



## John Levi Sawyer Jr.

March 5, 1932 - January 14, 2021

John Levi Sawyer, Jr., a vibrant 88 year old husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and resident of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, died on January 14, 2021 at his home after a courageous battle against the covid19 virus. He was born on March 5, 1932 in Wheaton, Illinois, to John Levi Sawyer, Sr., and Kathleen Sears Sawyer. John graduated with his Masters of Divinity from Wheaton Graduate School of Theology and felt called to the ministry. There in Wheaton, he met a pretty and spunky nursing student Coralie Gladwin, and married her on August 31, 1957 in Patterson, New Jersey. She became a pastor's wife and valuable help to her husband John as he was a pastor in several churches across eastern United States. He was a member of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference and the American Baptist Convention. John and Coralie retired in Siloam Springs, AR, and attended 412 Fellowship Church.

John was preceded in death by his parents, John and Kathleen Sawyer; son, John L. Sawyer, III; two brothers, Myron Sawyer and Spencer Sawyer; and sister, Sylvia Kietzman.

John is survived by his wife, Coralie; three daughters, Dr. Laura S. Mason and husband Doug of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Julia S. Phillips and husband John of Lee Summit, Missouri, and Beth L. Gowin and husband Dan of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; daughter-in-law, Katherine R. Chrzan and husband Carl of

Burton, Ohio; fourteen grandchildren; eight great grandchildren (all who dearly loved their Papa). He is also survived by his sister, Ellen Richardson of Elizabethtown, Tennessee; and brother, Josiah Sawyer of Dallas, Texas.

John L Sawyer, Jr. was a man of many interests, pouring himself into them with passion. He was a builder, restoring the farm house into a beautiful home for his family. He was a musician, playing cello and attending concerts with Coralie. He loved the outdoors, hiking and gardening. He welcomed people of all status, ages and races, befriending all and involved in their lives. Most importantly, he was passionate about his Savior Jesus Christ and His Word – the Bible. Many heard his beautiful sermons over the years – from the pulpit, from his pen, his “Papa prayers” and from his personal life.

John L Sawyer, Jr. was a man who walked a lifetime in step with Jesus. He finished his race well and now he has entered into the presence of his Lord.

In lieu of flowers the family requests a donation to Young Life [www.younglife.org](http://www.younglife.org), Jesus Film Project [www.jesusfilm.org](http://www.jesusfilm.org) or Circle of Life Hospice <https://nwacircleoflife.com/>.

Memorial services will be 3:00 pm, Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 412 Fellowship in Siloam Springs with Pastor Wayne Pope and Rick Harms. The family will receive friends from 2:30 pm until service time. He will be buried in the Wheaton Cemetery in Wheaton, Illinois Saturday January 23, 2021 at 11:00 a.m..

The memorial service will be livestreamed at 412 Fellowship facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/412-Fellowship-113316450101685/>

# Cemetery Details

## Wheaton Cemetery Association

Wheaton Cemetery Association  
1209 Warrenville Road  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
<http://wheatoncemetery.org/>

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 17. 3:00 PM (CT)

412 Fellowship  
1950 Highway 412  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

## Graveside Service

JAN 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wheaton Cemetery Association  
Wheaton Cemetery Association  
1209 Warrenville Road  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
<http://wheatoncemetery.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Eric Hosmer** - February 04, 2021 at 04:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *60+ years together*



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**Tim Kietzman** - January 26, 2021 at 11:35 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Tim Kietzman** - January 26, 2021 at 11:33 AM

KC

“ Just learning of Pastor Sawyer's passing. He performed my marriage ceremony in June 1998 in Harstville NY. Shay and I were honored to have him preside over and bless our union, which remains strong to this day. We would like to express our condolences to Coralie and the family and friends of a great man of faith.

