



John Copeland

April 9, 1950 - April 11, 2011

John D. Copeland, 61, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, died April 11, 2011, at Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital. Born April 9, 1950, in Wichita Falls, Texas, he was the son of Howard and Lorene Copeland. On July 2, 1970, he married Vannette Thomas. Following years of private law practice in Texas and Arkansas, Dr. Copeland directed the National Center for Agricultural Law Research and Information and was a Research Professor of Law at the University of Arkansas School Of Law from 1989 to August 1998. From August 1998 to January 1, 2003, Dr. Copeland was Executive Vice President for Ethics, Tyson Foods, Inc. John D. Copeland was Professor, Division of Business, Division of Business, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, where he taught graduate and undergraduate courses in business ethics; social responsibility; strategic management; and mission, vision, and values. Dr. Copeland had a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Agriculture Law from the University of Arkansas, School of Law, Fayetteville, Arkansas; and, a Doctorate in Administration of Higher Education (Ed.D.) also from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Dr. Copeland authored numerous publications on such topics as business ethics, environmental law, insurance coverage, products liability, and food safety. Survivors include his wife Vannette of the home; two sons, Aaron Copeland and wife Nancy of Springdale, Arkansas, and son Seth Copeland of Siloam Springs; one daughter, Sarah Givens and husband Russ of Wichita Falls, Texas; and one

grandson; his parents, Howard and Lorene Copeland of Wichita Falls, Texas; and two sisters, Carolyn McLaughlin and Leslie Crumb, both of Wichita Falls, Texas. Memorial services will be 1:00 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2011, at Community Christian Fellowship, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, with Pastor Jay Foley officiating. Burial will be private. Gifts may be made to John Brown University, Division of Business, 2000 W. University, Siloam Springs, AR 72761.

Tribute Wall

BC

“ John impacted the lives of many more people that he could know. As a Christian, father, husband, teacher, boss, friend and role model John was the complete embodiment of what it means to be a Christian servant. He helped me in many ways in my life and for that I am eternally grateful. To Vannette and the kids I wish to express my sincere condolences regarding your loss yet at the same time rejoice in the knowledge that he is with the Lord now.

Bill Clough - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

MT

“ It was a privilege to know John and listen to the stories of his life. I will think of him whenever I hear a train - or feed a raccoon.

Mary Ann Toner - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

KS

“ Copeland Family, I wanted you to know how much I respected John. I worked with him for several years in the Environmental Dept. I never had anyone fight for our dept more than John. We watched him walk through his days with cancer and return back to work. John was a mentor and friend. He believed in me when I didn't and was always so encouraging. The day before he passed away I was wondering how he was doing. I left Tyson 5 years ago when we had our first child so I'd lost touch with John. He was a precious man. I will see him again one day. I have been praying for all the family. May you feel the Lord's embrace during this time.

Kelly Pogue Stephens - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

TT

“ *What a privilege to have known Dr. Copeland. As a student at JBU he always took time to talk and joke with me. It was an honor to also get to work with him at JBU. He had a heart for students and loved teaching. I remember hearing him speak in chapel and I was challenged by his message, he spoke on how everyone thinks they are entitled to something but it is only by God's grace that we are here today.*

Your family is in my prayers during this difficult time. Dr. Copeland is now with our precious Lord and Savior.

*Many Blessings,
Tiffany Taylor*

Tiffany Taylor - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

TK

“ *Such a great pleasure to have the chance to work with Dr. Copeland. Such a very sweet and special soul. Sending love and prayers to the family.*

Tara Korzendorfer - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

BD

“ *Sarah:
You and I both know how special a dad is to their little girl. I know your dad loved you and was so proud of you. You will miss him every single day, and that is okay. Ethan and I both love you and will pray for you to find the strength to face this loss.*

Becky Dickard - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

MR

“ *John was a great man who lived a life that gave much to others. I am sad to hear of his passing.*

Mike Roetzel - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

KB

“*Vanette, Aaron, Seth, and Sarah I am so sorry for your loss. Growing up around your family, I learned great respect for John. His practical wisdom and good nature made it easy to talk to him and he also made you feel like family. I will miss John greatly.*

Kent Brown - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

BB

“*Sarah,*

The stories that your dad would tell us and also keep us on our toes regarding Ethics. He will be missed dearly. I have missed the sweet rolls from Panera Bread that he would treat us to. I will enjoy the memories of him and I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Love

Barbara

Barbara Bowman - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

GG

“*Our prayers are for all of John's family for your loss. We had just met once - at the wedding of Sarah and our son Russell - to join our families together.*

We're thankful of God's gift to allow John the time to be in this great celebration of both of our family's next generation of love.

We pray that God will comfort the sorrow in the hearts of everyone that shared their lives loving John.

Greg and Teresa Givens - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

SL

“ I reported up through John at Tyson Foods when he was VP of our Environmental Services department. He was a good department head, I learned a lot from him. My prayers for Vanette and family, he will be missed.

Stanley R. Lawson - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

MN

“ I enjoyed working with John as a colleague at the University of Arkansas School of Law. After I left Arkansas, I looked forward to seeing him at the annual American Agricultural Law Association meeting. I will remember John as a man who loved his children and was very proud of them.

Martha Noble - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

TG

“ I am so sad to hear about John's passing. He gave me a great opportunity after I completed the LLM program, and that job opportunity led me to a career in Oklahoma that I love. He also changed my opinions on insurance companies after I took Insurance Law from him! I admire him for his continual learning through life, his relationship with God, and his absolute and unending love for Vanette and the kids. My prayers are with you all.

Teena G. Gunter - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

DM

“ A very warm friendly individual who had time to listen to my endless questions.

Darla Mondou - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

KG

“ *My sincere sympathy goes out to you and your family.
Hold onto the wonderful memories of your Dad. He was always so
proud of you.
I will be praying for you.*

Karen Gabbard - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

MR

“ *Although Mr. Copeland was not one of my instructors I commend
him for the years of service he gave in teaching students at JBU.*

Maurice Rankin - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

J(

“ *Dr. John Copeland was an inspiration, a dynamic teacher, speaker
and leader. Appreciate the opportunities he gave me and many
other people. Enjoyed working with him for several years. Grateful
that he saw his beautiful daughter's wedding, his grandchild's first
year and celebrated his 61st birthday before joining our Heavenly
Father. He will be truly missed. John loved all of his family very
much. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Condolences,
Jennifer Treat (Ferrel)*

Jennifer Treat (Ferrel) - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

JB

“ *I am so sorry to hear about your father's passing. God Bless you
and your family.*

Jerri Byrum - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

DJ

“ *John was a great boss and a good friend. He will be missed by so many of us who loved him.*

Dr. Janice Barnsley and Husband Jim - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM

GW

“ *Vanette, Aaron, Seth, Sarah, it was a great privilege to have known John. Understandably he will be missed, but thank the Lord he is with Him now. We have many, many pleasant memories of the times we had with him over the years. We are praying for you all, for the great comfort of the Lord during this time.*

Gordon Whitbeck - September 19, 2012 at 11:24 AM