

**John Monroe Dunbar**  
October 12, 1940 - March 10, 2021

John Monroe Dunbar, adored husband, father, and grandfather, passed away on March 10, 2021 in Albany, Oregon, at the age of 80.

John was born to W. Franklin and Helen (Shaffer) Dunbar on October 12, 1940 in Mendoza, Argentina, where his parents served as missionaries. They moved to Canyonville, Oregon when John was four years old and remained in the United States until they returned to South America to serve in Montevideo, Uruguay when John was twelve. There he raised messenger pigeons and played soccer in the street. After attending school for several years in Uruguay, John graduated high school at Canyonville Bible Academy, where both parents were teachers.



Following graduation, John enlisted in the Army for two years and was stationed at a military hospital. Though he dreamed of being a cowboy, John later became a state police officer in Albany, Oregon. He and Cheryl [Cheri] Pietsch were married in Portland, Oregon on June 7, 1969. John lovingly built their home on property outside of Albany where they raised their daughters Holly, Heidi, and Shannon.

The family attended North Albany Baptist Church for many years and then attended First Assembly of God. John enjoyed hunting, camping, playing softball, collecting WWII artifacts, photographing vintage airplanes, and spending time with family.

After 25 years of service with the Oregon State Police, John retired in 1991. John added three sons-in-law, nine grandchildren, an honorary daughter and grandson, and a granddaughter-in-law to his beautiful family. John and Cheri were married for 51 years.

John is survived by his wife Cheri; daughters and their husbands Holly and Casey Karstens, Heidi and Russ Scovel, and Shannon and Ben Henshaw; grandchildren Ilex (fiancé Dylan Neuschwander), Drake (Jess), Ivy, Levi, Luke, Leif, Rilla, and Sweden; honorary daughter and grandson Olive Nannual and Ben; his brother Bob's wife, Laura, and siblings Rolfe (Ella) Dunbar, Dawn (Al) Rust, David (Mitzie) Dunbar, Prill Shambaugh, and Judi (Phil) Jones. He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother Bob Dunbar.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Collings Foundation ([www.collingsfoundation.org](http://www.collingsfoundation.org)).



*"Do justly,  
love mercy,  
walk humbly  
with your God."*

*Micah 6:8*

In Honored Memory of  
**John M. Dunbar**

October 12, 1940 ~ March 10, 2021

O LORD, You have searched  
me and known me.

You know when I sit down  
and when I rise up;

You understand my thought  
from afar.

You scrutinize my path  
and my lying down,

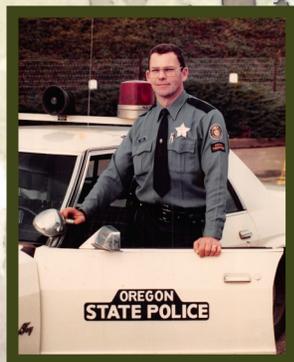
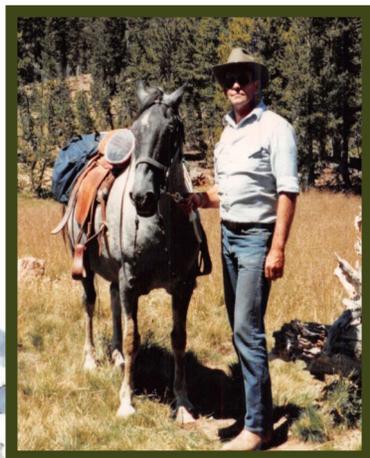
And are intimately acquainted  
with all my ways.

Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD,  
You know it all.

You have enclosed me behind and before,  
and laid Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
It is too high, I cannot attain to it.

Psalm 139:1-6 (NASB1995)



‘And in Your book  
were all written,  
The days that were  
ordained for me,  
When as yet  
there was not one of them.’

Psalm 139:16b (NASB1995)

In Honored Memory of  
**John M. Dunbar**

*Age 80*

**BORN**

*October 12, 1940 ~ Mendoza, Argentina*

**ENTERED INTO REST**

*March 10, 2021 ~ Albany, Oregon*

**GRAVESIDE SERVICE**

*Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 11 a.m.  
Santiam Central Cemetery ~ Albany, Oregon*

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

*Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 2 p.m.  
Hope Church ~ Albany, Oregon*

**OFFICIANTS**

*Rev. Dr. Lewis Shelton  
Pastor Brett Huff*

**CONGREGATIONAL SONGS**

*“Blessed Assurance”  
“It Is Well with My Soul”*

**PIANIST**

*Dylan Neuschwander*

**TRIBUTE VIDEO**

**BAGPIPER**

*Wayne Morris*

**CASKET BEARERS**

*Casey Karstens, Russ Scovel, Ben Henshaw  
Drake Karstens, Luke Scovel, Nate Toney*

**HONORS**

*Army Honor Guard  
American Legion Post 10  
Oregon State Police Honor Guard*

*Everyone is invited to a reception in the Family Center  
immediately following the service.*