physical Society. He was the co-founder and co-editor of Physics in Perspective from 1999 to 2010. He also served on committees for the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Physical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the National Academy of Sciences. He served as a National Science Foundation (NSF) consultant to the country of India in 1968 and again in 1969. He was the United States Representative to the International Science Exhibition in Rangoon Burma in 1970. He was also a Fulbright Fellow to Burma in 1971 and to Uruguay in 1975. He took great interest in the New York Central Hudson Engine, and enjoyed gardening and read widely in history and literature. John was a fan of the Cleveland Browns, and loved watching the Kentucky Derby. He will be fondly remembered and dearly

missed by all who knew and loved him.

Visitation Wednesday, November 29, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., with a service the following day Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., both at CHAPEL HILL MORTUARY, 10305 Big Bend Rd, Kirkwood, Missouri. Interment at Oak Hill Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Center for History of Physics, One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD, 20740. Family and friends can review and share stories, photos and condolences online at www.stlfuneral.com and follow details of this event and others in the community at www.facebook.com/stlchapelhill.

Cemetery Details

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood

10301 Big Bend Road
Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 965-8228
info@stlfuneral.com
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **29**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood
10301 Big Bend Road
Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 965-8228
info@stlfuneral.com
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

Service

NOV **30**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Kirkwood
10301 Big Bend Road
Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 965-8228
info@stlfuneral.com
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *John S. Rigden*

January 06, 2023 at 10:46 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John S. Rigden.*



November 28, 2017 at 05:01 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John S. Rigden.*



November 28, 2017 at 01:20 PM



“ *Full Heart was purchased for the family of John S. Rigden.*



November 28, 2017 at 09:20 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of John S. Rigden.*



November 27, 2017 at 01:28 PM



“ *Colorado Rigdens lit a candle in memory of John S. Rigden*



Colorado Rigdens - November 26, 2017 at 09:12 PM