



John A Mesplie, Jr

July 29, 1947 - February 18, 2016

John Mesplie Jr.(John John) , 68, a long time resident of White Swan, Washington, met his creator on Thursday February 18, 2016, in Yakima, Washington. John was born July 29, 1947 in Harrah, Washington to John Mesplie and Dora Brisbois. John and his siblings, Frank, Cynthia, Louie and Paul were raised in Celilo Falls, OR in the younger years. They shared numerous memories of their childhood experiences in Celilo fishing, catching eels and swimming. John attended school at Harrah Elementary and graduated from White Swan High School in 1967. He participated and lettered in many sports such as football, basketball, track and field. He mostly excelled in track and field and competed in the state tournament in javelin. Upon graduation he was drafted in to the army and served in Vietnam , in Co A 1st Bn 12th Air Cav from November 1967 and honorably discharged in 1973. He received the army commendation medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. He also received 3 Purple Hearts for wounds received in connection with military operations against hostile forces. The combat infantryman badge was awarded to John for performing duties under fire while serving in assigned infantry in the Republic of Vietnam. He was awarded an expert marksman rating for performing superior abilities and proficiency with the M14 Rifle. John met and married Lexie Mesplie , his wife of 47 years on January 29, 1969. They raised their children, Stacie, Joseph (JoJo) and John III (John John) and made their permanent residence in Toppenish.

He was employed with Mt. Adams Furniture and Klickitat Lumber Mill prior to his career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs of 44 years as a Timber Sale Officer and Wild Land Firefighter. John enjoyed participating in the All Indian Basketball and Softball Tournaments but his main calling led him to rodeo. He participated numerous years with Western States Indian Rodeo Association in Steer Wrestling and competed at the Indian Nation Finals Rodeo in 1974 and 1984. John was a member of the Yakama Warriors Association, DAV and Western States Indian Rodeo Association. John made many friends over his lifetime because of his friendly smile and humorous personality. He loved people and could strike a conversation with any he crossed paths with. He enjoyed camping trips to Potato Hill, fishing and hunting.

John is survived by his wife, Lexie Mesplie of Toppenish; his children, daughter, Stacie Mesplie, son, JoJo (Domina)Mesplie, and John John Mesplie, all of Toppenish, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. brother, Frank (Karen) Mesplie, of Wapato and his sister Cynthia Ann Mesplie, of White Swan, sister in law, Marie (BJ) Howerton, of Kalama, Washington and brother in laws, Joe and Bob Bergeron of Yakima. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, August and Emma Mesplie, Ray and Georgia Brisbois (Granny and Grandpa Chew) of White Swan, his father, John Mesplie Sr and mother, Dora Mae Brisbois, brothers, Marvin Ray (Louie) and Paul Guyette Mesplie.

Viewing will be held on Monday February 22 at 3:00PM at Toppenish Community Center with traditional services to follow. Funeral services will be at 8AM Tuesday at the Toppenish Community Center with interment to follow at the Reservation Community Memorial Park west of Wapato. Friends can send condolences at www.toppenishfunerals.com

John will be remembered for his loving smile and laughter. Colonial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Reservation Community Memorial Park

West Wapato Road 5 miles west of Wapato
Wapato, WA

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **22**. 3:00 PM (PT)

Toppenish Community Center
600 N. Meyers Road
Toppenish,, WA

Service

FEB **23**. 8:00 AM (PT)

Toppenish Community Center
600 N. Meyers Road
Toppenish,, WA

Tribute Wall



“ *John A Mesplie, Jr*

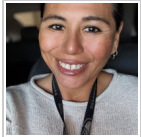
October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Lexie. He was a good friend and was always happy to see us.*

Your cousin Judy Joseph and family

Judy Joseph - February 22, 2016 at 08:06 PM



“ *Rhonda RedHorn lit a candle in memory of John A Mesplie, Jr*



Rhonda RedHorn - February 22, 2016 at 04:49 PM



“ *Gladys Heath-Sam lit a candle in memory of John A Mesplie, Jr*



Gladys Heath-Sam - February 22, 2016 at 11:16 AM

MJ

“ So sad to hear of his passing. He had always greeted me with a smile. I'll always remember his laughter. My thoughts and prayers to the family.