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**Kimberly Carney** - January 18, 2021 at 10:10 PM

AS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Ann Sawyer** - January 18, 2021 at 10:29 AM

AS

“ Joe and I were sad to hear of Joe's brother, John's, Homegoing. We have so many happy memories of the times that we were able to spend with John and Coralie since I was honored to become a part of the Sawyer family 57 years ago!  
Joe has been reminiscing about the many hours he spent as a boy with his big brother John (camping, going into Chicago, working at the house for a few). Joe looked up to his big brother, and his brother John was a good example of what a Christian young man should be like.  
He was loved - he will be missed.

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**Ann Sawyer** - January 17, 2021 at 03:14 PM

NS

“ I am deeply saddened by the loss of Uncle John. He was such a force in our family through his prayers, his love, and his cards. He always made time for family, whether meeting me for lunch as he and Aunt Coralie passed through Orlando, or connecting with my daughter, Allie, while visiting Wheaton. We will not know the full effect of his consistent prayers and love for us and our children until we join him in heaven. Blessings on you, Aunt Coralie and my sweet cousins, as you celebrate him.

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**Nancy Schraeder** - January 16, 2021 at 10:08 PM

MN

“ So Sorry to hear of your dad's passing. But he is fully alive with His Savior. I remember several great memories of your parents being with my parents. My mom rode with your parents to Rhode Island together. When you all were playing and singing, you all came to our house afterwards. The similarities with sheep and living in the country. Your parents were delightful and always pointing others to Christ. My prayers are with all you. ❤️❤️  
Mitzi Norton

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**Mitzi Norton** - January 16, 2021 at 05:39 PM

JA

“ John was a good man who believed in the One True God. He talked and walked with God every day. Coralie...we cannot find the words to help you get through this time but remember how much everyone loved him and still love you. Take care sweet lady.  
Judy Cloyd Arbia

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**Judy Annetta Arbia** - January 16, 2021 at 05:13 PM

SD

“ I count it a privilege to have known him. His love for our Lord , his passion for teaching others. He came to a wrestling tournament to watch our grandson a couple of years ago with us. Official let a move happen that should not have. John politely waited until over and made sure official knew . Always a champion!

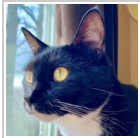
Shari Devor - January 16, 2021 at 07:00 AM

SM

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. I spent lots of time with John at First Baptist in different activities. He was such a delight to be around and such a Godly Man. He will be missed very much. Prayers go out to the whole family. Love you, Coralie.



Sandra Martin - January 15, 2021 at 06:41 PM



“ John and Coralie outside the farm house in New York many years ago. Much love and sympathy to my cousins on John's passing.



John Schoonejongen - January 15, 2021 at 06:22 PM



Just found out about John's passing today. He was a great man. My wife (Kyle) and I are raising our four children in this house now. We send our condolences to Coralie and family.

Eric Hosmer - February 04, 2021 at 04:17 PM

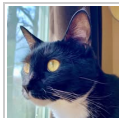
MA

“ 1 file added to the album 60+ years together



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**matt anderson** - January 15, 2021 at 05:03 PM



*Beautiful photo of beautiful people*

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**John Schoonejongen** - January 15, 2021 at 06:17 PM

GG

*I am so thankful for have known John. He was a true saint and always had a work from the Lord. He stood strong on what he believed. He loved God's Word and His Savior with his whole heart. See you at the house John!*

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**Gene & Alice Gowin** - January 16, 2021 at 08:46 PM

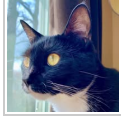
BG

“ Most people don't know that my dad was quite funny and joked a lot with us kids. One time, he had acquired a cow's tongue from a previous butchering from the neighbors. He usually tiptoed upstairs to wake us all for school in the early mornings. This time he thought he would wake me with the cow's scratchy tongue! Needless to say, I was awake instantly.



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**beth gowin** - January 15, 2021 at 01:54 PM



*Beth, what a great story!*

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**John Schoonejongen** - January 15, 2021 at 06:17 PM