



## John Lindon Best

November 19, 1925 - October 6, 2015

John Lindon Best of Overland Park, Kansas passed away on October 6, 2015. He was born November 19, 1925 to John and Sara (Sadie) Best on a farm near Ellsinore, MO. John was the 5th and last child to the proud parents. His parents and siblings Leo, Louisa, Edward, and Oda have all preceded him in death. John attended school in Ellsinore, and shortly after graduation in 1943, he enlisted in the Army. He served his country as a demolitions expert and as artillery support during the Battle of the Bulge and was honorably discharged in 1946 where he returned home to Missouri. He married Bonnie Storey in 1951. John put his engineering abilities to good use and obtained his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Missouri School Of Mines (MSM) in Rolla, MO in 1957. He then attended Vanderbilt University obtaining his PHD, also in Civil Engineering. Returning to Rolla, he accepted a professorship at the Missouri School of Mines and taught various classes within the Civil Engineering department for 36 years retiring in 1991. During that time John received Outstanding Teacher of the Year 4 times, and chaired the Civil Engineering department for 2 years. His gift was to take complex concepts and explain them in a manner that young students could understand. John was a member of the Golden Shillelagh in support of MSM. After retirement, John remained in Rolla. During his teaching years and afterwards, he could be found involved in Eastern Star, and Shrine activities as MO the clown, complete with make-up, big red nose, wide green glasses and size 20 shoes. He married Eva Mae Main in 1968. He and Eva were mainstays at the First

Presbyterian Church where he served as a deacon. They traveled extensively throughout the US as part of Eastern Star Chapter activities. Eva preceded him in death in 2006. Shortly after that, John moved to Cape Coral, FL. John moved back to the Kansas City area to be closer to family in November of 2014.

John cherished his family that included Greg & Kathy Best, their daughter Emily and son Anthony, and great-grandson Connor; Doug and Jill Best with sons and daughters, David, Rachel, Elise & Ian; Dusty Brazeal with son Craig and daughter Christy; nephew David Best; and step-Niece Cyndi Graham.

Funeral services will be held at James & Gahr Mortuary on Monday, October 12th with visitation from 11:00am to 1pm and service to follow. The family requests that donations be made to Shriners Children Hospital in lieu of flowers

# Cemetery Details

**Rolla City Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

OCT **12**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Rolla  
1651 E. Hwy 72  
Rolla, MO 65401  
(573) 458-2262  
jgrolla@hotmail.com  
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

### Service

OCT **12**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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# Tribute Wall



“ *John Lindon Best*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *John Lindon Best*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *It has been 6 years today. We still miss your kind spirit and gentle heart. I have few regrets in life. One was being unable to know you better than I did. One day I'll join you, and hope that in whatever form that is, that I'll be able to do so then. I love you, Dad.*

**Doug Best** - October 06, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ *My family and I would like to offer our deepest sympathies to you and your family. We are so sorry for your loss. Please know that you are never alone. Turn to the Holy Scriptures for guidance and to help soothe your heart. Psalms 34:18 assures us that God is near to those broken at heart and crushed in spirit. Please accept our deepest sympathies.*

**Michelle** - October 14, 2015 at 06:59 AM

WC

“ *Uncle John took excellent care of our Aunt Eva. He was a good man and role model that will be dearly missed. He is the last of my 14 Aunts and Uncles to pass away to heaven. May he rest in Peace*

*Love, Marilyn, Bill and Tim Cousins*

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**William T. Cousins** - October 11, 2015 at 10:46 AM

BM

“ *Bill & Marilyn, Ron & Gina, Sharon, Connie & Mike purchased the Heartwarming Thoughts Bost on Fern for the family of John Lindon Best.*



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**Bill & Marilyn, Ron & Gina, Sharon, Connie & Mike** - October 11, 2015 at 10:11 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Lindon Best.*



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October 09, 2015 at 10:16 PM