Maggie James - February 22, 2016 at 12:49 AM

JL

“ My deepest condolences and sympathies to Mesplie family....may the Creator guide you all with strength. uncle John had lived a wonderful life...served his country, a long working career, a great wonderful marriage and 3 great children (Stacie, JoJo, and John John) also his grandchildren. Prayers to all his family.



Julia Leslie - February 22, 2016 at 12:19 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of John A Mesplie, Jr.



February 22, 2016 at 12:04 AM

LR

“ lyndia ramsey purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John A Mesplie, Jr.



lyndia ramsey - February 20, 2016 at 11:50 PM

SH

“ Susan Bobbi Herrera purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of John A Mesplie, Jr.



Susan Bobbi Herrera - February 20, 2016 at 12:54 PM

DB

“ You will be missed cousin. Now and then I recall memories of our youths , with Uncle John and dad (Brady) taking all of us kids to the lake to fish in their jeep pickups. The gathering we would have at the "ranch" for the holidays. I will hold onto these John until I see you on the other side. Your journey has begun, and it will be a great one to be with all your people on the other side. Love you John, aho.....

Dale Brisbous - February 20, 2016 at 11:31 AM



Marsha Wesley

“ prayers...

Marsha Wesley - February 20, 2016 at 05:31 AM

BE

“ Benji lit a candle in memory of John A Mesplie, Jr



Benji - February 20, 2016 at 12:13 AM

DD

“ *Don DeVon lit a candle in memory of John A Mesplie, Jr*



Don DeVon - February 19, 2016 at 11:46 PM

DD

“ *My deepest condolences go out to the family, the tribe and all others who had the honor to know John. Thank you for your military service and so many other things, all good. We are the better for knowing you John.*

Don DeVon - February 19, 2016 at 11:45 PM

RS

“ *Rhonda R Strong lit a candle in memory of John A Mesplie, Jr*



Rhonda R Strong - February 19, 2016 at 07:36 PM

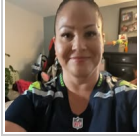


“ *My deepest sympathies and condolences to Lexie, Jojo, Domina, Stacie and JohnJohn plus the family. My prayers with you Lexie in your time of need. Hugs and love to my sis Stacie plus all of his grandchildren.*

A wonderful life he led with his wife and family.

I will keep all of the family in prayer.

Armetha Smiskin - February 19, 2016 at 06:41 PM



“ *My uncle was a great man. He always had a smile on his face unless he was getting on me and Stacie's case about something but he always ended up smiling in the end. LOL! My thoughts and prayers are with my aunt and cousins right now. Stay strong and remember he will always be in in your heart. Love you, Alison*



Alison Aranda - February 19, 2016 at 06:35 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Heggie's Colonial Funeral Home - February 19, 2016 at 03:03 PM



He was a good friend glad too have met him and his daughter working fire control years back he was an assume friend got too meet up on couple of fires on our rez gonna miss you much condolence too rest of family loves and take care especially grand-daughter nahoma so sorry take care

Lisa Bobb - February 19, 2016 at 07:32 PM



always smiling!

Rose Sampson - February 19, 2016 at 09:56 PM

AL

John; recalling some of my greatest life's memories and in recalling them you seem to be in the top of them (#1 being when you would prank us tree fallers by putting rattler snakes in our lunch boxes just before we broke for lunch :-). Looking forward to the next prank, you have waiting for us when we meet again.

My prayers reach out to you and your family (Thank you for the great memories you gifted me). Missing you Albert Bass

Albert - February 21, 2016 at 12:53 PM